

Office of Donna Bauer MLA

State Member for Carrum

MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday, 21 August 2014



Paving the way for a smoother ride

CYCLISTS will soon be able to enjoy a smoother, more comfortable ride all the way along the 25 kilometre Peninsula Link Trail, with upgrades to begin on the shared use path through the Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve, Member for Carrum Donna Bauer announced today.

"The Peninsula Link Trail is already extremely popular and much appreciated by the community and these upgrades will provide a seamless trip," Mrs Bauer said.

"Locals and tourists alike have told me how much they love this trail. It's made it easier for people to take the active way to work or school and paves the way for visitors to the many fantastic tourist attractions between Patterson Lakes and Mount Eliza.

"With this upgrade, people will be able to enjoy a walk or ride through the Pines in all weather conditions."

Minister for Roads Terry Mulder said the work to be carried out by Southern Way and Lend Lease will mean an upgrade to a three metre concrete pavement path to make it even easier for pedestrians and cyclists to get around.

The Peninsula Link Trail was completed and opened in June 2013. However, some additional environmental approvals meant that the path through the Pines was initially unsealed.

"The Linking Melbourne Authority developed a route that makes use of existing paths, which means that there will be minimal impact to the environment," Mr Mulder said.

David Clements, general manager of Southern Way, said work is expected to start in late August and will take around 12 weeks to complete. While work is underway, sections of the path will be closed between 7am and 5pm Monday to Friday.

"We apologise for any inconvenience, but these closures are important for the safety of people travelling through the Pines," Mr Clements said.

"We know that people love walking and riding though this area, so when construction activities allow we will open it back up safely between Friday afternoons and Monday mornings, so the family can still get out and enjoy the track on the weekends."

Building a Better Carrum

Regular users of the path are encouraged to visit the Peninsula Link website <u>www.peninsulalink.com.au</u> to view a map of the construction zone and construction updates, or call 1300 453 035 to find out if the path is open for use on a particular day.

The rest of the Peninsula Link Trail will remain available throughout the works. The trail begins at Patterson River in Patterson Lakes and travels through Langwarrin, Baxter and ends at the Mt Eliza Regional Park. To view a map of the path, including suggested tourist destinations on the way, visit www.linkingmelbourne.vic.gov.au/PeninsulaLinkTrail

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY: Donna is happy to get on her bike for a photo on the path to promote the upgrade. Please call me if you would like to take up this offer.