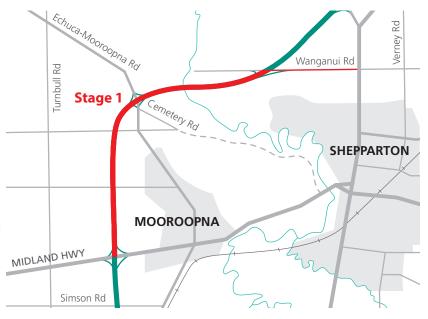
THE GOULBURN VALLEY HIGHWAY SHEPPARTON BYPASS

Background

Construction of the Goulburn Valley Highway Shepparton Bypass is the next logical step in providing a fully duplicated highway from Shepparton to Melbourne.

The full 36km four lane Shepparton Bypass is estimated to cost just over \$1.3 billion. In order to make the investment affordable, Greater Shepparton City Council approved a five stage Bypass proposal at its Ordinary Council Meeting in May 2016. The current priority is Stage 1 – Midland Highway to the Goulburn Valley Highway in north Shepparton – a total distance of 10.05kms.



Benefits

Two reports were commissioned to determine the economic benefits of the construction of Stage 1 of the Goulburn Valley Highway Shepparton Bypass.

The reports concluded the following economic benefits will be generated by the construction of Stage 1:

- Increase in national and regional economic output by \$590 million during the construction phase.
- Creation of 3,170 additional regional and national jobs during the construction phase.
- Revitalisation of the Shepparton CBD and leveraged investment such as an estimated 225 new ongoing CBD jobs created and a further 180 jobs supported indirectly in the regional economy.
- Deliver much needed road safety benefits by removing freight and through traffic from the CBD.
- Road User Cost Benefit Ratio of 0.37 over 25 years.

Next steps

The 2017/18 State Budget allocates \$10.2 million over three years to undertake preparatory works, land acquisition and the upgrade of the Ford Road, Goulburn Valley Highway and Wanganui Road intersection, which is a very welcome investment.

The total projected cost of Stage 1 is estimated to be \$260 million, including all preparatory works, land acquisition and construction costs. Council and its partners, including the Goulburn Valley Highway Shepparton Bypass Action Group and the Committee for Greater Shepparton, will actively pursue a commitment to deliver the Shepparton Bypass Stage 1 in its entirety in lead up to the 2018 State Government election.







