

Link Road and Employment Zone announcements are welcome

Committee for Ballarat welcomed the Premier's announcements that his government has committed \$2.5m to get the Ballarat Western Link Road shovel ready and appointed Vic Urban to release land in the Ballarat airport precinct for creation of the Ballarat West Employment Zone.

These are very welcome additional small steps towards the realisation of the next generation of business and industrial activity for Ballarat and the region, said Doug Lloyd, CEO of Committee for Ballarat.

A recent feasibility study by the City of Ballarat shows that the construction of the road will trigger 3,900 direct new jobs and a further 5,400 related jobs in the near future. Mr Lloyd said this initiative will help make a freight village in the employment zone commercially viable, help build on the region's strong transport and logistics industries, and catalyse a wide range of new business activity.

We also anticipate this is the first of a series of announcements that show the next Government's commitment to funding the link road, establishing the Employment Zone, and assisting with the creation of new employment and business activity for Ballarat and the region.

Doug Lloyd . 35332 1240

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