

# MEDIA STATEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

20 February 2018

## AN OPEN LETTER TO THE VICTORIAN UPPER HOUSE

For Victoria's sake, the Parliament must not stop the West Gate Tunnel Project.

Using parliamentary processes to overturn planning decisions, for political reasons, would be irresponsible – and we all know from East West's cancellation that it would negatively impact Victoria's economy.

Costs increase, delays increase and Melbourne cannot get better, if projects and planning decisions are subject to divisive politics.

The West Gate Tunnel has a contract – and construction has begun – with a workforce that will peak at 6,000 Victorians.

Investors need to know that when they sign a contract with the state of Victoria, it will be honoured.

The West Gate Tunnel project will:

- Remove 9,000 trucks from local streets.
- Connect Victorian producers to global markets, via the Port of Melbourne.
- Cut 20 minutes off commuting times and release new housing.
- Safeguard Melbourne from being shut down by one accident on the West Gate Bridge.

Melbourne has not successfully built a major motorway since 2010 – but the population has grown by half a million people in this time.

Victorians need more and better infrastructure - not more politics.

Melbourne needs an alternative to the West Gate Bridge - and this project delivers it.

Yours sincerely,



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