



Leadership for the West

19 November 2009

\$10M for Westlink Plan

LeadWest has welcomed the Brumby Government's announcement to develop a \$10 million planning study for Westlink, a major road tunnel to link the Port of Melbourne to the Western Ring Road, a key project in the Victorian Transport Plan.

Anton Mayer CEO of LeadWest said today that he was delighted the State Government acknowledged that Melbourne's West, the fastest growing region in the country, required much needed infrastructure to support its continued development and that funding for in-depth planning and community consultation will ensure that Westlink is a quality project that delivers results to the community.

"One of the key aims of Westlink is to reduce the over-reliance on the already stretched West Gate Bridge and to support the future growth of the Port of Melbourne. One of the additional benefits of this key infrastructure project is that the proposed road tunnel under Footscray will improve amenity in the inner west by reducing heavy truck movements along local roads," Mr Mayer said.


The planning stage of Westlink will take around two and a half years and will involve a community consultation program and reference group, intensive geological investigations, route and traffic decisions and comprehensive audits in the areas of social and environmental impact.

"The local community will play an important role in the Westlink project particularly in terms of feedback regarding the final route," Mr Mayer said.

LeadWest is a peak advocacy body that was formed to provide leadership to the West in addressing its challenges and capitalising on its advantages, to be a representative voice for the West, especially to State and Federal Government. LeadWest's goal is to help the West realise its great potential as a dynamic and enjoyable place in which to live, work and visit.

For further information please contact:

Sarah Diamond
Project Manager, LeadWest

 0400 870 073

 sarah.diamond@leadwest.com.au