



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **FINAL WEEK FOR WEST GATE TUNNEL SUBMISSIONS**

Victorians have until next week to put a submission in on the Environment Effects Statement (EES) for the city-shaping West Gate Tunnel Project.

The EES shows that the West Gate Tunnel Project will take trucks off residential streets in the inner west, slash congestion and connect people in the west to jobs, education and services.

The project will create 6000 jobs, and a long overdue alternative to the West Gate Bridge.

The EES is part of a comprehensive and transparent planning process and was publicly released on 29 May.

It outlines the project and assesses 17 topics including noise, air quality, health and traffic and ways to mitigate and manage any impacts.

The EES also shows the costs of inaction, including an extra three hours a week in the car for people commuting from the west to the CBD.

Thirteen community information sessions have been held throughout the west since the release of the EES, with experts on hand to answer questions and explain the project in detail.

People can continue to view the EES either online or at 14 locations across the city, western suburbs, Geelong and Ballarat. Submissions close on Monday 10 July at 5pm.

An independent Inquiry and Advisory Committee hearing will begin in mid-August to hear submissions from residents, community groups and stakeholders.

The EES, EPA Works Approval application and draft Planning Scheme Amendment can also be viewed in full at [www.westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au/ees](http://www.westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au/ees)

#### **Quotes attributable to Western Distributor Authority CEO Peter Sammut**

*"The West Gate Tunnel Project is vital for Melbourne's west and we want to ensure it is built to the highest environmental and community standards."*

*"It is essential we hear from residents and community groups to gain from their insights, so we can deliver a project that meets the needs of our growing city. "*

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