



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## STATE BUDGET APPROACH IN GROWTH AREAS IRRESPONSIBLE

Despite being the fastest growing City in Victoria, the State Government has failed to recognise Wyndham City's dire infrastructure needs in the 2012/13 Budget – a move which has been questioned by Wyndham Mayor, Cr Kim McAliney.

On top of the existing 5 growth fronts already in Wyndham, the State Government is frantically pushing ahead with planning for a further 15 growth fronts which will accommodate 180,000 people.

In a show of disregard for the City's growth, the State Government has not committed funding in this Budget to any new bus routes, or schools and no new funding for arterial roads or upgrades has been provided.

Wyndham Mayor Cr Kim McAliney said the budget demonstrated a lack of understanding of the issues facing the State's rapidly growing outer West and growth areas.

"This budget completely neglects the needs of our growing community particularly in the areas of transport, infrastructure and education," Cr McAliney said.

"It is incredibly short sighted of the State Government not to fund infrastructure projects and services, while our residents spend hours each week stuck in endless traffic jams, packed like sardines into infrequent trains and waiting for non-existent services to arrive."



### MEDIA ENQUIRIES

Emily Keogh  
Public Relations & Marketing Coordinator

[emily.keogh@wyndham.vic.gov.au](mailto:emily.keogh@wyndham.vic.gov.au)  
Tel: 9742 0731

“The pace of growth in the outer suburbs including Wyndham means we need new schools, new bus services and upgraded arterial roads each and every year, without fail. If the State wants a year off from providing the infrastructure, then stop the growth for a year.”

“If Wyndham City is forced to wait until next financial year for major project funding, and several years for construction, another 30,000 to 40,000 people will have moved into the municipality in that time and further increased pressure on infrastructure.”

“Fundamental infrastructure such as additional bus routes and addressing congestion and safety concerns by fixing Dohertys Road and Old Geelong Road at Forsyth Road cannot be ignored.”

“Similarly, the Point Cook South Prep -9 school is now at least 2 years behind schedule and the other schools in Point Cook simply cannot cope. The State Government is not addressing these issues but is pushing for this City to continue to grow. This will further exacerbate these problems.”

“Wyndham City welcomes funding for fixing Galvin Park Secondary College and works at Werribee Open Range Zoo. Funding for completing the construction at Manor Lakes Prep-12 College and Tarneit Central Prep-9 School, Palmers Road overpass and Regional Rail Link trains were either promised in previous years or is necessary to complete existing projects.”

“Wyndham City will continue advocating to the State Government for additional funding for infrastructure and services. However in the recent past Wyndham City has refused to support two growth area plans and may need to further review its support for future plans if the State Government cannot provide the essential infrastructure for new communities.”