



Peninsula Link

Why is a 13-year-old freeway being rebuilt?

Where I stand

Peninsula Link opened in 2013. Now, just 13 years later, 14 kilometres at its southern end is being dug up and rebuilt.

Southern Way built the freeway and is responsible for maintaining it under a 25-year contract with the Victorian Government. The government can reduce its payments if the road is unavailable or the required standards aren't met.

The company responsible for maintaining the road says the rebuild was always covered by the contract, won't cost taxpayers extra and is needed because our population has grown.

But it hasn't released the reports that would tell us:

- why so much of the road needs to be rebuilt so soon;
- whether this work was planned from the start;
- what inspections found;
- whether Southern Way failed to meet its contract; and
- whether the government has reduced any payments.

The Department of Transport and Planning is responsible for checking that the contract is being met. It needs to show us that it did that job properly.

Work began in July 2025. Another northbound closure is expected from 1 to 18 December 2026, which will mean another summer with fewer visitors because the main thoroughfare is closed. The company says all stages should be finished by 30 March 2027, depending on the weather.

Moorooduc Highway has carried much of the diverted traffic. It and other roads used for detours must be checked for damage. Councils and ratepayers shouldn't be left to pay for repairs caused by the project.

What I'll do

1. Demand the answers

I'll use every tool available to a state MP, including questions in Parliament, committee hearings and Freedom of Information requests, to find out:

- why the road needs to be rebuilt;
- how it was originally designed and meant to be maintained;
- what inspections and warnings showed;
- whether Southern Way failed to meet the contract;
- whether any government payments were reduced; and
- why the work and closures are taking so long.

I'll also seek an investigation by the independent Auditor-General.

I'll publish every answer and every refusal in plain English.



2. Protect our roads and public money

I'll push for Moorooduc Highway and other roads used for detours to be inspected for damage, with the findings made public.

If diverted traffic has caused damage, it must be repaired. If Southern Way is responsible under the contract, the government must make sure it pays. Councils and ratepayers shouldn't be left with the bill.