South Geelong to Waurn Ponds Rail Upgrade (Stages 2 and 3)

State/Territory: Victoria

Proposed AG funding: $700 million
(this builds on the $50 million committed toward Stage 2 at the 2018-19 Budget bringing total commitment to $750 million)

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<th>Mode</th>
<th>Major freight route</th>
<th>Major Commuter corridor</th>
<th>Commercial precinct</th>
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PROBLEM DESCRIPTION
Between Melbourne and Geelong, the rail line is duplicated allowing trains to operate and pass each other independently. However, between Geelong and Warrnambool, the rail line is mostly single track with a limited number of passing loops. Since 2003-04, patronage on the Geelong rail line has increased by 242 per cent and is expected to double by 2025-26. Additional services cannot be provided to South Geelong and Waurn Ponds without duplicating the track.

The project will:
- upgrade the corridor between Geelong and South Geelong stations (these works relate to South Geelong to Waurn Ponds Stage 3 Business Case);
- duplicate the 12.6 kilometres of track on the Geelong rail line from South Geelong to Waurn Ponds;
- construct a second platform and upgrade the existing stations at South Geelong and Marshall; and
- construct a new rail bridge over the Barwon River and grade separate the level crossings at Fyans Street and the Surf Cost Highway.

This projects builds on the $99 million allocated to Stage 1 of the project (which will upgrade the Waurn Ponds station under the Victorian Regional Rail Revival Package) announced in 2017 and the $50 million allocated to Stage 2 of the project at the 2018-19 Budget, bringing the total commitment to Stages 1 to 3 to $849 million.

PROJECT BENEFITS
- Improve passenger rail services.
- Increase transport infrastructure capacity.
- Improve connectivity between people, jobs and services, and goods with markets.
- Change travel behaviours and decrease private vehicle use.
- Improve accessibility, connectivity and travel times.
- Improve access to essential services such as health and education.
PROJECT MAP

SOUTH GEELONG TO WAURN PONDS
RAIL UPGRADE (STAGES 2 AND 3)