



Treasurer of Victoria

Minister for Economic Development
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VICTORIA'S INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITMENT IN RESPONSE TO CORONAVIRUS

The Victorian Government recognises that you, our industry partners in building and construction, are critical to our recovery from the coronavirus pandemic, rebuilding our economy and creating jobs.

We are acting at every step on the best health advice available to ensure Victorians are safe, both at home and at work. Current restrictions on activity do not apply to construction sites, on advice from the Chief Health Officer.

DHHS has released a guidance note for industry which I encourage you to review and to implement appropriate measures on your construction sites. The guidance note can be accessed [here](#).

Further guidance has also been developed by industry associations and unions, with input from WorkSafe and DHHS, available [here](#).

While current restrictions do not include the building and construction sector, this can only continue as long as we work together to implement safe work practices at all our sites to reduce the risk of coronavirus.

I would like to acknowledge the extent to which employers and their representatives and workers and their unions are working cooperatively to make workplaces safe.

A \$1.7 billion Economic Survival Package has been developed to support small and medium sized businesses, and we are asking businesses to continue to do whatever they can to support their workers.

Navigating through these current challenges will require collaboration and flexibility from all parties. I know the sector is already feeling the effects of workforce disruptions, and changes in both the global and domestic supply chains, which are likely to continue as a result of this unprecedented event.

Despite these challenges, the Government remains committed to supporting building and construction projects in planning and delivery, in the safest way possible. To that end, and in the spirit of partnership, I have reiterated my commitment and expectation across government of the strong need for flexibility, trust and collaboration with you, our delivery partners in working through these challenges with the building and construction sector.

I encourage contractors and consulting firms to reach out to their client agencies and keep them informed of any unforeseen issues that might arise. We will continue to run forums that focus on securing the future of this vital sector for Victoria.

The Government is well positioned to provide the investment pipeline that we will need in the economic recovery phase. We will keep working with industry to help

ensure a stable and robust building sector in Victoria that is vital to stabilising our economy, and central to Victoria's future economic recovery.

I would like to thank all of the industry groups, contractors and unions involved in the sector for working so collaboratively through this challenging period.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'T. Pallas', is positioned above the printed name.

TIM PALLAS MP

Treasurer

6 April 2020