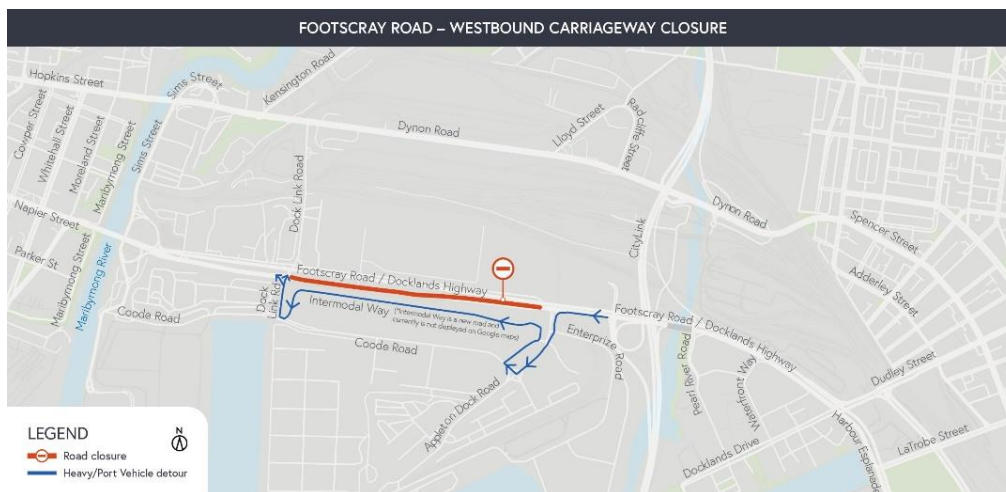


## West Gate Tunnel Project – Westbound Closure of Footscray Road – Heavy Vehicle Detour via Intermodal Way & Night Closures of Wurundjeri Way

The West Gate Tunnel Project (WGTP) has flagged the closure of the westbound lanes of Footscray Road from Appleton Road to Dock Link Road from 8pm, Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> March until 5am, Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> May 2023 to continue to move the launch gantry to construct the elevated road above Footscray Road.

Also, night closures of Wurundjeri Way will occur from 31 March 2023, with a heavy vehicle detour via Harbour Esplanade and Bourke Street in Docklands. See more below.

### Westbound port-related Heavy Vehicle Detour via Intermodal Way:



The detour will incorporate the use of the newly constructed **Intermodal Way**, which is the heavy vehicle route to replace Coode Road as part of the Port of Melbourne's Port Rail Transformation Project (PRTP).

We also understand that the Port of Melbourne has earmarked Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March as the changeover date for the opening of Intermodal Way for eastbound truck traffic, with the westbound detour coming into effect on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

Operators of permitted higher productivity freight vehicles (HPFVs) will need to ensure that permits issued by the NHVR incorporate the use of Intermodal Way into the future. CTAA is liaising with the Port of Melbourne, the Victorian Department of Transport & Planning and the NHVR about these changes.

### Future WGTP Program of Road Closures

The WGTP team has also earmarked the following anticipated road closures:

- West Gate Bridge – outbound lanes overnight closure planned for Fri 24 March – 12pm to 5am.
- Linfox closure/Sims St loop entry closure to be extended until mid-May.
- Footscray Road closure over Shepherd Bridge planned for 14 April.
- Wurundjeri Way overnight closures planned from 31 March for 2-3 weeks. Long-term lane closures with 4m width restriction planned for 3 April (24/7 to October 2023).

CTAA has urged WGTP, the Major Transport Infrastructure Authority (MTIA), and the Victorian Department of Transport & Planning (DTP), to provide as much advanced notice as possible and adequate, approved heavy vehicle detour routes.

### Wurundjeri Way nightly closures:



WGTP needs to undertake works on Wurundjeri Way between Dudley Street and Collins Street to realign the intersection, install new traffic lights, relocate high voltage power cables, construct new drainage and pavement, and begin the final foundation works for the new bridge ramps over Dudley Street.

Nightly works are due to start **from 31 March**, followed by a long-term lane closure starting from **3 April**.

This will impact how and when trucks and freight vehicles move through the area.

From 31 March until late April there will be full nightly closures in place from 8pm to 5am between Sunday through Thursday and 9pm to 7am on Friday and Saturdays.

An overnight heavy vehicle detour incorporating travel between Swanson Dock and Webb Dock will be via Harbour Esplanade and Bourke Street.

The HV detour route is restricted to a width of 3 metres kerb to kerb and the ongoing lane closure on Wurundjeri Way is restricted to a width of 4 metres kerb to barrier.

**CTAA Note:** *CTAA Alliance operators believe that the heavy vehicle detour proposed is inadequate in the longer term.*

*Higher Productivity Freight Vehicles (HPFVs) operating at permitted weights should be able to use the Bolte Bridge as an alternate heavy vehicle access route between Swanson Dock and Webb Dock.*

*CTAA continues to raise these issues with the WGTP team, Transurban, the Major Transport Infrastructure Authority (MITA) and the Department of Transport & Planning (DTP).*

## **Footscray Road / Dock Link Road Intersection**

The Victorian Major Transport Infrastructure Authority (MTIA) has asked that the following message be conveyed to CTAA Alliance companies and contacts:

*In February 2023, there was an incident on Footscray Road where a person riding a bike sadly lost their life.*

*While construction is underway in this location, important changes have been made to both the road and the walking and cycling path.*

*A new dedicated lane on Footscray Road has now been installed for vehicles turning left into Dock Link Road that is controlled by traffic lights.*

*This means that cyclists will now have a dedicated green light crossing at this location, and that vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians won't have a green signal at the same time.*

*Trucks turning left into the Port of Melbourne are asked to prepare for updated traffic signals and remain aware of cyclists and pedestrians crossing at Dock Link Road.*

*Along with the Department of Transport and Planning we will monitor the new arrangement to ensure it is operating effectively.*