

22 March 2023

West Gate Tunnel Project – Closure of West Gate Bridge outbound Friday night 24 March – Heavy Vehicle Detour

The West Gate Tunnel Project (WGTP) has advised CTAA that it will be closing the **outbound lanes of the West Gate Bridge** for six hours from this Friday 24 March at 12am to Saturday 25 March at 6am.

The closure is so they can remove an overhead gantry on the freeway to create a safe working area for West Gate Tunnel works.

There will be VMS messaging and on-road signage to guide drivers during the closure.

WGTP's key messages for heavy vehicle drivers are as follows:

- If your vehicle is under 4 metres in height, you must use the detour route of Footscray Road westbound, Napier Street and Buckley Street to Geelong Road to avoid truck curfews.
- Vehicles above 4 metres in height can travel through Moreland Street, Whitehall Street, Francis Street and Williamstown Road – as these vehicle types are able to travel on a curfew route under Rule 104 of the Road Safety Road Rules.
- For up-to-date information on closures, please visit <u>bigbuild.vic.gov.au/wgtp-disruptions</u>.



CTAA has clarified with WGTP and the Victorian Major Transport Infrastructure Authority (MTIA) that heavy vehicle operators can operate on the otherwise curfewed routes (including Whitehall Street and Francis Street) for the duration of the closure.

This is because there is no other alternative route, and Section (4) of the of **Regulation 104** or the Victorian *Road Safety Road Rules 2017* reads:

(4) However, a <u>driver</u> may <u>drive</u> a truck on a <u>road</u> past a *no trucks sign* if the destination of the truck lies beyond that sign for the purposes of loading or unloading goods or equipment and—

(a) there is no other route by which the truck could reach that destination; or

(b) any other route by which the truck could reach that destination would require the truck to pass another *no trucks sign*.