



MEDIA RELEASE

Regional Cities Victoria welcomes new Victorian Cabinet

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Regional Cities Victoria (RCV) welcomes the announcement of the new Victorian Cabinet and looks forward to working with the Hon. Jaclyn Symes MP in her new role as Minister for Regional Development; and with the Hon. Adem Somyurek MP, Minister for Local Government.

“Regional Development and Local Government are key portfolios for regional Victoria and RCV is keen to work with the new ministers on the opportunities and challenges facing regional cities,” said Chair of Regional Cities Victoria, Cr Margaret O’Rourke.

“RCV acknowledges the work of outgoing Regional Development Minister Jaala Pulford and looks forward to continuing to work with her in her new role as Minister for Roads.

Transport is an area of critical importance to regional Victoria and RCV is keen to continue our positive relationship with the Hon. Jacinta Allan MP, as Minister for Transport Infrastructure, and to work with new Minister for Public Transport the Hon. Melissa Horne MP.”

In the lead up to the state election RCV advocated for improved transport and digital connectivity across regional Victoria, and further investment to support regional jobs growth. A further policy priority is boosting regional tourism, with RCV calling for a \$300 million Regional Visitor Economy Growth Fund.

“Tourism is an important economic driver for all regional cities. Investing in community and visitor infrastructure, and enhancing attractions and events in our cities, will improve liveability for locals as well as boost the visitor experience,” said Cr O’Rourke.

“Sport plays a big role in regional communities. Combining sport with tourism is a positive move and we look forward to working with the Hon. Martin Pakula MP in his new capacity as Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events to improve the visitor economy in regional Victoria.”

RCV advocates for policies that will help regional cities realise their significant potential for growing the state’s economy, as well as improving the liveability of their local communities.

Media contact: Kristina Burke (0425 762 429)

RCV is a regional leadership group dedicated to building a sustainable Victoria by providing strategic advice, coordination and advocacy to State and Federal Governments to support policies which enable Victoria’s regional centres to grow and develop. Comprising Mayors and CEOs of the 10 largest cities in regional Victoria – Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong, Horsham, Latrobe, Mildura, Shepparton, Wangaratta, Warrnambool and Wodonga – RCV is focused on achieving real change in regional Victoria through policy development and active implementation of those policies