The Hon. Melissa Horne

Member for Williamstown and Minister for Roads and Road Safety

Melissa.horne@parliament.vic.gov.au

CC: The Hon. Daniel Andrews, Premier of Victoria, Daniel.andrews@parliament.vic.gov.au;

The Hon. Jacinta Allan, Minister for Transport Infrastructure, jacinta.allan@parliament.vic.gov.au

The Hon. Sonya Kilkenny, Minister of Planning, sonya.kilkenny@parliament.vic.gov.au

The Hon. Tim Pallas, Treasurer, Tim.pallas@parliament.vic.gov.au

The Hon. Ben Carroll, Minister for Public Transport, Ben.Carroll@Parliament.vic.gov.au

Subject line: Proposal to close Champion Road Crossing – permanently

Dear Ms Horne

I’m writing to voice my strong concerns about the devastating impact the plan to close Champion Road will have on me and my local community.

Champion Road is a vital link between the suburbs of Newport and Williamstown, with thousands of locals using it every day to access schools, workplaces, supermarkets, sport, and recreation.

I regularly use Champion Road to <get to the supermarket, take my kids to swimming lessons/karate lessons/gymnastics/dance classes/baseball training/basketball training, get to school/take my kids to and from school, get to work, go to the gym, other>.

Removing this link will significantly impact the local businesses in Williamstown and Newport that rely on people like me using this vital connection.

Plans to divert this traffic to Maddox Road also concern me. This local street will become a major thoroughfare, with more congestion and greater safety risks for the children and families who access the primary school and the two (soon to be three) childcare centres on this street, as well as the addition of another secondary school on Blenheim Road.

Finally, I am deeply concerned that the proposal to close Champion Road has been presented as though the decision has already been determined; behind closed doors and with no consultation with our local community.

I am seeking your urgent commitment to revisit this proposal, consult our community and work with us to develop a better solution that keeps us connected.

Yours sincerely,

<Your name>

<Address>

<Phone number>