

# News Release Minister Tom Koutsantonis

Minister for Transport and Infrastructure  
Minister for Mineral Resources and Energy  
Minister for Housing and Urban Development

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## Level crossing upgrades to improve road train access

Two railway level crossings will be upgraded on the Warnertown Road this year, significantly improving road train access to Port Pirie from the south.

Transport and Infrastructure Minister Tom Koutsantonis said the \$140,000 State Government funded project, which will be undertaken by the Australian Rail Track Corporation, will benefit the local grain industry.

“Under the current arrangement, all road train access to Port Pirie is via the northern road entrance, known locally as George’s Corner,” Mr Koutsantonis said.

“These level crossing upgrades will allow the Warnertown Road to be opened to road train vehicles, reducing the journey to Port Pirie from the south by 3.5 kilometres.

“We are committed to improving regional and remote transport connections by providing safe and efficient freight routes.

“Upgrading these level crossings not only helps support our agriculture sector but also extends safety benefits to motorists.”

Mr Koutsantonis said the works will include upgrading the automatic warning systems and approach line marking at each level crossing.

“This will improve safety and visibility as vehicles approach the crossing,” he said.

The signalling works are expected to commence in April 2014 and be completed in June 2014, weather permitting.

Local Member for Frome Geoff Brock said the project will deliver real benefits to the community.

“I am greatly appreciative of the co-operation the Minister has shown to allocate funding for the conversion of Warnertown Road, given the local council appeared to struggle to come up with a solution,” Mr Brock said.

“This project will allow road-trains to come in on the southern side of the city instead of via George’s Crossing and provide the farming community direct access to the Viterra silos.”

Labor candidate for Frome Marcus Connelly welcomed the announcement.

“This investment acknowledges the importance of improved freight routes in country areas,” Mr Connelly said.

The project will be funded through the South Australian Government’s *Rural Freight Improvement Program*, which has funded road freight safety and efficiency infrastructure improvements since 2007/08.

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