Minister for Infrastructure Minister for Local Government

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Mr Andrew Jenner MP Member for Lyons

2 9 MAY 2025

C/- Laura.Ross@parliament.tas.gov.au

Dear Mr Jenner

In Parliament on 27 May, you asked the following question on behalf of a constituent:

In the past week I have had a couple of constituents ask questions about Midway Point and the Sorell causeways. Back in March 2002, it was announced that upgrading causeways is part of the \$350 million South East Traffic Solution, jointly funded by the Australian and Tasmanian governments and subject to achieving the necessary environmental and planning approvals. Construction was scheduled to start in 2023 and to be completed in 2025. Here we are five months into 2025. Could you please clarify why the Sorell Causeway is not being renovated first, and let us know when construction is expected to begin on the two causeways and when duplication may begin and be finished?

Thank you for the question.

I would love to see the final stage of these projects completed as soon as possible.

Nearly \$350 million of Tasmanian and Australian Government investment is confirmed for these projects. This is an unprecedented investment for the communities of Sorell, the Southern Beaches, Tasman Peninsula and lower East Coast.

We know the duplication of the Tasman Highway to four lanes past the Tasmania Golf Club and then duplicating both causeways will complete the transformation of this high traffic volume stretch of the Tasman Highway. It will create a consistent four-lane link between Sorell and Hobart.

I share the frustrations of the community to see these projects being delayed due to requirements under federal environment laws.

Due to the complex federal environmental approvals required for the remaining projects, the Department of State Growth is working towards construction of the section between the Airport Interchange and the Midway Point Causeway in 2025 and the causeway projects to start in late 2025.

Both these project timelines are contingent on obtaining the required environmental approvals.

Duplicating Midway Point Causeway and McGees Bridge is planned to commence before Sorell Causeway because it carries a higher traffic volume and is subject to one less major environmental approval.

I trust this information will assist your constituents.

Yours sincerely

Hon Kerry Vincent MLC
Minister for Infrastructure