

FOCUS AREA: CONNECTING TO MARKETS

Priority Action

DEFINE HIGH PRODUCTIVITY ROAD NETWORKS AND PRIORITISE UPGRADES



WHY IS THIS A PRIORITY?

The establishment and expansion of horticultural developments has put pressure on the existing road network including first mile/last mile freight routes.

To reduce supply chain costs, farmers are using higher productivity or higher mass limit vehicles, which negatively impacts a regional road network not originally designed for the increased volume and axle weights of High Productivity Freight Vehicles (HPFVs).

The region currently does not have a clearly defined HPFV network, from farm gate to processing plant, port or markets that encompasses the whole of the region.

The growth of horticulture developments has negatively affected specific collector roads including the Hattah Robinvale Road which is no longer fit for purpose.

Funding to upgrade priority roads needs to be identified.

PROJECT BENEFITS

The project will provide a more effective, safe and efficient freight network, reduce supply chain costs and provide better connectivity with domestic and export markets.

The project will:

- Clearly define the HPFV freight network, from farm gate to processing plants and markets.
- Identify potential funding sources and a project funding structure. The project will examine funding sources from the Australian Government, and state and local governments, as well as contributions from growers and processors.
- Provide an evidence base for funding proposals and priority gaps.

RECENT ACTIVITY

Regional Roads Victoria has commenced a \$1.7 million strengthening and resurfacing project to improve safety and reliability for approximately 2.5 kilometres of the Hattah-Robinvale Road.

NEXT STEPS

CORRIDOR STRATEGIES:



Central Murray Regional Transport Forum (CMRTF) to support the completion of corridor strategies that prioritise and define road upgrades.

ADVOCACY:



Support the development of funding strategies that enable local road improvements and HPFV access.

The Central Murray Regional Transport Forum is an initiative of:



2 STATES
7 COUNCILS
1 REGION

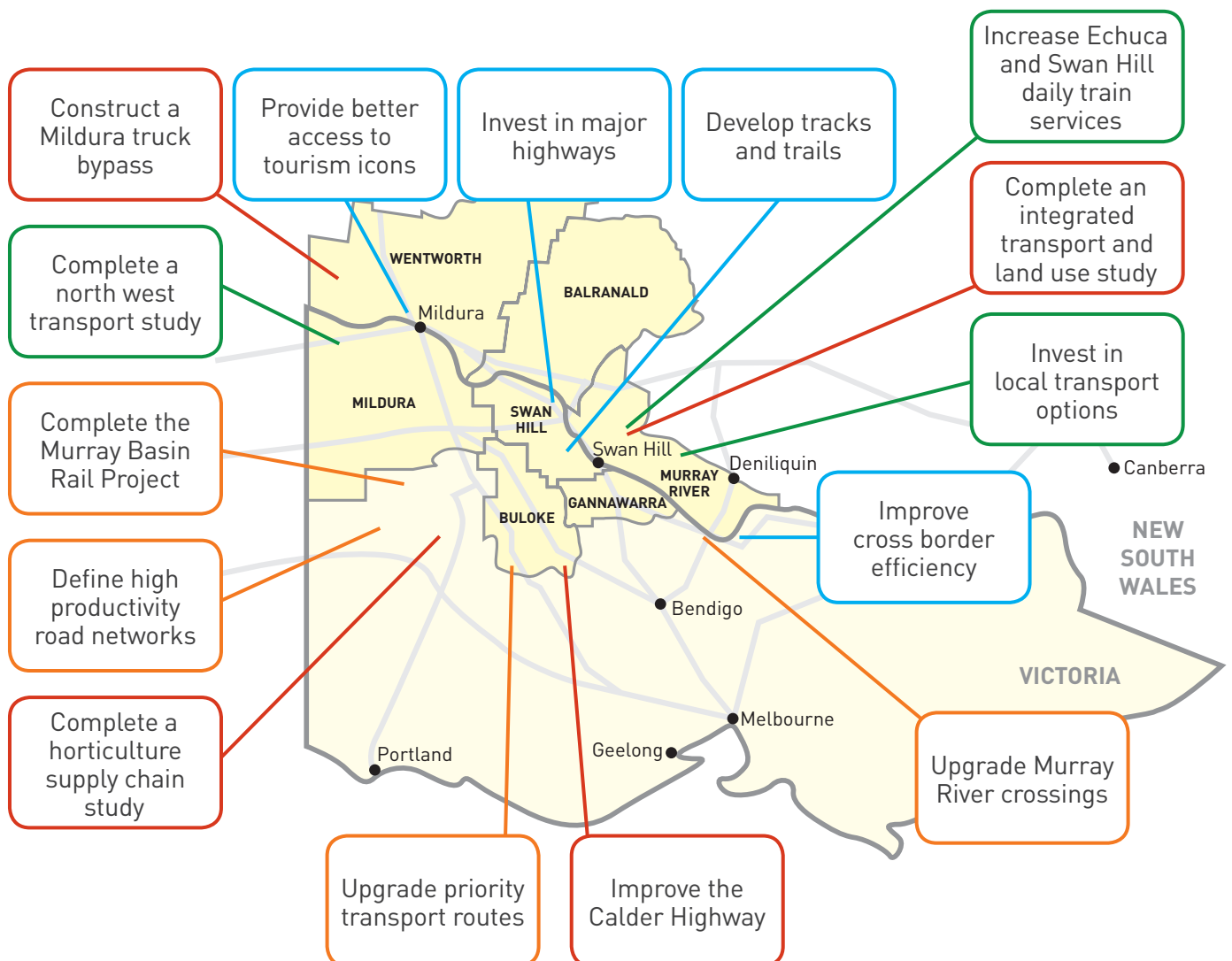
THE CENTRAL MURRAY REGIONAL TRANSPORT FORUM

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The Central Murray Regional Transport Forum (CMRTF) was established in 2010 to identify transport needs and challenges of the Sunraysia/Mallee region and advocate for improvement to the region's transport network.

Comprising councillors and senior staff from the shires of Balranald, Buloke, Gannawarra, Murray River and Wentworth, and the rural cities of Swan Hill and Mildura; the CMRTF has developed a Strategy to clarify the region's transport infrastructure needs and better position the region for the next stages of economic growth and social development.

PRIORITY ACTIONS:



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