

Media Release

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**TMAA Calls for Constructive Dialogue with Hon Danny Pearson,
Minister for Transport and Infrastructure in Victoria,
following alleged union pay deal in Victoria**

The Traffic Management Association of Australia (TMAA) urges all parties involved to engage in a respectful and informed discussion regarding the proposed pay rise for traffic controllers in Victoria.

"While the TMAA does not endorse arbitrary wage increases pushed without proper industry consultation," states Matthew Bereni, CEO of the TMAA, "we firmly believe that traffic controllers deserve fair and reasonable compensation."

The TMAA emphasizes the essential role traffic controllers play in ensuring the safety of road users and workers on construction sites. "They are not simply 'pole holders' as some have labelled them," says Bereni. "They are trained professionals who work long hours in often challenging and dangerous conditions, facing abuse and aggressive behaviour from motorists."

While TMAA advocates for fair compensation for traffic controllers, we stress the importance of adhering to established frameworks for wage determination. Arbitrary wage increases imposed by third parties without industry consultation are not endorsed by TMAA. Instead, we support the robust Modern Awards framework overseen by the Fair Work Commission, which ensures equitable pay standards for all employees under the national workplace relations system.

History has demonstrated the adverse consequences of excessive wage hikes, leading to disruptions within the industry and, in some cases, job losses. Recent cancellations of infrastructure projects due to cost overruns highlight the need for prudent decision-making in matters concerning wages and employment.

TMAA urges all stakeholders to engage in constructive dialogue. In this regard, we express our willingness to collaborate with the Hon Danny Pearson, Minister for Transport and Infrastructure in Victoria, to address the concerns raised and work towards a mutually beneficial solution. We want to build an even safer, fairer and stronger traffic management sector. But this requires coming together at the table.

For more information contact TMAA at tmaa@tmaa.asn.au or on 1300 798 772.