

**David Koch**  
**Member for Western Victoria**  
**Opposition Whip (Council)**

46 Brown Street, Hamilton 3300  
Tel: 5572 3377 · Fax: 5572 4945

**MEDIA RELEASE**

*Friday, 12 September 2008*

**Geelong railway stations car park squeeze**

The Brumby Government's failure to provide sufficient car parking for rail travellers at Marshall, South Geelong and Geelong stations is a headache for local residents and off-peak travellers, says David Koch, Member for Western Victoria.

Speaking in Parliament, David Koch raised widespread community anger about the lack of adequate car parking for rail passengers.

"The Brumby Government continues to ignore Geelong by not making enough car parking available. Rail travellers are forced to park on neighbouring streets, making it difficult, and in some cases impossible for local residents to exit or enter their own driveways.

"While car parks remain at a premium on week days at Marshall, South Geelong and Geelong railway stations, frustrating both commuters and locals, elderly residents and those wanting to take advantage of off-peak travel to Melbourne find it impossible to park anywhere near the station.

"This not only inconveniences rail users, but forces disgruntled elderly patrons to walk very long distances to reach the platform and for the unwary, the likelihood of missing their train.

"Once car parks are filled, local workers and commuters often ignore no-standing zones, pathways and laneways in finding a spot to park their cars.

"The shortage of all-day parking in Geelong's CBD also encourages local workers and students to fill up parking spaces, particularly at the Geelong Railway Station.

"Limited enforcement does little to discourage illegal parking and there are times when the police have been called in to help motorists negotiate illegally parked cars in these overcrowded car parks.

"Current station car parks are unable to cope with the pressure of increasing demand and the need for additional parking areas is long overdue.

"Although the Government allocated a miserly \$5 million from its so-called Moving Forward Strategy for provincial Victoria to construct park and ride Parkways at major stations on rail corridors leading into Melbourne, none were allocated for Geelong.

"Enlarging station car parks would encourage more people to travel by train to Melbourne, which in turn would reduce congestion on major arterial roads.

"But as there are limited opportunities to enlarge either the South Geelong or Geelong station car parks, a new purpose-built park and ride facility with a platform and secure car parking should be considered for the Melbourne end of the Geelong ring road.

"By enhancing this new facility with frequent express services to Melbourne, pressure on existing car parks at other Geelong stations would be reduced, and rail services for off-peak travellers would be improved.

"The Minister for Public Transport, Lynne Kosky should reduce railway station car parking congestion at Geelong by constructing a new purpose-built park and ride facility and introduce express services to Melbourne", David Koch said.

**Media inquiries: David Koch 0418 723 031**