



# WESTERN ROADS UPGRADE

**Client:** Department of Treasury and Finance (DTF)

**Location:** VIC, Australia

**Project value:** \$1.8 billion

**Contract form** Public-Private Partnership (PPP)

**Project lifecycle stage:** Procurement

**Duration:** 2017 - 2018

**At a glance:** The \$1.8 billion Western Roads Upgrade (WRU) was a key infrastructure initiative for Melbourne's West involving the design and construction of seven arterial road upgrades, a freeway interchange modification, and the rehabilitation and long-term maintenance of 260km's of Melbourne's arterial road network. Delivered under an Availability Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model, it was the first of its kind in Australia for arterial roads.

## Objectives

The Western Roads Upgrade is an availability PPP between the State and Netflow consortium, consisting of upgrades to key arterial roads in Melbourne's West including:

- Dunnings Road;
- Palmers Road;
- Derrimut Road;
- Leakes Road;
- Dohertys Road;
- Forsyth Road interchange; and
- Duncans Road Interchange.

It also consists of rehabilitation works, which includes:

- Repairing and resurfacing 37 roads; and
- Strengthening seven bridges and structures

All the upgrades and rehabilitated assets form part of the 260km network to be maintained by Netflow for 20 years, under the PPP agreement.

## Our services

SmedTech was engaged by the Victorian Department of Treasury and Finance (DTF) to provide specialist PPP technical advisory services for the State.

In this role, we:

- Developed a new form of PPP framework, distinct from existing models at the time – focusing on long-term maintenance without operational obligations.

- Led the drafting for the Project Scope and Requirements documentation which built upon prior experiences from Peninsula Link, East West Link and West Gate Tunnel projects.
- Provided core strategic support throughout the Procurement phase, including: RFP process management, tender evaluation, preferred tender negotiations, and technical documentation close-out for contract award.
- Provided additional advisory contributions, including: input into the drafting of Project Deed Schedules, development of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and performance requirements, and designing a heavy vehicle volume change claim process.

## Our impact

SmedTech's involvement was instrumental in shaping a pioneering PPP model, being the first of its kind for arterial roads, delivering a technically sound and commercially viable framework.

Our work ensured that the State was equipped with technically robust documentation and a commercially viable framework, strategically guided through a complex procurement and providing a clear pathway to successful contract execution and sure success during Delivery.