



Project Update

May 2024

We have a range of resources to assist you with uplifting public safety during construction projects.

They can all be found on the [Construction Trucks and Community Safety](#) webpage.

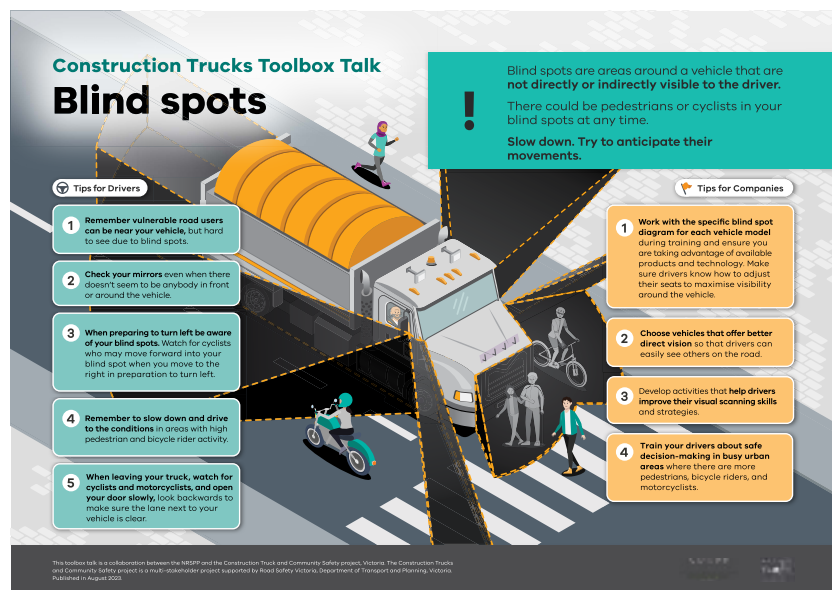
This issue covers the following topics:

- Toolbox talks for truck drivers
- Construction Trucks Community Safety Campaign stakeholder packs
- Swapping Seats Docklands Community event
- Embedding public safety in contracts – local government engagement
- Spreading the word to new audiences
- Background to the Construction Trucks and Community Safety Project.

Toolbox Talks for truck drivers

The Toolbox Talks for truck drivers (heavy vehicles) are now available on the [Construction Trucks and Community Safety](#) webpage or via the [National Road Safety Partnership Program](#) webpage.

New topics include pedestrian safety, bicycle rider safety and blind spot awareness along with existing



The Toolbox Talks poster on 'Blind Spots' is a great resource for truck drivers.

resources on fatigue, distraction and maintenance.

These Toolbox Talks are designed to provide team leaders, managers and facilitators with all the resources and information required to conduct a toolbox safety talk on each topic.

Each package contains a generic overview of the discussion, topic background information and fact sheet, discussion prompt sheet, participant attendance record sheet, participant self-assessment sheet, discussion review sheet, poster, support PowerPoint slides and a video.

Road Safety Victoria developed this suite of Toolbox Talks in collaboration with the National Road Safety Partnership Program.

A business campaign pack is currently being prepared to go along with each topic.

Construction Trucks Community Safety Campaign

We recently launched our Construction Trucks community safety campaign to remind both truck drivers and vulnerable road users such as pedestrians, bicycle riders, and motorcyclists, of the safe behaviours they need to practice while sharing the road.

The campaign sought to educate pedestrians, bicycle riders and motorcyclists (collectively known as Vulnerable Road Users) on safe travel behaviours when sharing

the roads with trucks in both metropolitan and regional settings. For example, staying out of the way of truck blind spots, watching out for trucks with trailers and turning trucks. It also contained some key messaging for truck drivers, urging them to remain aware of vulnerable road users and check their mirrors.

We invite you to share our safety messages with your local communities and network. If you would like to receive a campaign stakeholder pack with shareable content and creative assets, please get in touch.



The Docklands Swapping Seats activation invited community members to sit in the driver's seat of a construction truck and experience its blind spots first-hand.

Keeping the community safe during construction periods.

At the Docklands Swapping Seats activation, members of the community were invited to attempt a left hand turn with a model truck to better understand the space needed and blind spot locations related to this manoeuvre.

Swapping Seats Docklands Community Event

Thank you to those of you who attended our first Swapping Seats activation in November last year, where the community was invited to experience the importance of staying out of truck blind spots by sitting in the driver's seat of an actual construction truck.

The event was a great success, with many bicycle riders and even some pedestrians stopping by on their morning commute. There was also a bike mechanic on site, along with a coffee cart, project collateral

and the opportunity to engage with a truck driver about left hand turning trucks.

The event was held at Harbour Esplanade in Docklands in collaboration with Bicycle Network and the Wurundjeri Way closure Community Outreach Team.

You may be interested in organising your own Swapping Seats activation. If so, please reach out to the Bicycle Network marketing department. [Contact us | Bicycle Network](#)



Embedding public safety in contracts – local government engagement

We are exploring ways for councils to embed [model contract clauses](#) in their construction contracts and other relevant contracts to keep the public safe around construction sites.

These clauses include ensuring temporary traffic management plans supports the safe travel of pedestrians, bicycle riders and motorcyclists, safe routes are chosen in order to avoid conflict with vulnerable road users, key truck safety requirements are retrofitted and truck drivers receive vulnerable road user training.

We've held workshops in November and February to encourage representatives from various local councils to consider how the model clauses could be adopted into their various council construction contracts, in addition to other truck-related contracts.

These sessions were a valuable opportunity for council representatives to share ideas and better understand the various pathways to embed the model clauses into their respective contracts. If you missed attending these one of workshops and would like to explore pathways to embed the Construction Trucks and Community Safety model contract clauses into your council, please get in touch.

Spreading the word to new audiences

We attended a number of conferences last year to reach beyond government contracts and raise the profile of the project to the broader construction sector and developers. We will continue doing outreach work this coming year, with attendance at the Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia (IPWEA) International Public Works Conference and the Workplace Health & Safety Show in April and May.

If you know of a conference you would like us to attend – with a stall where we can offer advice and resources, a speaker, or both, please get in touch.

Background to the Construction Trucks and Community Safety Project

The Construction Trucks and Community Safety Project commenced in late 2016 with a multi-stakeholder forum at the Melbourne Town Hall. By the end of the day, an action plan had been developed outlining areas that needed further development. These areas were 'signed on to' by the participants in the forum and formed the basis of multi-stakeholder working groups that met over the following few years.

These working groups helped to develop model contract clauses and supporting materials, that were then made publicly available in 2021 through the VicRoads website.

Since that time, Metropolitan Transport Infrastructure Authority has adopted the model clauses for their contracts, and a number of councils and other organisations are considering adopting them too.

We are continuing to engage with local councils and industry to encourage the use of these community safety focussed model clauses in their construction and other relevant contracts.

The *Construction Trucks and Community Safety* project is a multi-stakeholder project supported by Road Safety Victoria, Department of Transport and Planning, Victoria.

Key Partners

- Bicycle Network
- Municipal Association Victoria (MAV)
- Transurban
- TAC

If you would like to get in touch, please email Sophie Robinson at roadsafetyvictoria@roads.vic.gov.au