

# LABOR'S PLAN FOR MOUNT BARKER



**Peter Malinauskas MP**  
Premier of South Australia

**David Leach**  
Labor Candidate for Kavel

South  
Australian  
**Labor**

For the  
Future



An aerial photograph of a suburban town. In the foreground, a large industrial building with a solar panel array on its roof is visible. The town is densely packed with houses and trees, with a mix of green and autumn-colored foliage. In the background, rolling hills are visible under a clear blue sky.

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# Foreword

Mount Barker is one of the fastest growing areas in the state.

In the past, governments of all kinds have failed to properly plan for this growth.

In March 2022, my government inherited a situation we considered untenable: a rapidly growing community without the infrastructure it needs.

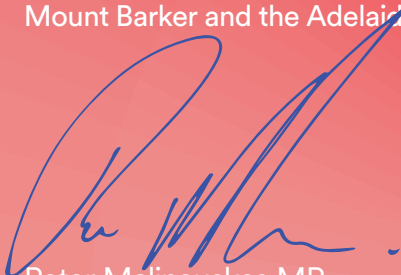
So, we decided to act.

For decades, Mount Barker had been serviced by only a single ambulance crew, while dealing with over-capacity roads and hospitals.

Over the past four years we have, in partnership with the Federal Government and Council, contributed towards significant road infrastructure work, a new hospital and ambulance station, new schools, and new community facilities worth more than a combined billion dollars.

However, it is clear that as Mount Barker continues to grow more will be required.

That is why we have developed this long-term plan, setting out our vision for the future of Mount Barker and the Adelaide Hills.



Peter Malinauskas MP  
Premier for South Australia

As Mayor of Mount Barker I have seen firsthand the impact of population growth on our community.

It is expected that by 2051, the Adelaide Hills region will accommodate almost 130,000 people, with most centred around Mount Barker.

We have significant community and infrastructure needs.

That's why I am proud to launch the Malinauskas Labor Government's plan for Mount Barker.

It is not just a temporary fix to our community's problems, but a long-term blueprint for what we will need in the future.

It sets out a series of investments in health, transport, education and the community, and represents a serious, future-focused commitment to the Adelaide Hills.



Mayor David Leach  
Labor Candidate for Kavel



# LABOR'S PLAN FOR MOUNT BARKER

**1** Fixing the Adelaide and  
Hawthorn Road Intersection

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**2** New 24/7 Pharmacy

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**3** New Mount Barker  
High School

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**4** New Mount Barker TAFE

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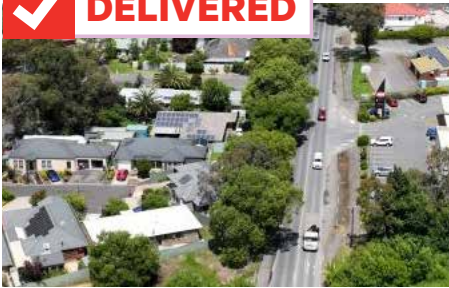
**5** New Mount Barker  
Police Station

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# DELIVERING FOR MOUNT BARKER

The Malinauskas Labor Government is committed to the long-term future of Mount Barker and the Adelaide Hills.

✓ **DELIVERED**



## Adelaide Hills Productivity and Road Safety Package

We have partnered with the Federal Government to invest \$150 million in an Adelaide Hills Productivity and Road Safety Package, supporting road improvements, fire resilience, junction upgrades and vegetation management on key roads.

✓ **DELIVERED**



## Funding the South Eastern Freeway Upgrade

Through a joint \$350 million investment in the South Eastern Freeway, funding has been provided for moveable concrete barriers - allowing lanes to be opened during incidents, alongside a completed refit of the Heysen Tunnels, delivering stronger freeway incident management.

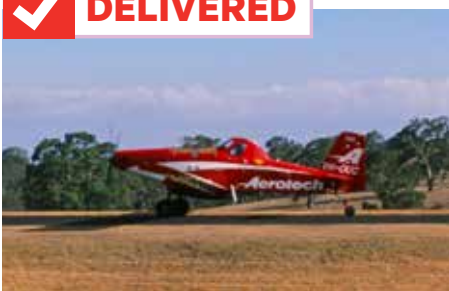
✓ **DELIVERED**



## Public Transport Expansion

We have invested over \$19 million in public transport in the Hills - making the on-demand bus service permanent in Mount Barker, Nairne and Littlehampton, upgrading the Mount Barker bus depot, purchasing six brand new electric buses and adding an extra 590 bus trips per week. This has seen weekly bus boardings increase by over 260% since 2023.

✓ **DELIVERED**



## Aerial Firefighting Appliances

We have invested a record \$26.7 million to assemble South Australia's largest ever aerial firefighting fleet. This includes an additional two rapid response Black Hawk helicopters, based at Brukung and able to be airborne within five minutes to respond to fire danger across the Hills.

✓ **DELIVERED**



## Summit Aquatic and Leisure Centre Upgrade

We've contributed toward the \$52 million Summit Aquatic and Leisure Centre upgrade, and towards the creation of a new community civic space in the centre of Mount Barker.

✓ **DELIVERED**



## Heysen Boulevard Rail Crossing

We've completed the Heysen Boulevard rail crossing, together with the Mount Barker District Council, providing connectivity to a crucial thoroughfare.



**INVESTMENT: \$80 million**

# LABOR WILL FIX THE ADELAIDE AND HAWTHORN ROAD INTERSECTION

As part of a complete overhaul of the intersection, we will invest \$80 million to:

- Signalise and widen the intersection
- Install a new dedicated right hand turning lane onto Hawthorn Road
- Install new dedicated left and right-hand turning lanes from Hawthorn Road onto Adelaide Road

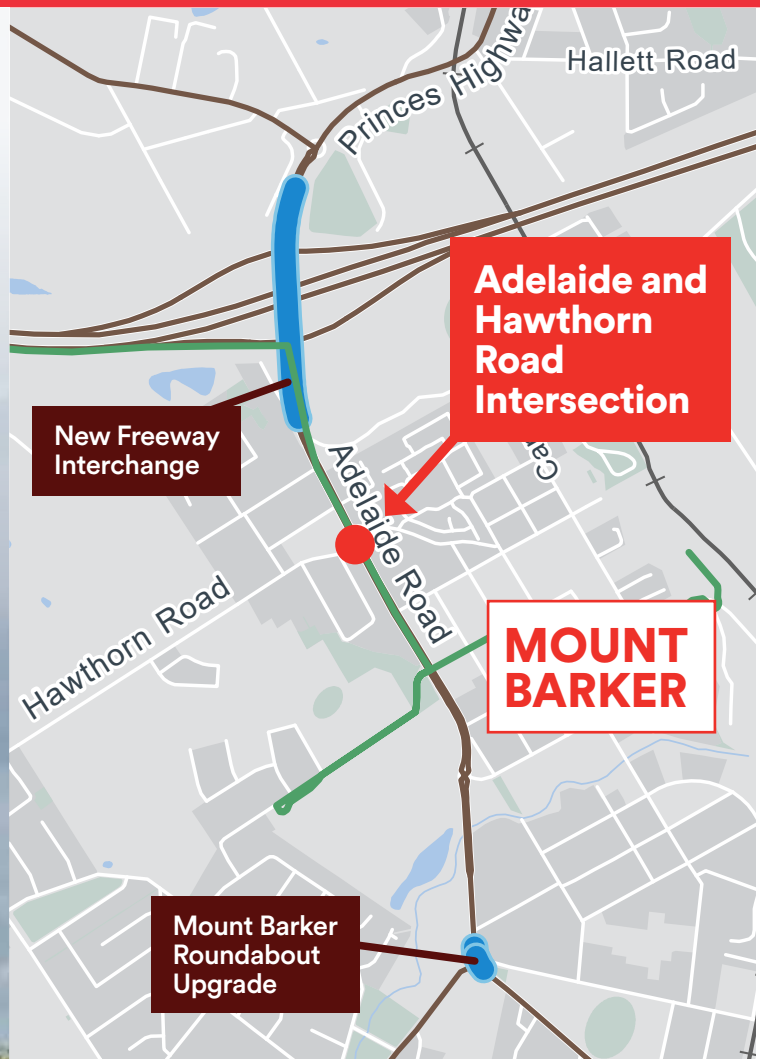
We will also widen Adelaide Road as part of this project.

This will reduce congestion and improve traffic flow along Adelaide Road.



## Future Infrastructure Plan

Mount Barker has experienced significant and rapid population growth. We will prioritise working with the Mount Barker Council to establish a Master Plan for the remaining growth areas, explore the establishment of an infrastructure scheme, and undertake work to preserve future infrastructure and transport corridors, including Hawthorn Road.



ARTIST IMPRESSION

> What we've done so far

## NEW FREEWAY INTERCHANGE

We've invested over \$150 million, in partnership with the Federal Government, to upgrade and expand the Mount Barker and Verdun freeway interchanges - introducing a new three-lane bridge to future proof access to and from Mount Barker.

**INVESTMENT: \$150 million**

## ROUNDAABOUT UPGRADE

We have also invested \$40 million in a new roundabout at Mount Barker High School. This will significantly improve traffic flow along Adelaide Road, Alexandrina Road, Wellington Road and Flaxley Road, while helping to keep children safe as they come and go from school.

**INVESTMENT: \$40 million**





# NEW MOUNT BARKER HIGH SCHOOL

Mount Barker's rapid growth makes it clear that the community needs a modern, fit-for-purpose public high school.

**To support the community, a re-elected Malinauskas Labor Government will undertake a full redevelopment of Mount Barker High School.**

This will build on the \$9 million we are currently investing to upgrade classrooms, workshops, food technology facilities and outdoor sporting areas.

We will create a contemporary, state-of-the-art space for teaching and learning.

A re-elected Malinauskas Labor Government will:

- Refurbish the existing administration, teaching, science and hall buildings
- Build a new disability unit, library and community cultural space
- Build a new wellbeing hub with a canteen and learning areas

- Build a new gymnasium and learning areas, including a basketball court, fitness studio and general amenities
- Create a new carpark, resurface courts and undertake landscaping work

These works will grow enrolment capacity by more than 200 places while making Mount Barker High School a contemporary, cutting edge place for education.

**INVESTMENT: \$96 million**

**We're committed to planning for Mount Barker's longer term education future.**

**That's why we will also move quickly to purchase the land needed for a second Mount Barker High School site - ensuring that the Adelaide Hills will have capacity for projected future population growth.**



# NEW MOUNT BARKER TAFE

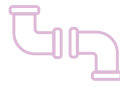
To access construction trades training, Mount Barker residents are currently required to travel for over an hour round trip to Tonsley TAFE.

This is a barrier to people taking up trades.

At a time when South Australia is building more homes than ever before, we need more qualified local carpenters, bricklayers, electricians and plumbers.

**That is why a re-elected Malinauskas Labor Government will act to ensure Adelaide Hills locals - and local employers - can access the skills they need for the future.**

We will construct a new TAFE Trades Workshop in Mount Barker, offering construction trades including electrical, plumbing and carpentry to an estimated additional 1,200 apprentices.



**500**  
plumbing  
apprentices



**400**  
electrical  
apprentices



**300**  
carpentry  
apprentices

This will build on the \$1.7 million we have already invested in Mount Barker TAFE to refurbish classrooms, upgrade infrastructure and acquire new training vehicles.

The Hills Housing Academy will deliver the workforce we need into the future, while strengthening the Adelaide Hills economy and providing opportunities for secure, well-paid local careers.

**INVESTMENT: \$25.5 million**



ARTIST IMPRESSION

# NEW MOUNT BARKER POLICE STATION

**We are committed to keeping the Mount Barker community safe.**

The existing Mount Barker Police Station does not have the capacity to deal with projected growth in population and demand across the Adelaide Hills.

**Rather than wait until it is too late, a re-elected Malinauskas Labor Government will build a state-of-the-art brand new Mount Barker Police Station now.**

The new police station will allow for more police officers, improved public-facing facilities and faster response times, while being designed with capacity for future expansion if required.

**This will see an estimated up to 250 police officers based in Mount Barker.**

The new Mount Barker Police station forms a part of our \$200 million commitment to community safety infrastructure.







## > Labor's plan for Healthcare

# NEW 24/7 PHARMACY

Following the success of our first four 24/7 pharmacies, a **re-elected Malinauskas Labor Government will support an additional 24/7 pharmacy in the Adelaide Hills.**

Since they began, our four existing 24/7 pharmacies have been visited by more than 510,000 people during their extended hours, dispensing more than 200,000 scripts and taking more than 18,000 phone calls from people seeking medical advice.

Feedback on our existing 24/7 pharmacies suggests that an approximate 20 percent of visitors would have presented to an emergency department if the 24/7 pharmacy was not available.

This shows the potential value in reduced demand on the Mount Barker Hospital, and forms a key part of our plan for the long-term sustainability of healthcare in the Adelaide Hills.



510,000  
people



200,000  
scripts



18,000  
phone calls

## > What Labor's done



# NEW AMBULANCE STATION

**INVESTMENT: \$9.1 million**


Since 1992, Mount Barker was only serviced by one ambulance.

That's why we funded, built and opened a new Mount Barker Ambulance Station to meet the growing demand for emergency care across the Adelaide Hills.

The new station houses 32 paramedics (including 18 newly recruited), and includes a 6-bay garage, modern training facilities, rest areas and secure parking.



# NEW MOUNT BARKER PRESCHOOL AND PRIMARY SCHOOL



**The Malinauskas Labor Government is committed to future-proofing the education and skills pathway in Mount Barker and the Adelaide Hills.**

We have already invested \$62.7 million to construct a new Mount Barker preschool and primary school, providing an additional 100 preschool places and capacity for an additional 300 primary school enrolments.

We have also partnered with six early learning centres around the Adelaide Hills to deliver 3-year-old preschool, rolling out this year.

**INVESTMENT: \$62.7 million**

# NEW MOUNT BARKER HOSPITAL

We know that receiving healthcare close to home can sometimes make all the difference.

**INVESTMENT: \$365.8 million**

In the past, many Adelaide Hills residents have been transferred to the Royal Adelaide Hospital or Flinders Medical Centre for even routine hospital visits.

It's why we are currently building a \$365.8 million new Mount Barker Hospital, which will operate alongside the recently opened new Emergency Department to provide better care closer to home.

## The new hospital will:



Triple inpatient capacity from 34 to 102 beds



Include a 12-bed mental health unit



Include dedicated rehabilitation, maternity and palliative care beds



Include additional medical and surgical beds



Include modern surgery, pathology, imaging and chemotherapy services



We have increased the budget of the Barossa Hills Fleurieu Local Health Network by over 40%, when compared to the final budget of the previous Liberal Government.

This is alongside the extra 329 doctors, nurses and allied health staff we have employed (above attrition) across the Barossa Hills Fleurieu Local Health Network since coming to government

We are committed to a long-term, sustainable health network across the Adelaide Hills.





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South  
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