



MEDIA RELEASE

PREMIER FLEES FIREFIGHTERS

- *Premier Jacinta Allan proved unable to face firefighters*
- *Firefighters protested the Premier as she spruiked the completion of the final Melbourne Metro Tunnel station*
- *Firefighters deem metro tunnel a “death trap”*

MONDAY 06 OCTOBER 2025 – Premier Jacinta Allan has apparently taken a train rather than face firefighters.

Dozens of firefighters protested their lack of essential breathing equipment and the \$100m cut to Fire Rescue Victoria at Premier Jacinta Allan’s event marking the completion of the final Melbourne Metro Tunnel station.

Firefighters holding placards covered every exit from the State Library station but Premier Jacinta Allan did not front up to face them, instead reportedly taking the train to escape accountability from first responders.

The failure to replace outdated breathing equipment will see firefighters unable to respond to emergencies in some parts of the Allan Government’s \$15 billion Melbourne Metro Rail Tunnel.

Leaked documents from Fire Rescue Victoria reveal that Commissioner Gavin Freeman- recently subject to a damning 90% no confidence vote- was informed of the issue and its specific impact on transport infrastructure emergencies more than a year ago.

The lack of essential equipment, massive funding cuts and attacks firefighters’ rights on protective uniforms, equipment and safety are all reasons why firefighters have recently launched a statewide political action to make local MPs accountable, targeting 34 electorate held by Labor MPs on narrow margins.

United Firefighters Union Secretary Peter Marshall said the Allan government needs to be accountable for actions that put firefighters and the public at risk.

“The Melbourne Metro Tunnel is a death trap. Firefighters simply do not have the equipment needed to cover emergencies in this \$15 billion ticking time bomb.”

“The arrogance of this government and this Premier is astounding. Cutting \$100 million from firefighters as we face down a potentially deadly fire season, with out-of-date trucks that won’t pump water, break down and have to be towed from scenes- it’s arrogance that’s playing with lives.”

“Firefighters are worried. And if firefighters are worried, the public should be as well. Our message to the Premier is clear: you can run, but you can’t hide.”

Media enquires – Gabriella 0466 435 468