



28 CITY RING ROAD AND CENTRAL AREA ACCESS ROUTES

The purposes of this road are to divert through traffic from the central business area and to provide improved facilities for distributing traffic to central area destinations. These purposes would be substantially achieved by construction of the river crossing (6) between Blyth Street and Johnson Street, and the crossing (8) over the river and railway yards from Alexandra Avenue to Spring Street.

Eventually the traffic on portions of this road will be about two and a half times that now passing over Spencer Street Bridge. As the volume of traffic increases improvements to the route, particularly at junctions, will become justified, so that this heavy traffic can move freely and without interruption.

It is visualised that ultimately the road will have to be developed somewhat as follows:—

From the roundabout (1) at the corner of Victoria and Nicholson Streets the road would follow Victoria Street westwards, passing over Rathdown Street (2) and under Lygon Street (3). From Cardigan

Street it would be carried in a viaduct (4) over the junctions of Victoria Street with Swanston and Elizabeth Streets to near Queen Street. It would continue along Victoria Street and Hawke Street, which would be joined with Cowper Street by a bridge (5) over the railway yards and the road junction at Dudley Street. The road would continue along Cowper and Blyth Streets and cross the river, probably by a movable type bridge (6), to the important junction with Route 9 at Johnson and Brady Streets. Eventually, traffic at this point would warrant direct connection by viaduct (7) with Grant Street. The road would continue along Grant Street, where it would form portion of the approach road from the deep-water port to the city business centre. Crossing under St. Kilda Road and portion of the King's Domain to Alexandra Avenue, it would then be carried across the river and railway yards by bridge (8) to Spring Street, which from the south side of Collins Street to the north side of Bourke Street would be depressed (9) to avoid interruption to the movement of its traffic by vehicles from Collins and Bourke Streets.