



LEVEL CROSSING REMOVAL PROJECT

FURLONG - MAIN
BLACKBURN - HEATHERDALE



BLACKBURN ROAD

COMMUNITY UPDATE

ISSUE #01 JULY 2015

We're removing the level crossing at Blackburn Road to reduce congestion in the area and create a safer, more connected community.

DID YOU KNOW?

The boom gates on Blackburn Road are down for up to 45 minutes (38%) during the AM peak (7.00-9.00am), causing congestion, frustrating commuters and triggering risky behaviour.

The Level Crossing Removal Authority (LXRA) is removing 50 dangerous and congested level crossings across Melbourne, including Blackburn Road in Blackburn. Works will start by the end of 2015, and take approximately 12-18 months to complete.

Current progress

A preferred contractor has been selected to design and construct the Blackburn Road level crossing removal following an extensive tender process, and the contract will be awarded in the coming months.

Project design

Thank you to everyone who previously gave feedback on the Blackburn Road level crossing removal. We collected input via a survey sent out to 14,000 community members, community information sessions, and stakeholder meetings and workshops. Your input was important and has been incorporated into the project design, resulting in the rail under road solution, with enhancements to better integrate the station with Blackburn Village and improve the way people move around the precinct.

The project includes:

- Lowering the rail line below Blackburn Road.
- Pedestrian crossings over the rail cutting at Cottage Street and King Street/Oliver Avenue.
- A new shared use path for walking and cycling between Blackburn and Nunawading

Blackburn Station will be retained and enhanced, including:

- Extensive drainage work to alleviate the flooding issues in the underpass.
- Enhancing the underpass entrances to let in more natural light.
- New Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) compliant ramps into the underpass and up to the platforms.
- New canopies on either side of the underpass, and landscaping of the forecourt.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Establishing a site office and storage area

We are currently investigating suitable sites to use as a site office and storage area for construction materials and access into the rail corridor during construction.

Community information sessions

In late August we will hold a community information session in the local area to present the detailed project designs, construction timeline and methodology. Details of the information session will be promoted in local newspapers, on the project website and around the local community.

NEARBY PROJECTS

Heatherdale Road Level Crossing Removal in Mitcham has been fast-tracked to be delivered at the same time as the Blackburn Project.

Delivering these projects together will reduce the number of closures required on the Belgrave/Lilydale line, and accelerate the delivery of the overall Level Crossing Removal Project for the community.

MORE INFORMATION

WEB

Register to receive project information
levelcrossings.vic.gov.au

EMAIL

levelcrossings@ecodev.vic.gov.au

CALL

1800 762 667
(business hours Monday to Friday)

WRITE

Level Crossing Removal Authority
Level 14, 121 Exhibition Street
Melbourne 3000



For languages other than English, please call 131 450.



What to expect during construction

Our aim is to minimise impacts on the community as much as possible, however construction of a major project does have some unavoidable impacts. Here are some of the strategies that will be put into place.

Noise, dust and vibration – Strict mitigation measures will be in place to control noise, dust and vibration impacts, however they cannot be eliminated completely and will be noticeable to the community throughout the project.

Rail closures – The Belgrave/Lilydale line and Blackburn Station will continue to operate throughout the majority of the project. Rail closures will be required from time to time to allow work to be undertaken safely in the rail corridor. This includes a number of weekend closures, and a four week rail closure that will take place in early 2017. Rail replacement buses will operate during rail closures. Full details of all disruptions will be made available in advance so that rail passengers can plan their journey.

Night works – While most of the work will be completed during the day, 24-hour and weekend works will be necessary to minimise disruptions to trains, roads and other critical services. 24-hour will happen every day during the four week rail shut-down, and from time to time throughout the project. A 24-hour phone line will be available during these works for the community to discuss any questions or concerns and we will work with those living close to the project to mitigate impacts.

Residents and traders – We will notify residents, traders, schools and sporting clubs in advance of any disruptive activities and work with the

community throughout the project to manage these impacts. We will work closely with traders to ensure impact to trade is minimised.

Road impacts – Blackburn Road will remain open during the majority of the project, however short-term closures will be required to facilitate construction of the road over the cutting as well as a four week closure during the rail shut-down.

There will also be impacts to local rounds including changes to access and closures to complete works and relocate services, as well as an increase in traffic with trucks using local roads to access the project site. These impacts will be minimised by careful planning and coordination with VicRoads. Full details of disruptions will be made available in advance so that road users can plan their journey and the community is well informed.

Parking – During the project, approximately 80 rail commuter car park spaces will be temporarily closed to allow for construction. The project team is investigating options to provide alternate commuter parking nearby. Construction workers will be required to park in the site office.

Communicating with us – You can contact us with any questions you might have (see contact details), or join us at the community information session. During construction, a dedicated engagement team will be available to the community to discuss any questions or concerns.