

# Upgrading noise walls in Sargent Street, Doncaster

Fact Sheet  
January 2025



We're upgrading the Eastern freeway with new express lanes, new traffic management technology, Melbourne's first express busway and a seamless connection to North East Link.

We're also delivering a tough new noise standard. We'll be building new and upgraded noise walls to meet a stringent daytime noise standard of 63 decibels. This is in line with the highest level of traffic noise protection in Victoria.

The first stage of the Eastern Freeway Upgrades from Burke Road to Tram Road will deliver more than 11 kilometres of new and improved noise walls. This includes upgrading the noise walls along Sargent Street, Doncaster.

Noise walls are designed with residents in mind to protect privacy, reduce traffic noise and allow for natural light. We'll share images, specifications and the new noise wall design with residents, once designs are finalised in 2025.

## What to expect

From early 2025, we'll begin setting up our worksite in Sargent Street, to eventually install a new retaining wall and noise walls and vegetation.

You'll notice trucks and machinery behind safety barriers, as well as some on-site facilities for our workers.

We'll be using machinery such as excavators, piling rigs and a crane, which will generate medium to high levels of noise, dust and vibration at times.

Works to upgrade the noise walls will occur in the following stages:



## Stage 1 – Preparing for construction (early 2025)

To start, we'll:

- install temporary drainage
- relocate underground services
- install temporary lighting
- remove the existing noise wall
- temporarily widen a section of Sargent Street to ensure residential access is maintained throughout our works
- build hardstands and access tracks from the freeway
- install temporary noise walls for works to safely take place behind barriers.

## Stage 2 – Piling (mid 2025)

To create the foundations for the new retaining wall and noise wall, we'll use a technique called bored piling.

We'll then install the retaining walls and secure them in place using soil nails spaced every few metres. We expect this stage of work to generate medium to high levels of noise, dust and vibration.

## Stage 3 – Installing the noise walls (late 2025 – mid 2026)

The new noise walls will be installed by lifting in pre-cast panels using a crane positioned on the freeway. We'll then begin works to reinstate Sargent Street including removing the temporary widening, restoring impacted nature strips, installing permanent drainage and planting trees and vegetation along the new noise wall.

We'll be working in Sargent Street until mid 2026.

## 📢 When we'll be working

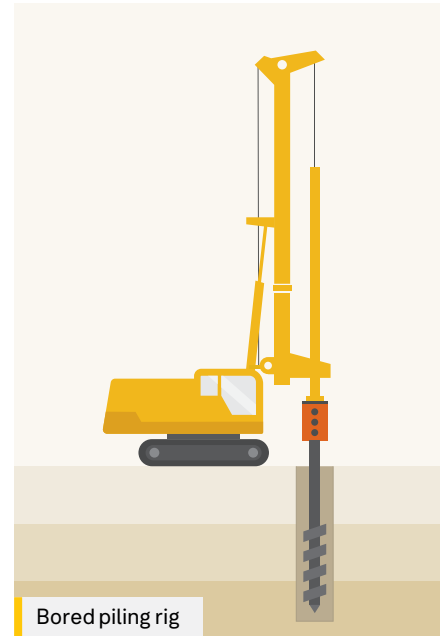
We'll be working during the day, although some extended hours and night works may be required.

We'll let you know ahead of time if we need to work at night. We'll have strict controls in place to manage potential construction impacts during night works.

If you have any concerns about construction impacts, call us 24/7 on **1800 105 105**.

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## Keeping Sargent Street open

To provide room for large machinery required to safely remove and build the noise walls and retaining walls, we'll need to extend the worksite into Sargent Street. To keep access for residents, the road will temporarily widen and occupy parts of the nature strip on Sargeant Street.

During this time, traffic will be reduced down to one lane with two-way access in this section of the street. On-street parking will be removed on both sides of the street for the duration of works. The temporary traffic arrangement will be in place until the noise walls are completed by mid 2026.

## How we'll manage impacts

Our project is managed in line with strict Environmental Performance Requirements (EPRs).

We'll monitor and assess these impacts throughout the project, using real-time technology. We have a range of on-site measures in place, including frequent water cart spraying with dust stabilisers and transporting material in sealed and secured loads.

We'll work closely with residents to manage construction impacts and provide updated information on our works including the timing and extent of disruptions.

## Fast Facts

### What is bored piling?

We'll be constructing underground columns known as 'piles' to create foundations for the new retaining walls and noise walls.

To create the piles, a large piling rig will drill into the ground to a depth of 15 metres and remove the soil before reinforced steel is lowered into the hole and filled with concrete.

The piles will then be capped with concrete to complete the pile structure.

### What are soil nails?

Soil nails are structural elements installed into the ground to stabilise and anchor the soil in place.

They are typically made of steel bars which are installed into pre-drilled holes and secured in place with grout. Once these works are completed, a brand new noise wall can be supported on top.

## Construction timeline

- Feb – Mar 2025**

  - Install temporary drainage
  - Relocate and protect underground utility services
  - Building hardstands and access tracks from the freeway
  - Widen street temporarily
  - Install worksite road barriers and fencing
- Mar – Apr 2025**

  - Remove noise wall
  - Bulk earthworks
  - Piling for foundations of new retaining wall and noise wall
- May – Jul 2025**

  - Continue removing noise wall
  - Piling for foundations of new retaining wall and noise wall
  - Install soil nails for new retaining wall
  - Install concrete caps on top of piles
- Aug 2025 – mid 2026**

  - Install new noise walls
  - Road reinstatement, drainage installation, landscaping and finishing works

*This timeline is subject to change.*

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