

The new road bridge at Old Calder Highway is starting to take shape on the eastern side of the rail line.



Old Calder Highway and Watsons Road, Diggers Rest / November 2024

Level crossing removal community update



Works to remove the Diggers Rest level crossings underway

Major construction to remove the level crossings at Old Calder Highway and Watsons Road, Diggers Rest has commenced.

We're building two new road bridges over the rail line to remove the level crossings, making the Sunbury Line level crossing free in 2025.

Major construction at Old Calder Highway kicked off in winter after the team moved into the site offices and set up work areas in the Diggers Rest Station precinct.

Crews have been working hard to build the bridge with piling works to create the foundations for the new road bridge now complete and works to build the bridge abutments and piers underway.

At Watsons Road, site establishment and early works are underway.

Major construction to build the new road bridge will begin before the end of the year.

The Diggers Rest level crossings will be gone for good in 2025, improving safety, allowing more trains more often and preparing the area for future development.

Project benefits



Easing congestion and improving safety



New and upgraded lighting and CCTV



New, longer bus bays at Diggers Rest Station



Two new community spaces at Diggers Rest Station



New and upgraded pathways and connections



Hundreds of new trees and shrubs



Sign up for updates
levelcrossings.vic.gov.au



New road bridge taking shape at Old Calder Highway

Crews kicked off major construction in August using a 22.5 metre piling rig to create the foundations of the new road bridge, drilling ten holes approximately 10 metres deep into the ground.

Steel reinforcement cages were then dropped into the holes and filled with concrete to create the foundations for the bridge.

These foundations are now growing from the ground up to create the piers that will support the concrete beams and road bridge structure.

A new temporary diversion road at Old Calder Highway opened to vehicles in August, allowing traffic to keep moving while we work to build the new roundabout and eastern bridge entrance.

This temporary road will stay open until the new road bridge is ready for opening in 2025.

Works to build the retaining walls on both sides of the rail line are underway.

To create the retaining walls, textured concrete panels are stacked on top of each other to create two tall wall structures.

As the walls take shape, crews will use crushed rock and soil to fill the gap between the two walls, creating the road bridge.

Works to build the eastern and western abutments are also progressing.

Crews use steel framing filled with concrete to create the abutment structures.

Each abutment provides a stable foundation to support the large beams that form the bridge structure that travels over the train tracks.

Quick facts on the new retaining walls at Old Calder Highway

Each panel measures **2 x 2 metres**

All panels are **made in a** casting yard in **Albury**

Over **360 panels** will make up the eastern retaining walls

Over **90 panels** will make up the western retaining walls

More than **10,000 cubic metres** of crushed rock and soil will fill the gaps between the retaining walls



A train passes by the piling rig on the western side of the rail line at Old Calder Highway



The very first retaining wall panels being set in place on the eastern side of the rail line at Old Calder Highway



The new temporary diversion road at Old Calder Highway



Bridge columns being built on top of the piles on the western side of the rail line



Crews working to fill the steel frame with concrete to create the eastern abutment of the bridge



Freshly poured concrete columns for the new road bridge

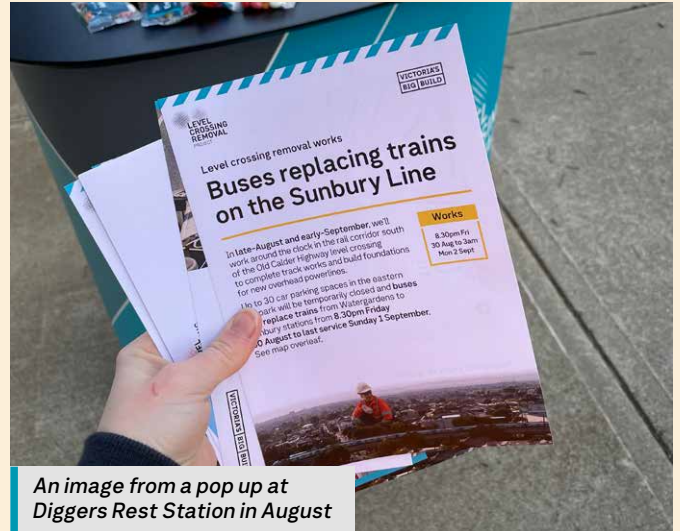


The eastern abutment has been poured and will soon be connected to the retaining walls

Out and about in the Diggers Rest community

While we've been working in the area, our team has been engaging with the community about upcoming works and disruptions.

- The team has been popping up at Diggers Rest Station to let commuters know about rail and car park impacts.
- We attended the Sunbury Show to talk to the wider community about local Victoria's Big Build projects and disruptions.
- Our first online project update was held in late-October. Visit our website to read a summary of the session.



Aerial view looking north at the new road bridge at Old Calder Highway and Diggers Rest Station. Artist impression only, subject to change.

We are calling on the Diggers Rest community to help us choose a name for the new road bridge at Old Calder Highway in Diggers Rest.



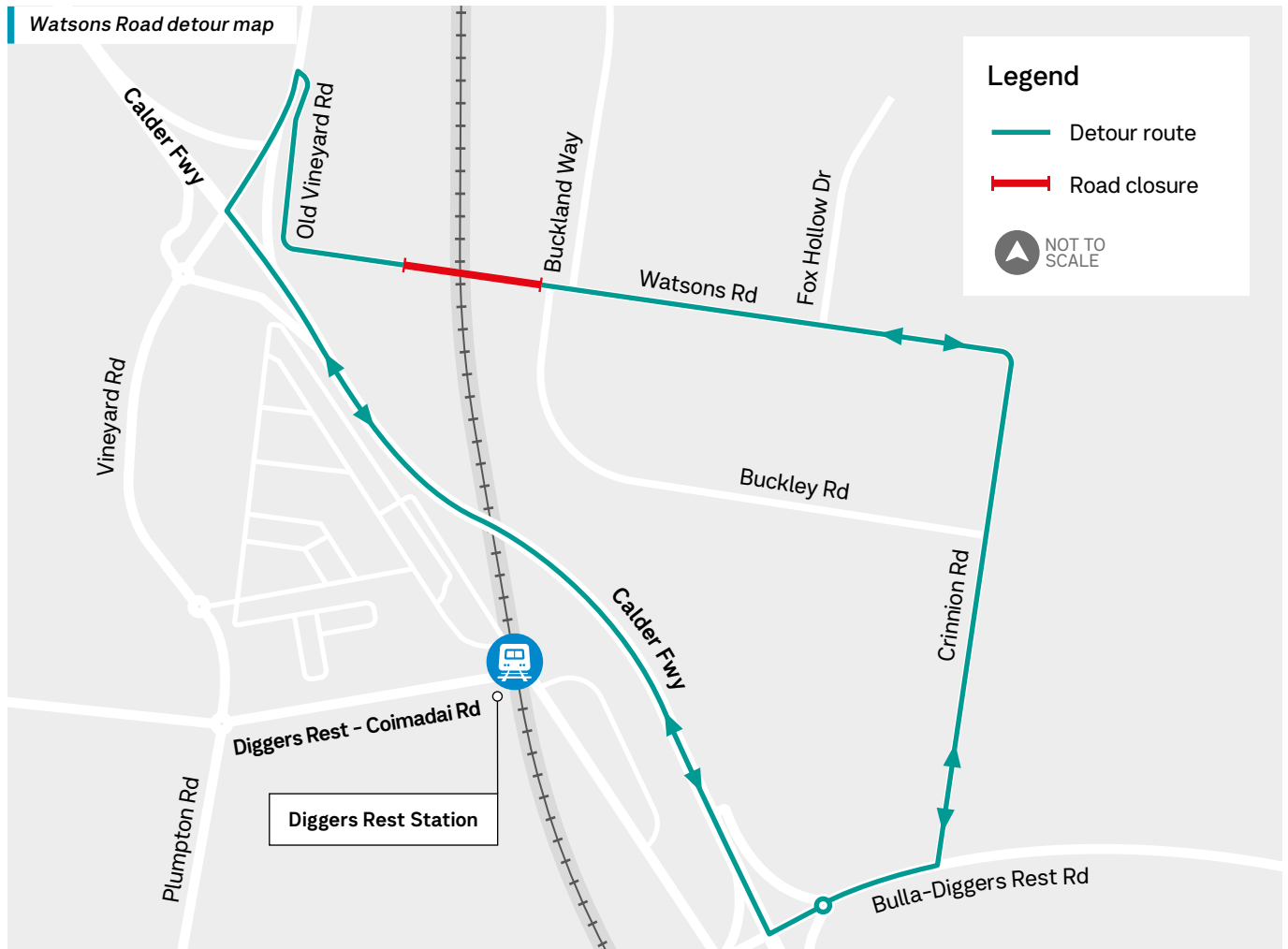
View the shortlisted names and share your feedback

Scan the QR code or visit engage.vic.gov.au/lxrp-diggers-rest to complete the feedback survey by 11.59pm Thursday 19 December.

Around the clock works in November and December

From **29 November to 13 December**, we'll work 24/7 at the Watsons Road and Old Calder Highway project sites and in the rail corridor to:

- deliver and install large concrete beams at Old Calder Highway
- complete works in the rail corridor while trains aren't running
- remove the boom gates at Watsons Road.
- continue utility relocation works



Upcoming disruptions in Diggers Rest

While we work in the area, there will be some changes to the way you travel.



Buses replace trains on sections of the Sunbury Line from **8.30pm Wednesday 4 December to last service Thursday 12 December**.



Watsons Road is closed at the level crossing from **7am on 19 November 2024 until late 2025**.



Ongoing parking changes at Diggers Rest Station in **late-November through to late-December**.



Learn more about upcoming road and rail disruptions

Scan the QR code or visit levelcrossings.vic.gov.au/diggers-rest

Watsons Road closure

We're getting ready to remove the level crossing at Watsons Road, Diggers Rest.

We're setting up our site offices and work areas, ready for major construction to start before the end of the year.

To safely remove the level crossing and build the new road bridge at Watsons Road, we'll close the road at the level crossing in **late November** and it will **reopen in late 2025**.



Read our latest works notices

Scan the QR code or visit levelcrossings.vic.gov.au/diggers-rest-works-notice

Project timeline



Late 2022

- Site investigations and planning works



June 2023

- Community consultation
- Site investigations continue



September 2023

- Concept designs released
- Further community consultation



Late 2023

- Site investigations continue



March 2024

- Final designs released



Mid 2024

- Site establishment and early works underway at Old Calder Highway and Watsons Road
- Major construction starts at Old Calder Highway



Late 2024

- Major construction underway at Watsons Road



2025

- Level crossings removed

* Timeline subject to change.



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1800 105 105 (call anytime)

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