

22 September 2020

WES2009.04

Traffic diversions - Williamstown Road and Blackshaws Road

We are writing to let you know about some upcoming activities on the West Gate Tunnel Project that will require the freeway to be closed and Williamstown Road and Blackshaws Road used as a detour.

We understand that recent overnight closures have been disruptive and we would like to thank you for your patience and apologise for any the impact our diversions are having. We've heard what the community has had to say about the impact of these diversions and we're continuing to reduce the number of closures as much as is possible.

We will continue to work as quickly as we can to complete the necessary works, without compromising the safety of our workers or road users.

Upcoming activities and traffic diversions

Over the coming weeks, we are completing a number of key construction activities in relation to the two new walking and cycling overpasses that connect the communities either side of the freeway. This work cannot be done while there is traffic underneath.

These works will require at least two overnight freeway closures for specialist crews to lift and install two, 60-metre steel bridges over the freeway in late September and early October, and possibly at other times for certain other works to complete the bridges. Dates may change due to weather conditions.

While we continue to look at absolutely minimising the need for freeway closures, we cannot safely install the overpasses without needing to close the freeway. Unfortunately, there are limited options for diverting traffic and motorists will need to use Williamstown Road and Geelong Road or Melbourne Road and Blackshaws Road to exit and re-enter the freeway.

Sign up to get information directly to your inbox

To stay informed on the exact dates, we encourage you sign up to our weekly traffic alert to keep up to date on these and future freeway and ramp closures.

If you would like to sign up to updates via email, you can scan the QR code, email us on info@wgta.vic.gov.au or call 1800 105 105

For the latest information on upcoming diversions, you can also visit the Big Build website at <https://bigbuild.vic.gov.au/disruptions>



Freeway closures throughout the project

It is also important to note that freeway closures will still be required throughout the project so that we can safely undertake construction works. Freeway closures are necessary for a range of reasons, including so we can safely undertake lifting activities, bridge demolition, unloading oversized items such as beams, trusses and crossheads, asphaltting and other works.

Often closing the freeway is the only way to ensure the safety of motorists and our workforce when carrying out the works.

Vehicles speeding

We know that speeding trucks are also a concern for residents on these roads. As a project, we have no legal power to enforce speed limits or issue infringements. The only authorities capable of enforcing speed are Victoria Police and the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR). The project team continues to work with these two agencies, requesting enforcement activity for the diversion routes.

To report speeding vehicles, we encourage you to contact either Victorian Police on 131 444 or the NHVR on 1300 696 487

For updates and more information about our works, please visit westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au or call us on 1800 105 105.

Please note that works may be rescheduled in the event of bad weather or unexpected impacts to the construction program.

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 WEST GATE TUNNEL PROJECT

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