



**O'HERNS ROAD UPGRADE
STAGE 2**
AUGUST 2019

Artist's impression of Stage 2 once complete

MANAGING THE ENVIRONMENT



We're protecting the environment during construction

Stage 2 of the O'Herns Road Upgrade will provide direct access to the Hume Freeway via new on and off ramps.

We'll also widen the bridge over the freeway and build three new traffic light intersections, enabling new north-south connections between Cooper Street and O'Herns Road.

The project will improve traffic flow and make it easier and safer for you to travel through Melbourne's north.

Environmental assessment

Stage 2 of the O'Herns Road Upgrade was referred for assessment under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) as parts of the project contain habitat for federally listed threatened and protected species. These species include the Golden Sun Moth and Growling Grass Frog.

In mid-2019, the Federal Government approved our approach to managing the area's biodiversity and places of natural significance.

Protection of flora and fauna

We're protecting flora and fauna in the project area through environmentally sensitive design and construction methods.

We'll do this by:

- creating dedicated areas of habitat in compliance with our environmental approvals
- protecting trees and other sensitive vegetation with 'no go zones'
- having a dedicated environmental specialist to oversee the protection of any sensitive vegetation



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Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne



How we're protecting flora

Our aim is to minimise our impact on local flora. We'll do this by:

- only working in areas required for the project
- only removing flora where it's unavoidable
- fencing off tree and sensitive vegetation 'no go zones' and excluding these zones from any form of storage, laydown or construction
- pruning some trees to prevent accidentally breaking branches or damaging trees
- performing onsite inspections to ensure that any flora that needs to be removed is first inspected by a qualified environmental specialist
- working with local community groups to re-use vegetation removed on the project.

How we're protecting fauna

Our environmental assessments have identified Golden Sun Moth habitat and a movement corridor for the Growling Grass Frog, both federally listed threatened species.

To minimise any impacts to these species and other fauna, we'll:

- have a suitably qualified ecologist complete pre-clearance surveys to determine the presence of any fauna
- have qualified and licensed wildlife and habitat specialists on hand to safely relocate any fauna that may be affected
- offset our impact to Golden Sun Moth habitat
- build a specially designed underground road crossing for the Growling Grass Frog to help facilitate connectivity through the waterway.

Managing air quality

Construction is happening near residential properties, businesses and other public areas, so it's important that we manage air quality in the area.

We'll do this by:

- watering areas where earthworks are occurring
- having additional water carts on standby during hot and windy weather
- covering truck loads when travelling on public roads
- planning topsoil stripping and grading on days when wind conditions are less likely to carry dust
- minimising the time between stripping topsoil and commencing excavation
- reducing speed limits or using crushed rock to pave long-term haulage routes
- hydro-seeding stockpiles of topsoil and installing temporary wind fencing
- dust monitoring in areas adjacent to high activity construction sites and residential properties.

Managing construction impacts

We'll put measures in place to minimise impacts to the community from our works, including construction noise, and vibration.

For more information on how we'll manage noise and vibration please see our *Managing noise and vibration* fact sheet.



Image: Vegetation planting

CONTACT US

contact@roadprojects.vic.gov.au
1800 105 105

Major Road Projects Victoria
GPO Box 4509, Melbourne VIC 3001

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