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Constructing the new bridge over the Western Ring Road (M80)

Melbourne Airport Rail is a transformational public transport project connecting to Victoria's regional and metropolitan network with trains to run from Melbourne Airport through Sunshine Station and the Metro Tunnel.

Rail Projects Victoria (RPV) is overseeing the delivery of Melbourne Airport Rail and has a team of design, engineering and construction experts working on the development and delivery of the project.

This fact sheet provides information on the new bridge which will allow trains to travel to and from the airport over the Western Ring Road, also known as the M80 Ring Road.

As part of Melbourne Airport Rail, a new rail bridge will be built over the top of the Western Ring Road.

The new rail bridge will cross over the Western Ring Road and Steele Creek, connecting with the new tracks being built towards Melbourne Airport.

Melbourne Airport Rail trains will travel under the Calder Freeway next to the existing rail line before branching off onto the new rail bridge over the top of the Western Ring Road.



Concept image only, subject to planning approvals and stakeholder engagement.



Australian Government



New rail bridge structure

The new rail bridge over the Western Ring Road will be over 80 metres long and over 13 metres high, built using two steel box girders (a tube-like structure) and the piers being built with concrete columns, painted with an anti-graffiti treatment.

Traffic and detours

While the bridge will be built in a way that minimises the number, duration and severity of closures to the busy freeway during construction, you may notice changes to some of the roads you are familiar with.

This may include temporary and overnight closures of the Western Ring Road (M80). Detours and early warning signals will be put in place leading up to and around work zones.

There will also be trucks travelling to and from construction sites and site compounds. There are a number of proposed haulage routes in the local

area, including Keilor Park Drive, McIntyre Road, Sunshine Avenue, and the Western Ring Road. Construction traffic will be required to use major arterial roads and avoid using local roads as much as possible.



About Melbourne Airport Rail

Melbourne Airport Rail will connect people from the airport to where they need to go - be that work, home or Victoria's key tourism destinations.

Airport trains will run from a new station at Melbourne Airport every 10 minutes, through the Metro Tunnel to Melbourne's CBD in around 30 minutes.


Construction will begin in 2022 with a target opening date of 2029, subject to approvals. The project will support up to 8,000 jobs during construction.



Example of traffic management during construction.

More information

 airportrail.vic.gov.au

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It should be noted that this information is current at the time of printing, however due to unforeseen circumstances, changes may occur. Please visit railprojects.vic.gov.au for the latest updates.