



EPPING ROAD UPGRADE

AUTUMN 2023



We're upgrading Epping Road to help you get home safer and sooner.

What's been happening






Since our last update, we've:

- upgraded and reopened the intersection at Baltrum Drive and Epping Road
- completed earthworks and started installing drainage at the intersection of Epping Road, Craigieburn Road East, and Lehmanns Road
- relocated power lines and installed new power poles between Memorial Avenue and Findon Road

- completed gas main works along Epping Road between Findon Road and Hayston Boulevard
- finished new gas main installations at the intersections with Harvest Home Road and Pine Park Drive
- installed new water mains at Hayston Boulevard, Prada Drive, Woodcutters Grove and Castlemaine Lane
- continued to relocate and protect essential underground services including gas, water, electricity, and telecommunications.

Image above: The upgraded Baltrum Drive intersection

Project timeline

-  **January 2023**
Major works start
-  **2023 – 2024**
Commence utility relocation works and building new southbound lanes
-  **2024**
Commence intersection upgrades and side road closures and diverting traffic to new lanes
-  **2024 – 2025**
Upgrades to northbound lanes and intersections
-  **2025**
Project complete



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Major milestone at Baltrum Drive

We've hit our first major milestone for 2024, with the completion of a vital intersection upgrade at Baltrum Drive.

Baltrum Drive was closed at Epping Road in early January so we could safely add extra lanes to improve traffic flow.

While the intersection was closed, we successfully:

- removed over 2,800 tonnes of existing materials, including asphalt, pavement and topsoil
- laid 700 tonnes of new asphalt
- added 300 metres of new kerbs, new medians and new traffic islands
- installed 100 metres of new drainage
- upgraded the traffic signals
- built sections of the new walking and cycling paths.

Later this year, we'll return to the area to upgrade the slip lane north of Baltrum Drive, as part of our works to build the new southbound lanes on Epping Road.

Baltrum Drive is the first of six major intersections being improved as part of the Epping Road Upgrade.

Before we move traffic onto the new southbound lanes, we'll upgrade the intersections at Hayston Boulevard, Park Street East, Harvest Home Road East, Pine Park Drive and Lehmanns Road.

What's coming up

We're continuing to build your new southbound lanes on Epping Road and High Street.

Earthworks are continuing behind safety barriers as we relocate and protect critical services such as water, gas and power, which you rely on every day.

We'll contact you ahead of time if we need to change the way you access your property.

Please observe on-road signage and the directions of our traffic controllers, so we can keep you and our workers safe.

Changes may include:

- delays and temporary holds in traffic on Epping Road and High Street
- road, lane and footpath closures and detours
- bike lane closures and detours
- temporary bus stop closures
- speed limit reductions
- temporary parking changes.

There will be ongoing traffic changes while we build the Epping Road Upgrade.

Service relocation works – the story so far

Since early 2023, we've been identifying, relocating and protecting essential underground services including gas, water, electricity, and telecommunications.

Service relocations are an important part of road construction. Before we build a solid base for your new lanes, we need to move essential services out of the way so we can avoid disrupting the services you rely on every day, while keeping traffic moving on Epping Road and High Street.

Moving services is a complex process and involves careful planning and coordination with service providers and third parties such as Telstra, NBN, Yarra Valley Water, APA and many more.

Progressing service relocation works enable us to keep building sections of the new southbound lanes on Epping Road.

Ever wondered what a road looks like under the surface?

Once we have relocated or protected essential underground services, including gas, water, electricity, and telecommunications, we undertake earthworks to build the road foundations.

First, we need to clear the area of all vegetation and obstructions. Excavation equipment removes trees, shrubs, bushes, rocks, and stones to ensure the surface is ready for construction.

Once the top layer of soil is removed, the road subgrade is tested to see if it is strong enough to carry the weight of a road. If we find rocks or softer ground conditions, we may need to bring it to standard levels by replacing the underground material with select fill or stabilising it with cement or bitumen.

We then build the road subbase, the road foundation that provides a stable surface to support new pavement. It is built with crushed rocks or recycled asphalt or concrete. These materials are compacted to a specific density to ensure adequate support for the road structure above.

Finally, four layers of asphalt are laid down on the subbase. Each layer serves a specific purpose and provides strength, durability, and functionality to the road.

The wearing course is the surface asphalt layer designed to accommodate traffic load and resist wear and tear from traffic and inclement weather.

After we have built all road layers we:

- build new kerbs
- install road furniture
- complete line marking.

This is how we're building your new lanes on Epping Road and upgrading key intersections between Memorial Avenue and Craigieburn Road East.

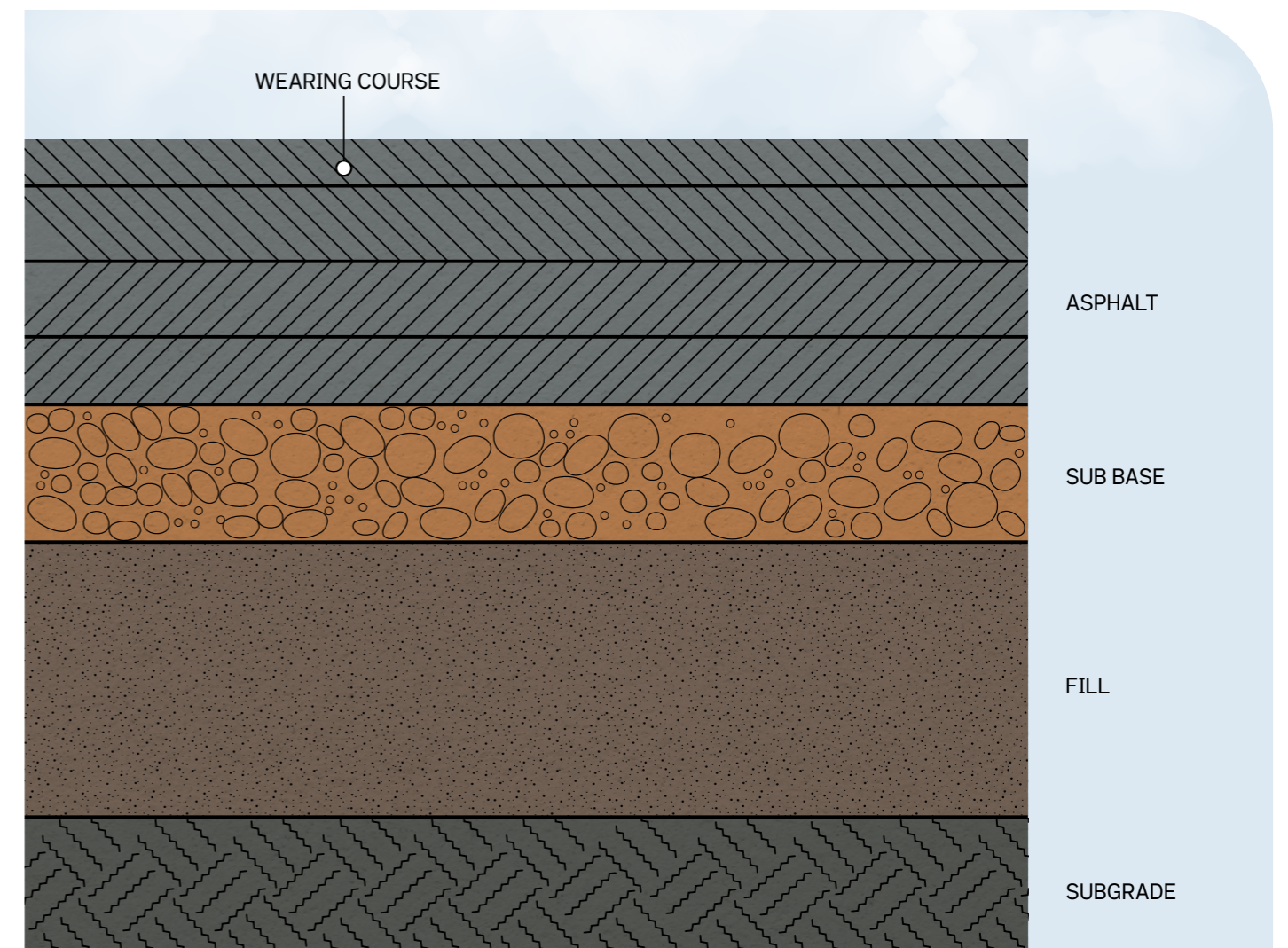
WHAT WE'VE DONE SO FAR

 **APPROX. 1.8 KM**
OF NEW GAS PIPES

NEARLY 500 METRES
OF NEW WATER MAINS 

OVER 250 METRES
OF NEW UNDERGROUND POWER CONNECTIONS 

 **800 METRES**
OF NEW TELECOMMUNICATION CABLES



40km/h through construction zones saves lives

The speed limit on Epping Road between Craigieburn Road East and Memorial Avenue has been changed to 40km/h while we build the upgrade, to keep you and our workers safe.

There are still risks even when we're not working, including reduced lane widths, concrete safety barriers and deep excavations behind barriers. There may also be humps and drops in the road and soft road surfaces, which increase risks for drivers.

Some of these dangers may be easy to spot during the day, but much harder at night.

These changes on Epping Road are all about getting you and our workers home safe.

Southbound cycling detour to remain in place for 2024

The southbound bike lane on Epping Road between Craigieburn Road East and Memorial Avenue will remain closed until late 2024 so we can continue to safely build your new lanes.

The current detour via the Findon and Darebin Creek trails will remain in place during this time.

For more information, please visit bigbuild.vic.gov.au/epping-road-project-update.

When the Epping Road Upgrade is complete in 2025, cyclists will benefit from new on-road bike lanes from Memorial Avenue to Lyndarum Drive, and a new shared walking and cycling path from Lyndarum Drive to Craigieburn Road East.

Construction impacts

There will be some noise and vibration during construction.

We'll be monitoring to ensure these impacts are kept to a minimum, especially at night. If you're likely to be affected by these works, we'll be in touch with you before they start. You may experience temporary interruptions to your water, power, gas or telecommunication services while we complete vital service relocation works. Your utility service providers will notify you ahead of any planned disruptions.

Working hours

Most of our works will take place between **7am and 6pm, Monday to Friday, and on Saturdays between 7am and 1pm**. Some works may need to occur at night or on weekends to minimise impacts on traffic or utility services. If we need to work at night, we'll let you know ahead of time.



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