



Bedford Road reopens to traffic a year ahead of schedule

Bedford Road, Ringwood / April 2024

Bedford Road level crossing free



The dangerous and congested level crossing at Bedford Road, Ringwood is gone for good – a year ahead of schedule, with trains now running in the new rail trench.

The removal of the Bedford Road level crossing marks the 75th level crossing removal – a year ahead of schedule – and means the Belgrave Line is now level crossing free from the city to Ferntree Gully, changing how locals live, work and travel.

Since the end of January, more than 200 people worked around the clock to remove the old rail line and rail equipment, remove 20,000 cubic metres of soil and install 226 concrete piles to support the new 380-metre rail trench and build the new road bridge.

The removal of the dangerous and congested Bedford Road level crossing sees an end to frustrating delays for commuters, where boom gates were down for up to 23 minutes during the morning peak, as well as providing the community with safer pedestrian access across the rail line.

Works are continuing nearby at Dublin Road, Ringwood East, where we're building a rail trench that will make Ringwood level crossing free later this year, as well as delivering a brand-new Ringwood East Station.

Why this level crossing needed to go



13,500 vehicles travelled through the level crossing daily



Boom gates were down for up to 23 minutes during the morning peak



15 trains passed through during the morning peak



Improving safety and reducing congestion



Read about the history of Bedford's boom gates

Scan the QR code or visit bigbuild.vic.gov.au/news/level-crossing-removal-project/boom-times-for-bedford-road-level-crossing



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Bedford Road early reopening

To thank the community for their patience during the two-month construction blitz, we handed out Easter treats and vouchers from local Bedford Road traders to commuters travelling along the level crossing free Bedford Road for the first time.



Cupcakes marking the 75th level crossing removal at Bedford Road

What's next for Bedford Road



With the level crossing now gone for good, works will continue at Bedford Road, where we'll build the missing walking and cycling link between the Heathmont Rail Trail and Bedford Park alongside the Belgrave Line. The new path will remove the need to travel on-road via Lena Grove and will improve walking and cycling options in the area.



Landscaping and other minor works, including shared use path construction, will be complete by mid-2024. We'll keep the community informed on what to expect.



Dublin Road works get a big lift

Major construction is underway at Dublin Road to dig the 650-metre rail trench, remove the level crossing and build the new Ringwood East Station.

We've been continuing major excavation works on the northern side of the rail line, as well as installing lift shafts and modular buildings for the new Ringwood East Station. The new station will have better facilities for passengers, including more lighting and CCTV, and will open in early July.

Crane lifting the lift shafts into place

Progress in pictures



A bird's eye view of the new Bedford Road bridge and rail trench



Construction work to build the new rail trench




Cars driving along the level crossing free Bedford Road





Laying railway sleepers in the new rail trench

Construction in numbers


 380-metre rail trench


 226 piles

 Almost 1.2km of new rail track laid

 More than 200 construction workers

 Trench depth of 7 metres

 20,000 cubic metres of dirt excavated

 6 excavators

Railway Avenue OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Be rewarded by shopping local

Thousands of shoppers have been rewarded via Stamp Me when they shop in Ringwood East. Purchases of \$10 or more with a participating Railway Avenue trader gets you a stamp, with 9 stamps earning you a \$10 voucher.

Shops are open while we work, so be sure to support your local traders.



Sign up for Stamp Me

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Other projects in your area

A construction blitz is also underway in Croydon and Lilydale while we work to make the Lilydale Line level crossing free.

Scan the QR code or visit levelcrossings.vic.gov.au/ringwood-disruptions to view the current disruptions in your area.

Project timeline



2022

- Project designs released
- Contract awarded



Early 2023

- Site establishment
- Early works



Mid-late 2023

- Major construction underway
- Final landscaping designs released



Early 2024

- Bedford Road level crossing removed



Mid-late 2024

- Dublin Road level crossing removed
- New Ringwood East Station opens
- Bedford Road landscaping and shared use path completed



* Timeline subject to change.

Stay up to date

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