

RAILWAY

## ABBOTTS ROAD LEVEL CROSSING **REMOVAL UPDATE ISSUE #01 APRIL 2016**

Planning and consultation is underway to remove the level crossing at Abbotts Road in Dandenong South.

Removing the crossing will:

- Improve safety for drivers, commuters and pedestrians
- Make it easier to travel around Melbourne whether you're a train user, pedestrian, cyclist or driver
- Create jobs during construction

#### **CONTACT US**

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**Translation service** For languages other than

# We've been listening!

Since February this year, LXRA has been talking and listening to the community and industry about the project and discussing the best way to remove the level crossing at Abbotts Road.

Last month we hosted an industry forum for local businesses and industry representatives to workshop the five possible options for removing the crossing. We sought feedback on the strengths and weaknesses of each option and any potential impacts to businesses. The majority of participants told us that they were strongly opposed to any option that involved closing Abbotts Road.



Since commencing community consultation we've gained a stronger appreciation of the issues concerning local business, in particular the potential impact to the surrounding area if Abbotts road was closed to traffic. Because of this response we are now working to get greater feedback on the alternative four options.

Over the coming month we will gather information on what is important to you, your business and local industry to help determine the best way to remove the Abbotts Road level crossing. Once the feedback is assessed and the various options analysed, a shortlist of options will be announced to the community by the end of May.



#### INDUSTRY FORUM UPDATE

The industry forum was a great first step to gather information that will guide us in developing feasible options and selecting a preferred solution for the removal of the Abbotts Road level crossing. The presentation from the Industry Forum is now available on our website.

We are currently analysing the feedback and compiling a consultation report, with support from Capire Consulting who facilitated the workshop. Early results show that most participants do not support any option that involves closing Abbotts Road. Once this report is finalised, it will be available on our website.

#### **Business Liaison Group**

We sought nominations at the forum for a Business Liaison Group. The group will have a balanced representation of the local industry and will assist LXRA to provide input on the development and selection of design solutions for the Abbotts Road project.

# What will our consultation involve?

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Phase1 – 'Tell us what is important	to you' March – May 2016
What we'll be doing	Engagement Tools
<ul> <li>Listening to the community and industry to assist in the development and assessment of the five possible options</li> <li>Identifying the feasible solutions</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Industry Forum</li> <li>Community information Sessions</li> <li>Newsletter</li> <li>Establishment of Business Liaison Group</li> <li>Key stakeholder briefings</li> </ul>
Phase 2 – 'What do you think of our	options?' July – August 2016
What we'll be doing	Engagement Tools
<ul> <li>Sharing consultation summary</li> <li>Develop and present concept designs for feasible options</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Industry Forum</li> <li>Business Liaison Group Meetings</li> <li>Community information sessions</li> <li>Newsletter</li> </ul>

#### Phase 3 – 'This is our proposed solution October - November 201

• Key stakeholder briefings

What we'll be doing	Engagement Tools
<ul> <li>Design refinement</li> <li>Present and consultation the proposed solution</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Industry Forum</li><li>Business Liaison Group Meetings</li></ul>
• outline next steps for delivery	<ul><li>Community information sessions</li><li>Newsletter</li></ul>
	• Key stakeholder briefings

"The selection of a design to remove each level crossing depends on the unique characteristics of each site, the benefits and impacts of each option and feedback from the community and stakeholders."

# What options are being considered?

There five design options to remove the Abbotts Road level crossing:



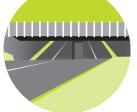
**1** lowering the rail line under the road



- **2** building a road bridge over the rail
  - line



**3** building a rail bridge over the road



4 lowering the road under the rail line

**5** Create a new road link over the rail line by connecting Pound Road West and Remington Drive and closing Abbotts Road.

#### HOW DO WE SELECT A DESIGN?

The selection of a design to remove each level crossing depends on the unique characteristics of each site, the benefits and impacts of each option and feedback from the community and stakeholders, such as local councils and businesses.

#### Site characteristics

Each site has its own unique characteristics that must be considered when developing a recommended design, including the surrounding geography and environment, road, public transport, cycling and walking connections, safety, value for money, future development in the area, potential land acquisition and how the area is used now and into the future to ensure an ongoing thriving community.

#### **Option benefits and impacts**

Each option's benefits and issues need to be considered based on the site's specific characteristics, such as local geography, groundwater and surrounding infrastructure and services.

#### Community and stakeholder feedback

We are doing a thorough engagement process that considers all stakeholder views, whether they are from people directly adjacent to the crossing or from the wider industry. Feedback will be used to help assess and refine design options.





## What's next?

We are currently consulting on all possible options to remove the level crossing on Abbotts Road. During this first phase of consultation we will gather information on what is important to local businesses, industry and road users.

The next phase will focus on seeking feedback on a short list of feasible options. Once we have analysed that feedback, we will present the final solution to the community and refine the design with input from directly affected stakeholders.

## Come along to a community drop in session and tell us what you think.

#### DROP IN AT ANY TIME DURING THESE SESSIONS:

**Thursday 28 April 12-2pm** Nissan Casting 209-235 Frankston-Dandenong Rd, Dandenong South

Saturday 7 May from 10 -12pm Dandenong Civic Centre Level 2, 225 Lonsdale St Dandenong

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