



**SUBURBAN  
RAIL LOOP  
EAST**

# **Environment Effects Statement (EES) exhibition and public hearing: Phase Four Engagement**

Mid-2021 to early-2022



**SUBURBAN  
RAIL LOOP  
AUTHORITY**

**VICTORIA'S  
BIG BUILD**

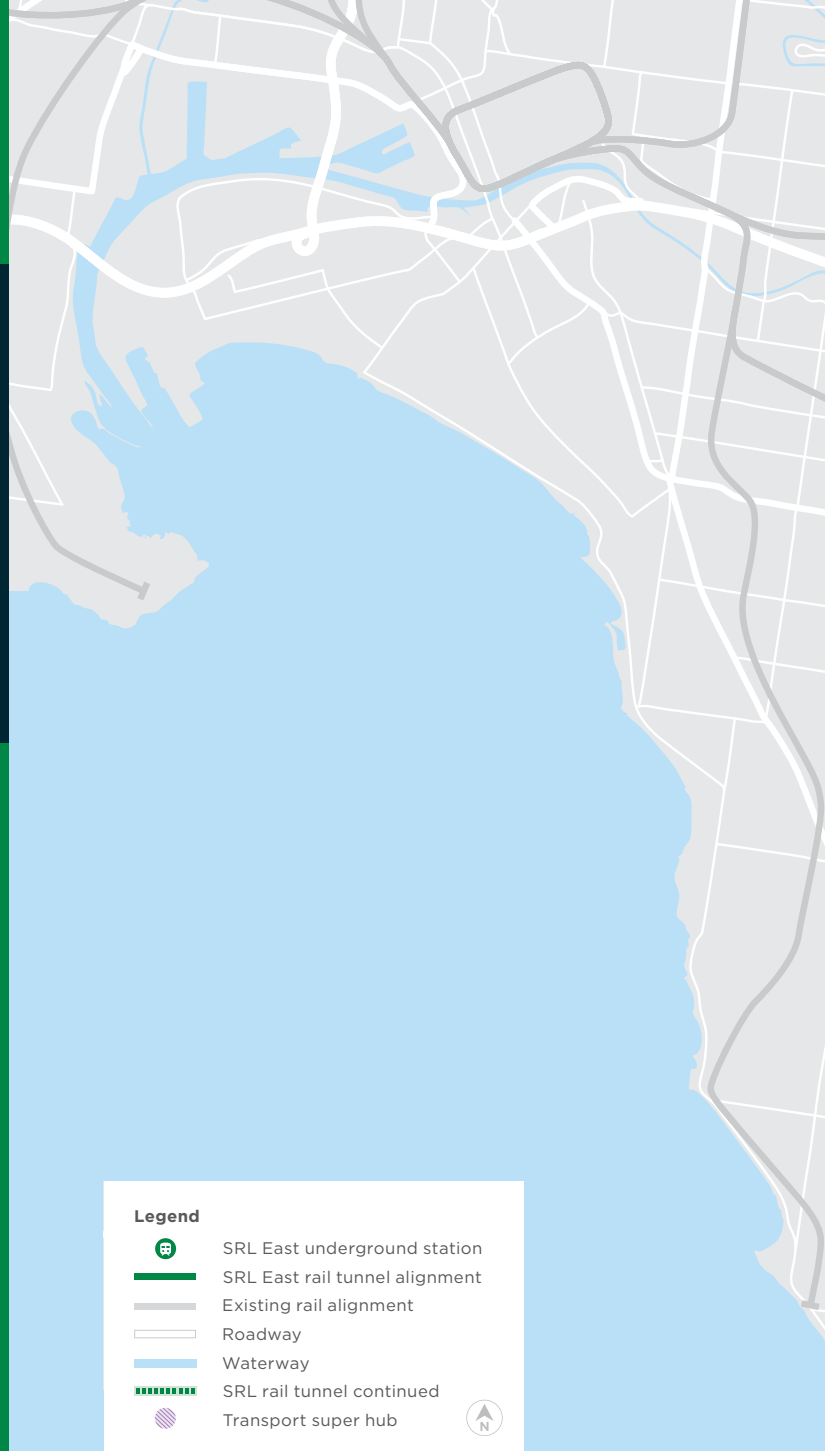
**VICTORIA**  
State  
Government



# Suburban Rail Loop East

## Contents

<b>Introduction</b>	<b>2</b>
What we're up to now	4
Engagement program	5
<b>Phase Four engagement: Environment Effects Statement (EES) exhibition and public hearing</b>	<b>6</b>
Pop-ups and drop-in information sessions	7
Online engagement	8
<b>What we heard</b>	<b>9</b>
SRL East rail infrastructure engagement	9
<b>Planning Panels Victoria submissions and hearing process</b>	<b>12</b>



*For illustrative purposes*

**Suburban Rail Loop will transform Victoria's public transport system, connecting our suburbs and making travel easier and more convenient. It will link with every major train line from the Frankston line to the Werribee line via Melbourne Airport, improving access to housing, jobs, schools, universities and hospitals in Melbourne's middle suburbs.**



Suburban Rail Loop East (SRL East) from Cheltenham to Box Hill will connect our growing health, education, retail and employment precincts in Melbourne's east and south east.

It will include:

- Twin 26-kilometre rail tunnels
- Four new stations with links to existing stations at Cheltenham, Clayton, Glen Waverley and Box Hill
- Two new stations at Monash and Burwood
- A train stabling and maintenance facility at Heatherton
- Supporting infrastructure for the operation of the new tunnels and stations
- A dedicated fleet of high-tech trains.



# What we're up to now

Technical, planning and design work is well advanced, and community and stakeholder engagement is continuing along the SRL East corridor.

Geotechnical drilling and engineering assessments, along with expert technical assessments and stakeholder and community engagement, informed planning and design work and helped with preparation of the Environment Effects Statement (EES).

An Inquiry and Advisory Committee (IAC) was appointed by the Minister for Planning on 14 November 2021 under the *Environment Effects Act 1978* and the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* to advise on the EES and draft Planning Scheme Amendment.

The EES and draft Planning Scheme Amendment were on public exhibition from 5 November to 16 December 2021. Planning Panels Victoria collected public submissions during this time.

The IAC undertook a public hearing process from 28 February to 5 May 2022, to hear from Suburban Rail Loop Authority (SRLA), councils, community members, other parties and submitters and consider and advise the Minister for Planning on the environmental effects of the project and the draft Planning Scheme Amendment. Following provision of the IAC's report, the Minister for Environment and Climate Action (as Minister jointly administering the Environment Effects Act) provided their assessment of the environmental effects of the project.





# Engagement program

To support the successful planning, development and delivery of SRL East, SRLA is engaging a diverse range of stakeholders including residents, businesses, community and interest groups, local government, institutions, utility providers,

government departments, commercial landholders and developers.

The engagement program includes several engagement phases each with a different focus.

Table 1: SRL East engagement phases

 <b>Engagement phase</b>	 <b>Engagement focus</b>
<b>Phase One:</b> Mid to late 2019	<b>Raise awareness</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Introduce Suburban Rail Loop and raise awareness about its scope</li> <li>– Understand how people would like to be engaged</li> </ul>
<b>Phase Two:</b> Late 2019 to mid 2020	<b>Build understanding and seek early input</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Understand people’s values and aspirations for their local neighbourhoods</li> <li>– Understand people’s interests and concerns about SRL East</li> </ul>
<b>Phase Three:</b> Mid 2020 to mid 2021	<b>Support development, design and planning of SRL East rail infrastructure</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Detail the planning approval process</li> <li>– Seek feedback about impacts to inform assessments and design</li> </ul>
<b>Phase Four:</b> Mid 2021 to early 2022	<b>Environment Effects Statement (EES) exhibition and public hearing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Present the SRL East design and impact assessments</li> <li>– Encourage formal feedback via the submissions process to the Planning Panels Victoria IAC</li> </ul>
<b>Phase Five:</b> 2021 to 2024	<b>Deliver Initial and Early Works and support precinct structure planning</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Engage with communities to deliver Initial and Early Works for SRL East</li> <li>– Seek feedback on the structure plans and the precincts planning process</li> </ul>
<b>Phase Six:</b> 2024 to onwards	<b>Deliver Main Works for SRL East and implement precinct structure plans</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Work with communities to deliver Main Works for SRL East</li> <li>– Implement precinct structure plans with stakeholders and communities</li> </ul>

## Phase Four engagement

# Environment Effects Statement (EES) exhibition and public hearing

Engagement during this phase continued to raise awareness about SRL East, while preparing people for and supporting them through the EES public exhibition and submissions process. Engagement with stakeholders continued, updating them on broader scope items and design progress for SRL East.

Due to ongoing COVID-19 restrictions in 2021, online tools continued to be the primary method of

engaging with local communities in SRL East areas. Some face-to-face community engagement as part of the EES public exhibition, including drop-in information sessions and community pop-ups, were held from November to December 2021.

This report provides a summary of key activities and community and stakeholder sentiment as part of Phase Four engagement for SRL East from mid-2021 to early-2022.





## Pop-ups and drop-in information sessions

During the EES public exhibition period from 5 November to 16 December 2021, the project team interacted with more than 1,300 community members face-to-face during eight pop-up information sessions held at train stations and shopping centres, and five drop-in information sessions held at venues along the SRL East alignment.

### Pop-ups

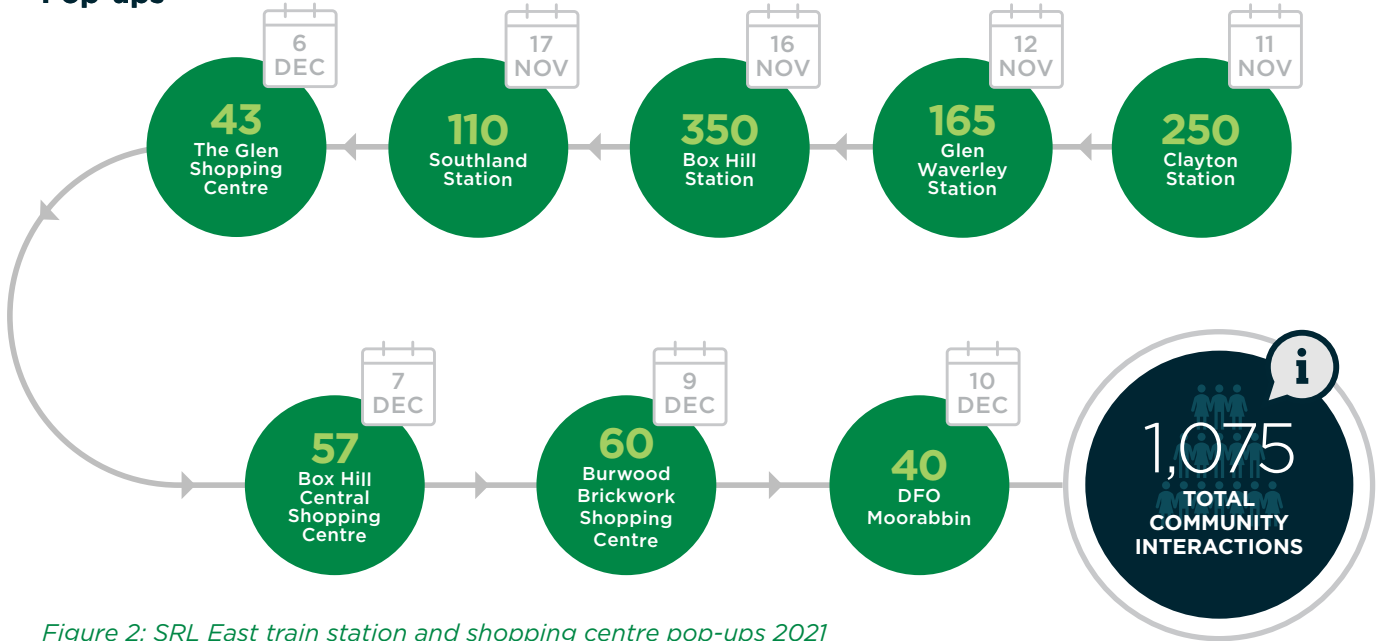


Figure 2: SRL East train station and shopping centre pop-ups 2021

Approximate in-person individual interactions at pop-ups.

### Drop-in information sessions

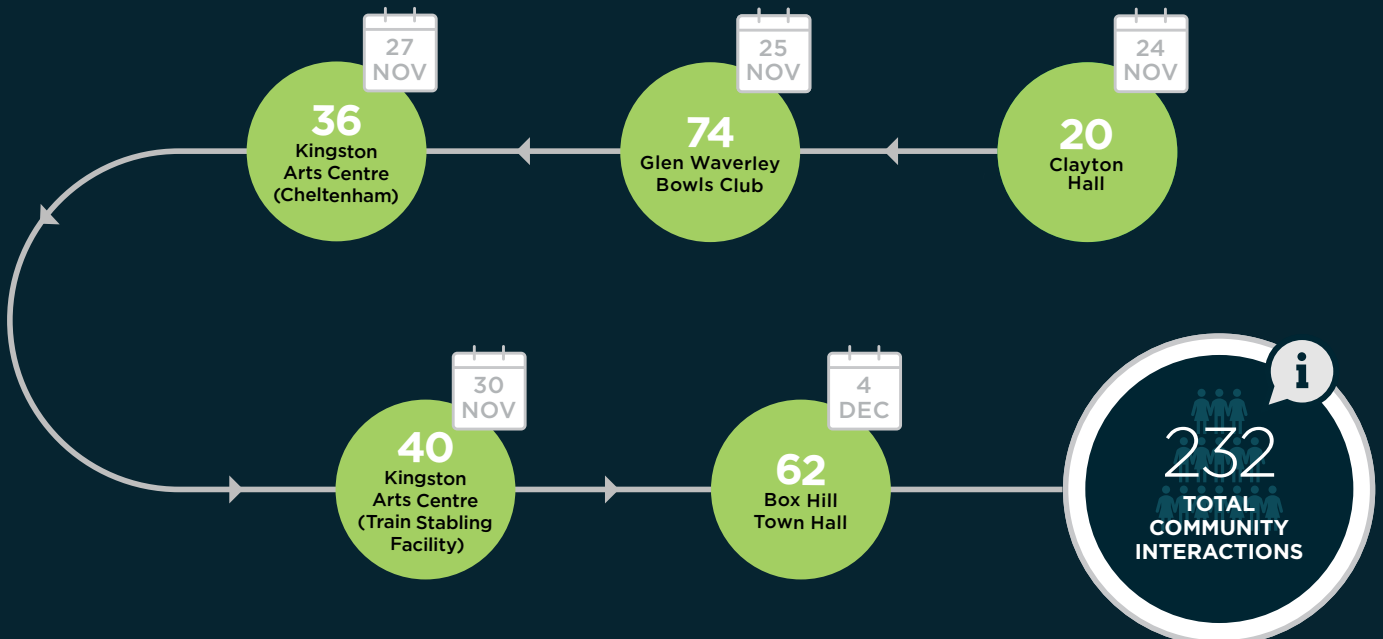


Figure 3: SRL East drop-in information sessions 2021

## Online engagement

The SRL East EES public exhibition period ran from 5 November to 16 December 2021. For the first time in Victoria, a fully digital EES was prepared to provide better access to information for everyone. The SRL East digital EES allowed people to easily connect with the information they wanted, so they could better understand what the project means for them.

The digital EES was viewed more than 19,000 times by more than 11,000 unique visitors.

To support the SRL East digital EES, online engagement included a refresh of the virtual

information room to provide more detail and help people navigate the EES.

Information provided in the room included an overview of the EES and the 19 different studies and technical reports, information on how to navigate the digital EES, as well as information about how to make a submission.

Formal submissions were sought by Planning Panels Victoria during the EES public exhibition period via the Engage Victoria online engagement platform.

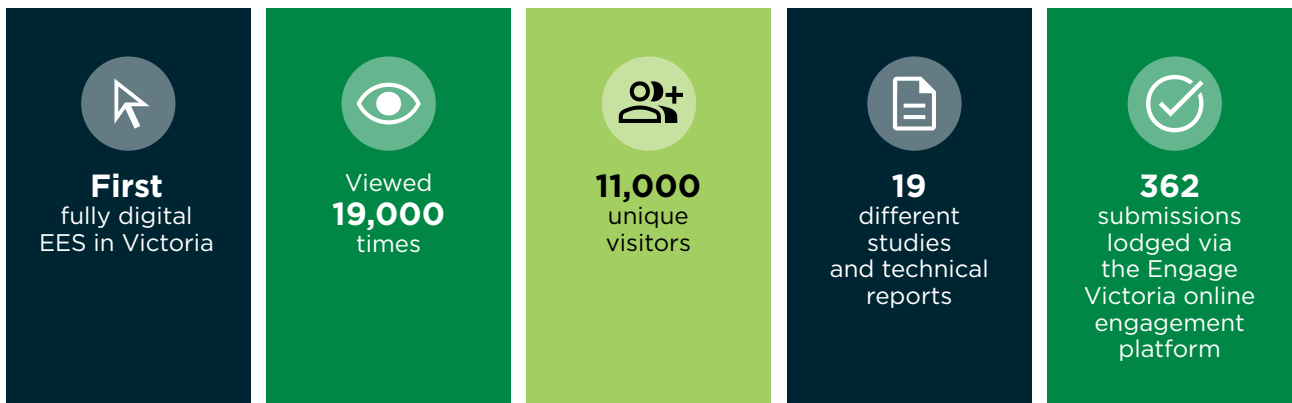


Figure 4: SRL East digital EES 2021





# What we heard

## SRL East rail infrastructure engagement

During the SRL East EES public exhibition period, staff interacted with more than 1,300 people at pop-up information sessions held at train stations and shopping centres, and drop-in information sessions held at venues along the SRL East alignment.

The purpose of these sessions was to continue to raise awareness about SRL East, while helping

people understand and navigate the digital EES and submissions process. The focus of these sessions was to ultimately encourage people to make a formal submission to Planning Panels Victoria. As such, we did not formally collect community feedback during this phase. However, a summary of the key issues raised in each precinct is provided below.

### Cheltenham

Cheltenham Clayton Monash Glen Waverley Burwood Box Hill

#### KEY ISSUES



Construction plans including timelines, sequencing of activities and potential impacts for the local community



Importance of safe ground contamination management



Protection of Sir William Fry Reserve



Clarification around land impacts and planning overlays



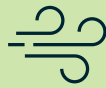
Traffic and transport including plans for active transport connections and management of road closures.



KEY ISSUES



Location of the facility and its proximity to local residents



Management of air quality impacts from the facility including dust and emissions from trains



Consideration of visual impacts of the facility including lighting and light spill, especially at night



Importance of the health and wellbeing of local residents



Traffic and transport including how road closures and pedestrian movements will be managed.



KEY ISSUES



Clarification around land impacts and planning overlays



Support for local business to manage impacts



Management of tunnelling impacts including noise and vibration and any potential impacts to property prices



Interest in station locations and project delivery timeframes.

KEY ISSUES



Station location and connectivity including how people will move between the new SRL East station and the existing Glen Waverley Station



Traffic and transport including traffic noise, truck movements, Coleman Parade closure, and ensuring safety for pedestrians and cyclists



Management of tunnelling impacts including noise and vibration and any potential impacts to property prices



Clarification of the size, operations, and likely local impacts of the Emergency Support Facility



Clarification around land impacts and planning overlays.

KEY ISSUES



Station location and connectivity including how people will move between the new SRL East station and the existing Box Hill Station



Management of impacts on public open space and loss of trees and vegetation including plans for tree and vegetation replacement



Traffic and transport including impacts on traffic and local roads, walking and cycling connections, and connections to bus services



Protection of local heritage including buildings and other local assets



Clarification around land impacts and planning overlays.

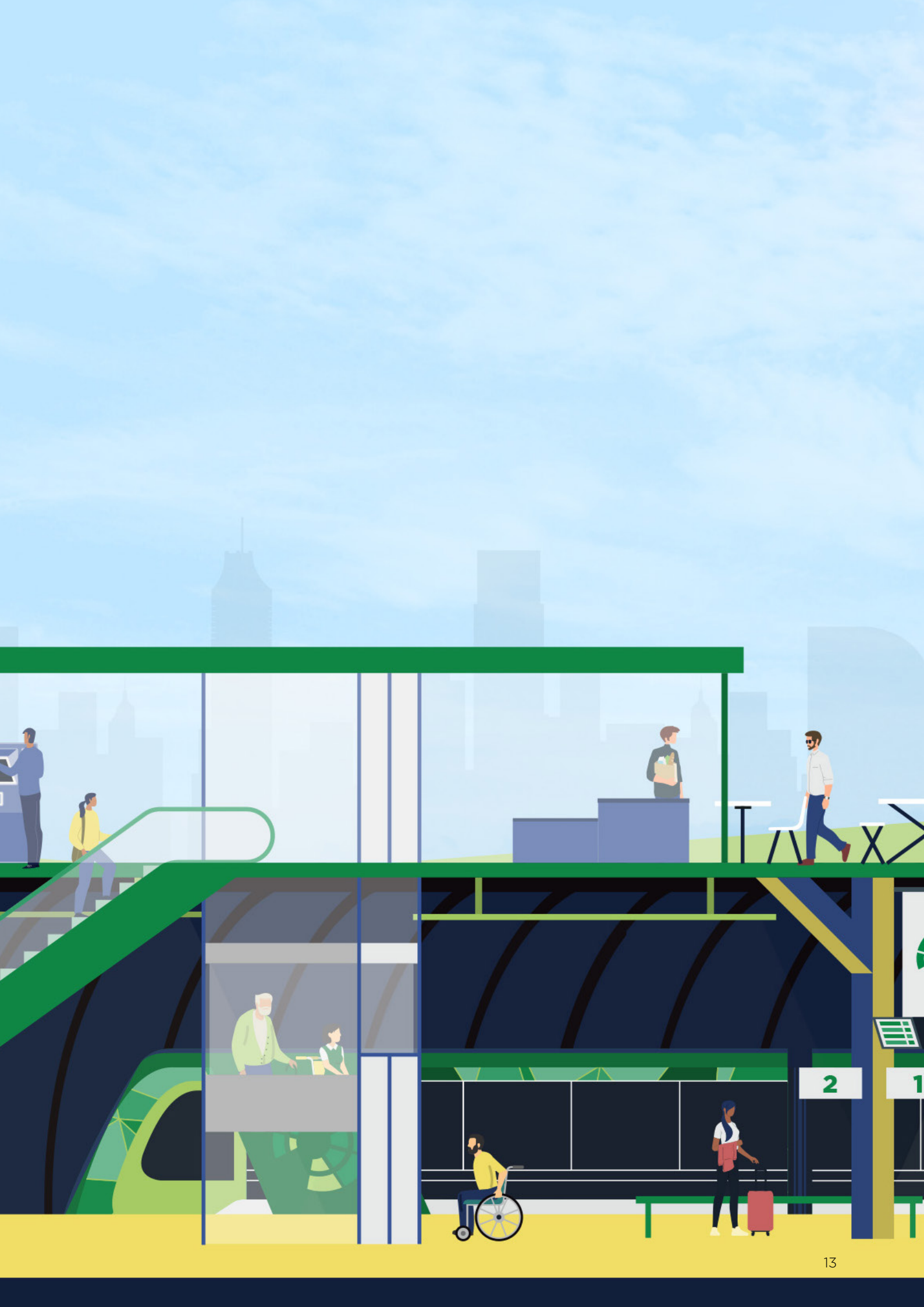


# Planning Panels Victoria submissions and hearing process

The EES and draft Planning Scheme Amendment were on public exhibition from 5 November to 16 December 2021. During this time, Planning Panels Victoria received 362 submissions.


The IAC conducted a public hearing process from 28 February to 5 May 2022, to hear from SRLA, councils, community members, other parties and submitters and consider and advise the Minister for Planning on the environmental effects of the project and the draft Planning Scheme Amendment.






### More information

To find out more about Suburban Rail Loop:

 [suburbanrailloop.vic.gov.au](http://suburbanrailloop.vic.gov.au)

 [contact@srla.vic.gov.au](mailto:contact@srla.vic.gov.au)

 1800 105 105 (24 hours a day, 7 days a week)

Suburban Rail Loop Authority  
PO Box 4509, Melbourne, VIC 3001



Interpreter Service **(03) 9209 0147**

It should be noted that this information is current at the time of printing, however changes may occur. Please visit [suburbanrailloop.vic.gov.au](http://suburbanrailloop.vic.gov.au) for the latest updates.