Teacher Information

What does the smart and connected city of 2050 look like?

Regional Rail Revival (a Rail Projects Victoria project team) is upgrading every regional passenger train line in Victoria, to make improvements to the way students and their friends and families travel. We want to hear the ideas our young people have for the future!

The Regional Rail Revival Design Challenge2050 is for all young designers, coders and makers in years 4-10 who attend school in Geelong, Ballarat, Bendigo and Gippsland and are invited to participate by their local Tech School. The competition will be run in Term 4, 2021 in partnership with Geelong, Ballarat, Bendigo and Gippsland Tech Schools.

Whether your students' ideas are about the on-board experience, improving the way passengers get around the station or using smart and sustainable tech for a more enjoyable journey, we'd love to hear them.

Students will form teams, develop their ideas and pitch to some of the biggest players in rail travel! We'll give you lots of support along the way.

RRR Design Challenge Key Dates

Date	Time	Event
12 Aug	-	Challenge Immersion Day registrations open, via Eventbrite
12 Aug	4.40pm – 5.30pm	Online Teacher briefing
19 Oct	9.30am – 11am	**Regional Rail Revival Design Challenge 2050 Starter Session for Secondary students**
21 Oct	9.30am – 11am	**Regional Rail Revival Design Challenge 2050 Starter Session for Primary students**
27 Oct	5.00pm	Team Registrations Close
21 Oct – 5 Nov	4.00pm – 5.30pm	Online and after-school workshops that cover digital design skills for competition entries
15 Nov	5.00pm	Entry submissions due
22 Nov	-	Shortlisted entries announced
2 Dec	9.30am – 2.30pm	Pitch Workshop for shortlisted teams
6 Dec	12.00pm – 2.00pm	Gala Pitch Final and Lunch

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Regional Rail Revival Design Challenge 2050

Q & A Sheet

In 2020, Bendigo Tech School successfully piloted a design competition in partnership with Rail Projects Victoria to explore what the smart and connected city of 2050 looks like. The ideas from the over 100 children who participated was inspiring.

Bendigo, Ballarat, Geelong and Gippsland Tech Schools are jumping on board and joining Rail Projects Victoria for this year's Design Challenge 2050; a team-based competition for school students in years 4-10.

What is the Regional Rail Revival and why is it important?

Victoria is growing faster than any other state. Our regions are home to about one quarter of Victoria's population. As the population and local economies of regional Victoria grow, the rail network must keep up with changing travel needs.

In May 2016, the Victorian Government released the Regional Network Development Plan which guides the short-, medium- and long-term priorities needed to modernise the network with more track, more trains, better facilities and more services. It sets out a plan to deliver a modern commuter-style service for key centres and service improvements to outer regional areas.

Regional Rail Revival is a critical step in delivering the objectives of the Regional Network Development Plan. The $4 billion Regional Rail Revival program is a joint initiative of the Australian and Victorian governments and is upgrading every regional passenger train line in Victoria. Rail Projects Victoria (RPV) is responsible for the planning and implementation of the Regional Rail Revival program on behalf of the State Government of Victoria.

For more information about Regional Rail Revival, visit regionalrailrevival.vic.gov.au

How do I enter the competition?

Form a team and respond to the competition brief to improve the on-board experience, the train station experience or the use of smart and sustainable tech for a more enjoyable journey.

How many students in a team?

Teams can include 3-6 students.

What year levels can enter?

Eligibility depends on where you live. Each of the participating Tech Schools will invite eligible schools in their region to put forward a team. To participate students must be:

- In years 4-6 in Gippsland,
- Years 7-10 in Geelong, and,
- Years 5-10 in Ballarat and Bendigo regions.

When does the competition run?

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The competition starts with an Online Challenge Starter Day, on **October 19**. You have five weeks in Term 4 to develop your entry. Shortlisted teams then attend the Gala Pitch Final in Term 4 to present their work.

What form could the design challenge idea take?

Teams create a prototype that would improve the on-board experience, the train station experience, or the use of smart and sustainable tech for a more enjoyable journey. The prototype innovation categories are: (i) Technology or app-driven transport solution; (ii) Communications campaign; (iii) Product prototype; (iv) Building/architectural or system design

How can I find out more about the design challenge?

We are holding an online Teacher Information session on **12 August**, contact your local Tech School to register. You'll then be able to discover and experience workshops to inspire you at the Online Challenge Starter Session on **19 October**.

Is transportation assistance available?

We will deliver the Challenge Starter Session online. Should it be able to be delivered face to face, rail or bus transport assistance will be provided. Please contact your local Tech School for more information.

Can my students get help at the Tech School?

There will be a range of workshops at your local Tech School (online, during and after school) where students can get help and assistance with communication design and digital prototyping. See schedule below for dates and times.

How will the competition be judged?

Shortlisted teams will present their entries at the Gala Pitch final in front of a panel of judges from industry, Bendigo Tech School and Rail Projects Victoria. The panel will use the pitch evaluation rubric provided in the challenge pack to judge each team.

Is there additional information for Teachers?

Contact your local Tech School for more information, or arrange to take part in the competition Online Challenge Starter Day on October 19.

What are the prizes?

The winning school that comes up with the best idea will win their school a Little Bits Pro Library valued at over $7,000. Additional prizes will also include Ozobot class sets valued at $1800.

Design Workshop schedule

The *Regional Rail Revival Design Challenge 2050* is supported by a range of workshops at your local Tech School that aim to help students make, present and communicate their ideas. Students can learn the essentials of 3D printing, laser cutting and information communication, and much more.
Contact your local Tech School to find out more.

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