

Managing the environment

MICKLEHAM ROAD UPGRADE – STAGE 1



We're protecting the environment during construction

The Mickleham Road Upgrade between Somerton Road and Dellamore Boulevard has been designed to minimise impacts to the environment.

We've assessed the project's potential environmental impacts and have met all the requirements under relevant State and Federal legislation.

We'll protect the environment by putting safeguards and management systems in place to protect local flora, fauna, cultural heritage, air quality and waterways.

Protecting flora

We've engaged qualified ecologists and arborists to identify various species of trees and vegetation throughout the project area, ensuring any significant species are retained and protected during construction. We'll do our best to reduce the impact on trees and vegetation by:

- retaining as many trees as we can through environmentally sensitive design and construction methods
- having an environmental specialist oversee the protection of any sensitive vegetation
- protecting trees and sensitive vegetation by fencing off 'no-go zones'
- only working in areas required for the project
- having specialists inspect trees and vegetation before they're removed and only removing what is unavoidable
- pruning some trees to prevent accidentally breaking branches and damaging trees
- working with local organisations who will take the removed trees and prepare the timber for reuse
- working with local community groups to identify opportunities for how we can re-use healthy wood for environmental and local community projects within the area.



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We'll re-use the timber for the following sustainable initiatives:

- creating habitats for wildlife
- community projects such as park benches or play equipment
- mulch for landscaping or donations to local schools and community groups
- donations to local community groups for habitat restoration or public art projects
- re-using the seeds from trees we've removed for replanting along Mickleham Road and other local areas at the end of the project.

We're working with local councils and community groups to re-use any trees and vegetation we remove and will aim to find the best use for each type of timber.

Protecting fauna

We'll protect local fauna such as the Golden Sun Moth and the Growling Grass Frog species, which are both known to inhabit the area, through environmentally sensitive construction methods.

To minimise any potential impacts to fauna, we'll:

- have a suitably qualified ecologist complete pre-clearance surveys to determine the presence of any fauna
- have a qualified and licensed wildlife handler to safely relocate any fauna that may be affected.

Protecting cultural heritage

We've undertaken cultural heritage investigations to identify and protect any Aboriginal artefacts, values or places of cultural importance which may be present in the area.

We've worked with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation who are the local Registered Aboriginal Party for this area, to develop a Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP) summarising our findings.

We've received approval of the CHMP which outlines our approach to protecting cultural heritage throughout construction of the Mickleham Road Upgrade.

Managing waterways

We'll protect local creeks and waterways by regularly undertaking site inspections and water quality testing during construction.

Managing air quality

We'll manage dust during construction and maintain local air quality by:

- watering areas where earthworks are occurring
- having additional water carts on standby during hot and windy weather
- covering truck loads when travelling on public roads
- planning topsoil stripping and grading on days when wind conditions are less likely to carry dust
- minimising the time between stripping topsoil and commencing excavation
- using crushed rock to pave long-term haulage routes within our work site
- monitoring air quality in areas adjacent to high activity construction sites and residential properties.

Minimising dirt and mud on roads

We'll keep the roads we use during construction free of dirt and mud. We'll do this by:

- limiting the number of entry and exit points at each construction site
- using crushed rock to pave busy haul roads on and around work sites
- cleaning dirt and mud off construction vehicles before they leave our sites
- cleaning any dirt and mud that our vehicles may have left on public roads
- regular inspections of work sites and local roads.

Keeping our worksites tidy

Keeping our worksites tidy and clean means we can minimise our environmental footprint while we work.

We'll ensure our construction zones are tidy and dispose of all rubbish appropriately, whether it's large volumes of construction material, soil or lunch wrappers.

In areas where we've set up temporary construction support sites, we'll ensure these are reinstated to their previous or similar condition.

For more information on how we'll manage impacts during construction such as noise and vibration, please see our 'Managing construction impacts' fact sheet.

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1800 105 105 (call anytime)

contact@roadprojects.vic.gov.au



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