



BRIDGE INN ROAD UPGRADE

MAY 2023



We're upgrading Bridge Inn Road between Plenty and Yan Yean roads to help you get home sooner and safer.

What's been happening

Since our last update, we've:

- completed foundation works and pier installation for the new bridge over Plenty River
- completed intersection upgrades at Towerhill Avenue and Resort Boulevard. During the works, we removed existing medians, built new turning lanes and kerbs, installed new sections of walking and cycling path, and relocated utility services
- started intersection upgrades at Garden Road, Independence Boulevard and Windermere Parade
- finished building new lanes and shared walking and cycling paths in front of Ivanhoe Grammar School
- continued building retaining walls along Bridge Inn Road.

Image above: Artist's impression of the new bridge over Plenty River.

Project benefits



Improved safety and traffic flow for the 17,000 drivers who use Bridge Inn Road every day



Easier and safer walking and cycling around your local area



Enhanced connectivity to residential developments and employment opportunities in the north



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What we're doing and when

New bridge over Plenty River

With piling and concrete foundation works complete, we're now ready to install the bridge beams across Plenty River. The new bridge will consist of three separate spans made up of 33 precast super-T beams, measuring up to 32 metres in length.

The beams have been manufactured at a pre-casting concrete factory in Melton, which is one of the thousands of important supply chain businesses benefiting from Victoria's Big Build.

Using pre-made concrete beams helps speed up works on the bridge, meaning drivers will face shorter disruptions.

The beams will begin their 67 kilometre journey to Bridge Inn Road on Wednesday 17 May, with deliveries continuing throughout the weekend until all 33 beams have been lowered into place.

To complete the works safely, we'll close Bridge Inn Road between Schotters and Bassetts roads overnight from **7pm to 5am on Thursday 18 May** and then again over the weekend from **7pm, Friday 19 to 5am, Monday 22 May**.

While the road is closed, there will be detours in place via Plenty Road, Hazel Glen Drive and McCrae Drive/ Bassetts Road. Please see the map below for more information.

Ongoing bridge preparation works

Works to prepare for the bridge beam installation, such as scaffolding and crane pad set up, are continuing between Plenty River and Cookes Road. There will be intermittent lane closures on Bridge Inn Road during this time, with traffic management in place. We may also need to continue some activities at night, as required.

Upcoming side road closures

Independence Boulevard and Windermere Parade are closed at Bridge Inn Road until late July while we upgrade the intersections. Detours are in place via Resort Boulevard and Orchard Road.

Retaining wall panels

We're continuing to build and install panels for the new retaining walls near Woodridge Crescent and Vantage Point Boulevard. These works are expected to be finished in June.

Utility services work

There are approximately 300 utility services that run beneath Bridge Inn Road, many of which need to be relocated as part of the upgrade. We're working with service providers to minimise service disruptions. Your service provider will contact you ahead of time if your service is likely to be disrupted.





NEW BRIDGE OVER PLENTY RIVER

HOW WE'RE BUILDING THE NEW BRIDGE

Facts about the new bridge

Did you know each bridge beam comes with its own birth certificate? This provides the project team with information on when the beam was constructed, how long it took for the concrete to set, and the official accreditation required for quality checks.

There are around 200 people involved in a successful beam lift operation, including engineers, site supervisors, labourers, machine operators, administrators, project managers and other support staff. Each person plays an important role to ensure the beams are installed safely.

When complete, the new bridge will have four lanes (two in each direction). The existing bridge, which is one of the oldest bluestone bridges in Victoria, will be converted into a dedicated walking and cycling path.

Each beam is carefully placed to be millimetre perfect. The new bridge will sit 500 millimetres above the existing bluestone bridge.

We have many environmental protections in place to safeguard the Plenty River and the surrounding environment as we build the new bridge. For example, cotton silk floating bollards have been placed in the river to catch debris, to ensure water quality is not impacted.

We're using 50% Supplementary Cementitious Materials, which is a partial substitute for cement. By using less cement, we're helping to reduce carbon emissions, raw materials extraction and materials going to landfill.

Calling all budding engineers



Want to learn more about how we're building the bridge?

Interested in watching a 75-tonne crane lift the beams into place? Then visit our dedicated viewing area on Bridge Inn Road, just to the west of the river, for a close-up view. The viewing area will be open at all times from **Friday 19 to Sunday 21 May**.

If you fancy yourself as a budding engineer, please join us from **10am to 2pm on Saturday 20 May** for a Q&A session with our project team.

There will be showbags available for small and big kids alike.

See the map on the back page for location details. We hope to see you there!

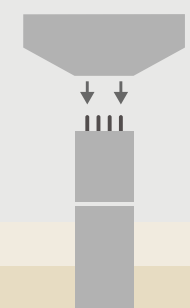
STEP 1 | Large piling rigs drill long concrete columns (piles) into the ground to connect with soil and rock, creating a strong foundation for the bridge.



STEP 2 | The piles are levelled so construction can take place on top.



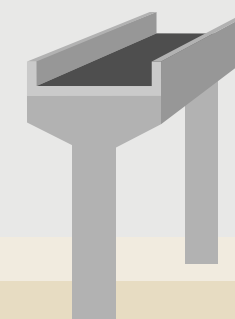
STEP 3 | Piers or bridge columns are built on top of the piles to support the bridge.



STEP 4 | Bridge beams are placed on top of the piers. The beams are then joined with concrete to create a bridge deck, forming the base for the new road.



STEP 5 | Drainage is installed to ensure that water does not pool on the new road. Asphalt is laid to provide the surface for the new road.



STEP 6 | Road lines are marked and barriers installed to divide the lanes of traffic.





Did you know?

We've installed 40 retaining wall panels along Bridge Inn Road, each weighing one tonne. The next panels to be installed weigh nearly nine tonnes and are three metres high, making them equivalent to a fully grown male elephant.

What to expect

While we work, you may notice some noise, dust and vibration from construction activities, and an increase in workers, construction vehicles and equipment moving in and out of the work areas. We'll make every effort to minimise impacts to the community, including monitoring noise and vibration levels as required.

Safety is our priority

To keep you and our crews safe during works, we may need to install and move barriers, close lanes and reduce speed limits. Please expect delays of up to 10 minutes and plan your journeys ahead of time.

For your added safety, please follow signage and the directions of our traffic controllers.

Come chat with us

We're holding two pop-up information sessions at Mernda Town Centre in May. Come and ask questions about the Bridge Inn Road Upgrade or the new bridge over Plenty River.

Session 1




Thu 11 May
11am to 2pm

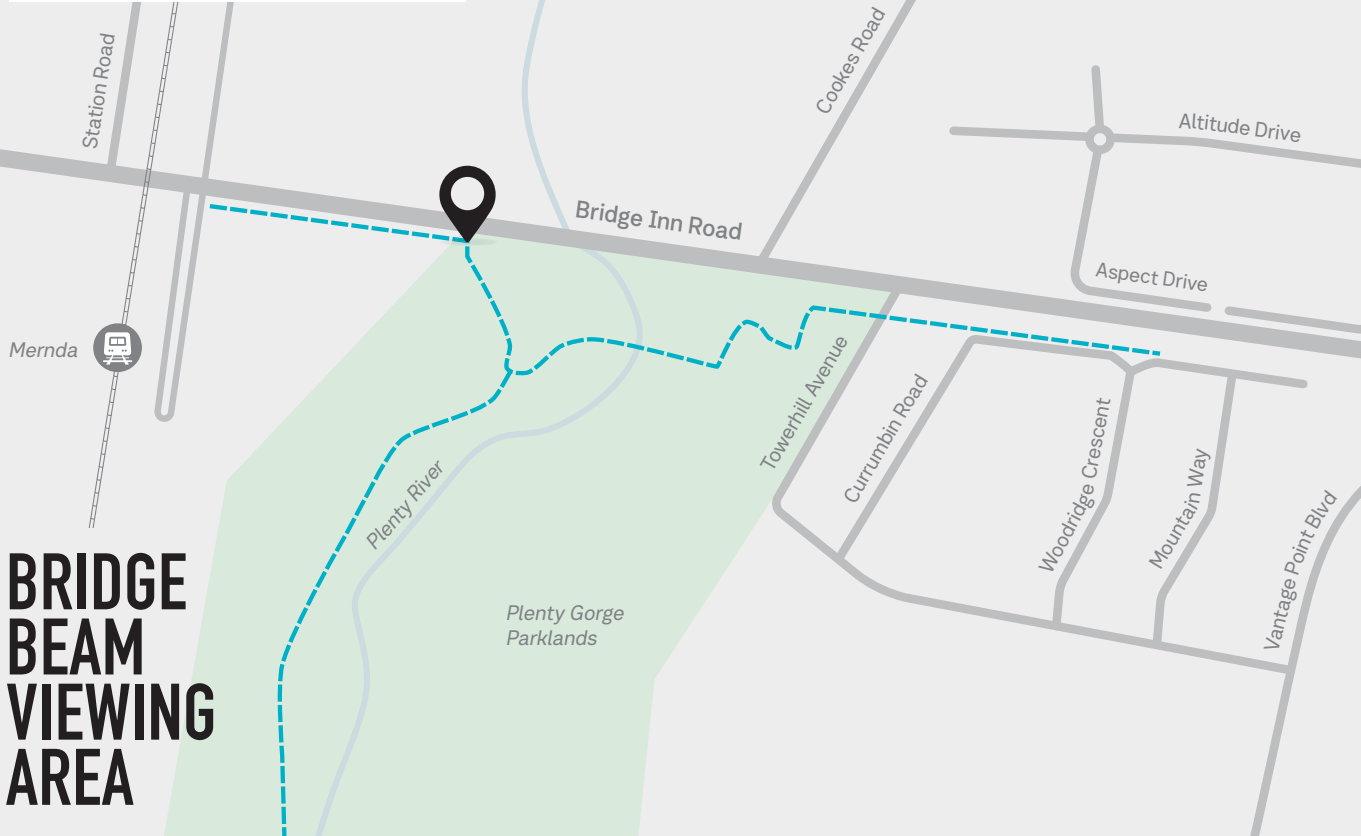
Session 2

Sat 13 May
11am to 2pm

Image below: Member for Yan Yean, Lauren Kathage MP recently visited the Bridge Inn Road Upgrade as part of International Women's Day to check in on our progress and meet some of the women delivering the project.



 Path to viewing area
 Viewing area
 Not to scale



BRIDGE BEAM VIEWING AREA



Stay informed

We'll continue to send you regular updates to let you know about upcoming works. You can also subscribe to receive emails or SMS updates at roadprojects.vic.gov.au/subscribe or by texting Bridge Inn to **0499 073 073**. For more information, you can also visit bigbuild.vic.gov.au/disruptions.

Contact us

If you have any questions or would like to speak to a member of our project team, call **1800 105 105** and **select option 5**. You can also send us a message by visiting roadprojects.vic.gov.au/contact.

Image left: Members of the Bridge Inn Road Upgrade project team.

roadprojects.vic.gov.au



For languages other than English please call 9209 0147

1800 105 105 (call anytime)

contact@roadprojects.vic.gov.au



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