



Heatherton Community Reference Group

Meeting #17

23 June 2026



We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Owners of this land,
the Bunurong people of the Kulin Nation, and pay respect to
their Elders, past and present.



Welcome

Agenda

OFFICIAL

Topic	Speaker
Welcome and introductions	Kim
Actions and questions	All
Project update	SRLA
Communications and engagement update	All
Break	
Works update	Linewide Alliance (LWA) Suburban Connect (SC)
Environmental update	All
Other business	All

Actions, questions and ongoing matters

Actions | Current

CRG meeting date	Action	Status
24 February 2026	SC to present on the plan for haulage and management of spoil from tunnelling activities.	Update provided in this meeting (23 June) Spoil haulage destination TBC.

Action | Tunnel spoil and haulage update

We've been working with EPA Victoria, specialist consultants, haulage subcontractors, and receival site owners to determine the most suitable receiving sites for the project's tunnel boring machine (TBM) spoil material.

Work completed by SC to support this process includes:

- Site investigations
- Lab trials
- Site-specific risk assessments for possible receival sites

EPA Victoria review and approve suitable receiving sites by providing a "waste designation".

SRL contractors – for the whole alignment – will be able to discuss receival sites and haulage logistics once confirmed, prior to the commencement of tunnel spoil being taken off-site.



Examples of lab-testing to inform waste designations.

Member questions | June meeting

Question	Response
Will additional double glazing be made available to residents as a result of Linewide Alliance works starting?	Linewide Alliance and Suburban Connect are working together to provide support to local residents in line with the SRL East Residential Support Guidelines. No additional double glazing is being considered currently based on upcoming works. Double glazing has been offered to some households on construction facing windows as an over and above measure of support.
Some residents are reporting hearing a humming/pulsing sound believed to be emanating from the train stabling facility. What is causing this?	Suburban Connect staff have attended homes reporting this noise and verified this sound. The project team is investigating what the cause of the sound is and whether it is related to works at the site, working closely with the delivery and environmental teams.
Is the project coordinating with current South East Water (SEW) works being carried out on Old Dandenong Road?	The project team have been meeting with the SEW team to understand their works impacts and how they are working with the local community. Where required, the team will coordinate any expected traffic or other works impacts. However, as the SEW works are not project related, questions about this scope or any future plans for the purple pipeline project are best directed to SEW to address.
Will the upcoming election or caretaker mode impact Voluntary Purchase Scheme (VPS) applications?	Anyone interested in participating in the VPS should continue to contact the project at any time to discuss their specific circumstances. Existing VPS cases will continue to be managed through their Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) case managers. Any specific questions about an individual case should be discussed with the case manager.
Noise and vibration modelling for some works doesn't align with resident experience (e.g. sheet piling vs vibratory roller), how is the project managing this?	We use predictive modelling to estimate expected noise and vibration levels. This modelling uses noise and vibration data from similar activities on other projects. This modelling is the most accurate tool we have to inform the community about expected construction impacts. We also do follow-up monitoring to understand the difference between predicted and actual levels, which in turn provides more data for the model in the future.

Ongoing matters | Recurring questions / topics

Ongoing matters	Latest information Any changes to previous responses will be highlighted	Last update provided
Trucks entering local streets	- Measures are in place to prevent project-related vehicles from entering local roads, including daily reminders to onsite teams, issuing slips to offending vehicles and installation of signage in coordination with the Department of Transport and Planning - If trucks do enter local streets, this can be reported to the project to investigate - Council has no mechanism to prevent trucks entering local streets. Local Traffic Only signs are not enforceable.	28 April 2026
Heatherton public open space updates	- No update on open space locations. Project commitment to deliver the open space remains - An update will be provided once available and community will be consulted on public open space.	24 February 2026
Tunnel spoil haulage and management plan	Suburban Connect is working with EPA Victoria, specialist consultants, haulage subcontractors, and receival site owners to determine the most suitable receiving sites for the project's tunnel boring machine (TBM) spoil material. Once a site has been confirmed, an update will be provided.	23 June 2026
Construction noise, vibration, light, dust and other impacts	- The project continues to deliver works in line with project requirements, including ongoing works modelling and monitoring to assess impacts such as noise and vibration - Support to residents is offered in line with the SRL East Residential Support Guidelines - The project investigates all complaints made by the community regarding impacts such as noise, vibration and dust - If someone is impacted by the project, they should reach out to the project at contact@srla.vic.gov.au or call 1800 105 105 to discuss support available	28 April 2026

Project update

Site updates



Burwood SRL station site: The first TBMs will be launched from here this year



Mount Waverley emergency support facility:
acoustic shed under construction



Monash SRL station site:
Diaphragm wall construction underway

Cheltenham program updates

Key construction activities around the new SRL station at Cheltenham have been brought forward, starting in June 2026.

This includes:

- Building new and improved public open space in and adjacent to Sir William Fry Reserve from June 2026
- Station box construction and excavation – timing to be confirmed.



Artist's impression - SRL station at Cheltenham

Why are works being brought forward at Cheltenham?

- Changes in program are a normal part of any large and complex major project – we are continually looking for ways to deliver the best outcome for the project and Victorians.
- This allows more time for the trains, rail and stations systems to be comprehensively tested before trains start taking passengers in 2035.
- This approach has been proposed since the Linewide Alliance contractors came on board in late 2025 – and is based on learnings from other major rail projects across Australia and around the world.

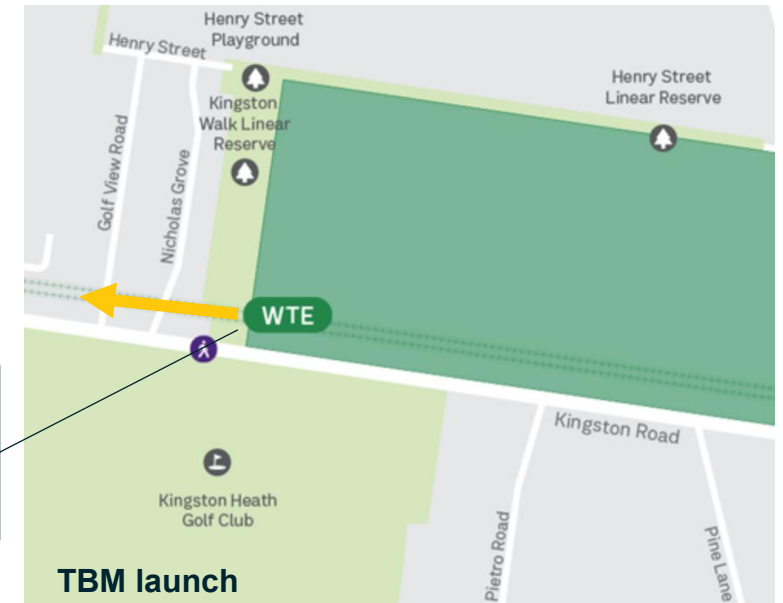


Concept only

Heatherton to Cheltenham TBM sequence update

- Two TBMs will launch from the western tunnel entrance toward Cheltenham from 2027
- These two TBMs will now be pulled from the ground at Cheltenham instead of pulled back through the tunnels to the western tunnel entrance
- All spoil from Cheltenham station excavation will continue to be removed directly from Cheltenham, while tunnelling spoil will continue to be removed from Heatherton
- The first TBMs for the southern section of tunnels will still be launched from Clarinda later this year, travelling toward Clayton.

Two TBMs will launch from the western tunnel entrance towards Cheltenham from 2027



Communications and engagement update

Community interactions

- *From last CRG (28 April 2026) to Monday 9 June 2026, we received 18 complaints from 12 residents*
- *This includes one complaint to the EPA which prompted a site visit – related to dirt on Kingston Road*
- Key themes included:
 - Maintenance of Kingston Linear Walk Reserve – now managed by Linewide Alliance
 - Condition of Kingston Road
 - Trucks on Nicholas Grove
 - Noise, vibration & dust – including a ‘pulsing hum’ reported near WTE
 - Light spill

Recent communications and engagement

- Completion of Summer Blitz fence upgrades
- Ongoing Community Crew support
- Meetings with local businesses
- Door knocks and proactive check ins with residents
- Proactive and reactive respite
- Works notice distribution
- Construction update distribution – including copies provided to Clarinda Library
- Clarinda to Clayton tunnelling pre-condition surveys

Heatherton pop up, Sunday 17 May

- Pop up held at Henry Street Playground, 9am-12pm
- 150+ Heatherton households invited, and additional flyers distributed at the Clarinda Community Centre
- 13 community members attended
- Key themes included:
 - General works and project updates
 - Train stabling facility and linear reserve designs
 - Noise and vibration
 - Kingston Walk Linear Reserve maintenance



Communications and engagement for upcoming works

- Monthly works notice distribution
- Regular meetings with local businesses
- Community Crew available for residential cleaning and maintenance jobs
- Proactive and reactive respite
- Ongoing enquiries and complaint management
- SMS to community ahead of ground improvement trials, including piling and rolling
- Other considerations on a case-by-case basis

Break

Works update

Heatherton and Clarinda site context



Linewide Alliance update

Works completed | train stabling facility

- Site establishment, including installing site sheds and internal fencing
- Site investigations



Site investigations



Site sheds and offices

Works underway and upcoming | train stabling facility

Underway

- Tree pruning and removal
- Northern fence maintenance
- Noxious weed removal
- Maintenance of Kingston Walk Linear Reserve

Upcoming

- Ground improvement piling trials
- Rolling ground improvement trials
- Earthworks including building haulage roads, excavating flood water basins, filling and dewatering the existing pond

At site construction mitigations | Linewide Alliance

- Trucks leaving site will use a wheel wash and rumble grid to remove mud and dirt
- Trucks taking soil offsite will also be covered
- Water carts on site
- Street sweepers on local roads
- Air quality, noise and vibration monitors
- Airborne asbestos monitoring
- Works will be overseen by an independent occupational hygienist
- Most machinery, vehicles and equipment will use low noise squawkers when reversing
- Noise blankets for generators
- Undertaking works during normal construction hours where possible

Suburban Connect update

Train stabling facility

Current works | Western tunnel entrance (WTE)

- Western portal excavation and construction
- Sheet piling
- Spoil shed foundations
- Deliveries to site



All timing is subject to change.

Current works | Eastern tunnel entrance (ETE)

- Fencing refresh and weeding
- Deliveries to site
- Site investigations



All timing is subject to change.

Future works and impacts

Location	Upcoming milestones in 2026	Expected impacts	Date
Train stabling facility, Heatherton	Sheet piling	Increased noise levels (day works)	From June/July
	- Commencement of WTE portal excavation - Constructing tunnelling support equipment	- Increased earthworks and soil removal - Increased heavy vehicle traffic entering and exiting site	From April to late 2026
	Acoustic shed construction	- Potential additional evening and/or night works - TBC - Noise reduction achieved by acoustic shed	From August to late 2026
Kingston Road	- Utility works and connections into site - Fencing and hoarding installation	- Traffic barriers and changed traffic conditions near the train stabling facility - Lane and road closures at times - Increased heavy vehicle traffic entering and exiting site	Ongoing in 2026

All timing is subject to change.

TBM launch site, Clarinda

Current works | TBM launch site

- Excavating tunnel boring machine launch shafts
- Constructing acoustic sheds
- Tunnelling preparation and equipment delivery



All timing is subject to change.

Future works and impacts

Location	Upcoming milestones in 2026	Expected impacts	Date
TBM launch site, Clarinda	- Completion of TBM launch shaft excavation - Acoustic shed construction	- Ongoing works up to 24 hours Monday – Sunday - Increased earthworks and soil removal - Increased heavy vehicle traffic entering and exiting site	Until September 2026
	- TBM component delivery - TBM assembly and launch	Increased heavy vehicle traffic entering and exiting site	Mid to late 2026
Kingston Road	- Utility works and connections into site - TBM delivery enabling works	- Traffic barriers and changed traffic conditions near TBM launch site - Lane and road closures at times - Increased heavy vehicle traffic entering and exiting site	Ongoing in 2026

All timing is subject to change.

Works lookahead

2026 Heatherton construction

Works	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Sheet piling							
Ground improvement							
Tunnel and ramp excavation and construction							
Earthworks and excavations							
Filling the existing pond							
Acoustic shed foundations							
Acoustic shed construction							

All timing is indicative and subject to change.

Suburban Connect

Linewide Alliance

2026 Clarinda construction

Works	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Shaft excavation							
Acoustic shed construction							

All timing is indicative and subject to change.

Suburban Connect

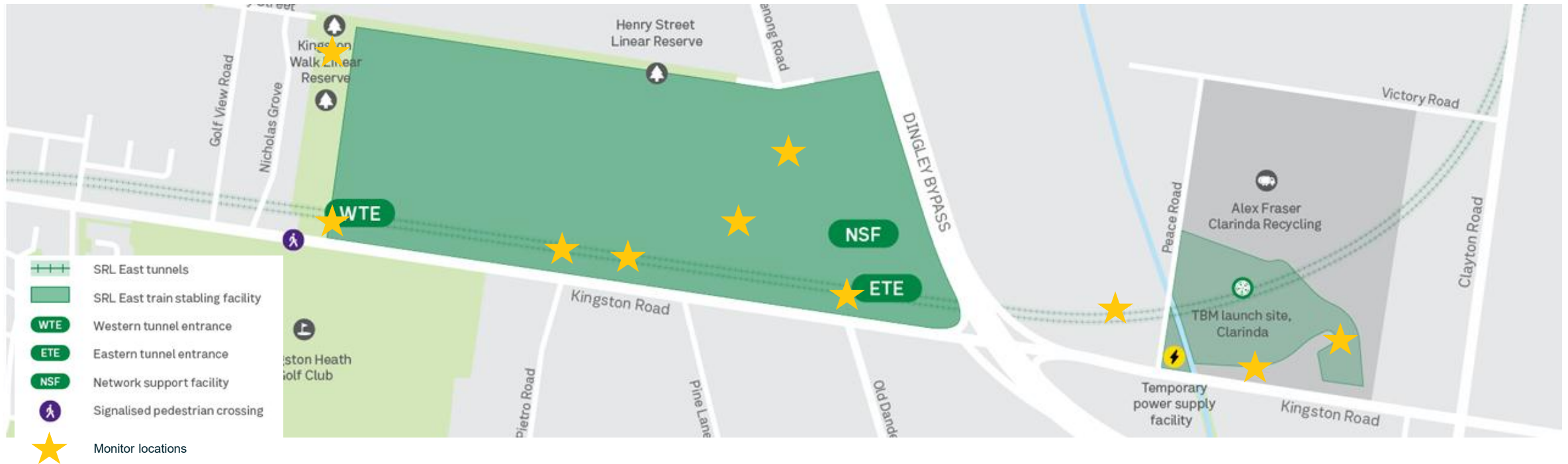
Environmental monitoring

Environmental monitoring:

- From last CRG (28 April), Suburban Connect has undertaken continuous noise, vibration, and air-quality monitoring at the Heatherton and Clarinda sites.
- Environmental team updates and monitoring results include:
 - Monthly briefing to EPA on 21 May and 18 June, including Suburban Connect and Linewide Alliance
 - Site visit by the EPA on 2 June
 - Dust monitoring - there have been no exceedances
 - Noise and vibration monitoring – there have been no exceedances
- Sheet piling is underway, and no reported community issues
- All Linewide Alliance noise, vibration and air quality monitors are installed and operational

Environmental monitor locations

Monitor locations change as works progress and construction activity locations change.



Other business

Upcoming meetings

Tuesday 18 August, 6pm-8pm

Final meeting date for 2026 to be confirmed.

Locations of meetings will be confirmed closer to the date.

Questions