

PRINCES HIGHWAY EAST UPGRADE

OCTOBER 2022

Major works are progressing on the third and final stage of the Princes Highway East upgrade between Traralgon and Sale.

Image above: Aerial view of the Princes Highway and Templetons Road intersection in Kilmany East. In recent months, we have redirected traffic onto the newly constructed lanes in Flynn, Kilmany and Kilmany East. Works have now commenced on the reconstruction of the existing highway lanes and the foundations for the new rail bridge.

When the project is complete, this final stage of the upgrade will make journeys between Traralgon and Sale quicker and safer by increasing road capacity and providing a consistent 2-lane highway in both directions.





420,870 construction hours completed on site to date.



150,000 plants will be planted as a part of the third stage of the Princes Highway East Upgrade.

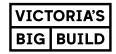


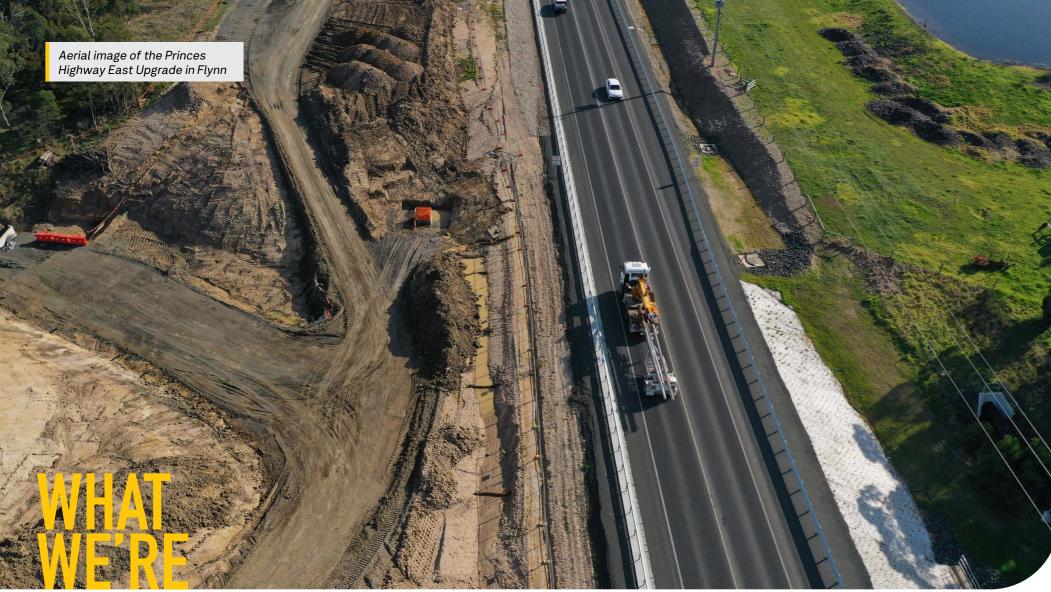
95m long steel arch rail bridge being constructed over the Princes Highway.



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DOING

Flynn

Since redirecting traffic onto the newly constructed lanes in May, we've commenced earthworks and road rehabilitation, and continued major drainage works at Ferguson's Gully and Sandy Creek.

We've also undertaken vegetation removal at Barrs Lane to allow for the intersection upgrade works to commence safely. This included two red gum trees which have been donated to local chainsaw artist John Brady.

Barrs lane intersection will be upgraded to provide a safer and more effective intersection. New kerbs, stormwater drainage, public lighting and asphalt has been constructed. There will also be concrete paved areas to be completed in October to allow over dimensional vehicles to safely utilise the intersection.

Kilmany

In Kilmany, we've established the foundations of the new rail bridge. Part of this work included a temporary closure of the rail line so workers could safely carry out works on and around the track. These works included drilling deep into the ground known as piling. The bridge itself will be constructed alongside the rail line to minimise impacts to rail users, once complete it will then be slid into place. The new rail bridge is expected to be completed mid-2023.

In July, we directed traffic onto the newly built lanes near Velore Road so workers could continue to construct the additional lanes of the Princes Highway. We also upgraded the intersection to Velore Road to ensure access is not restricted during the construction period.

The construction of several new drains has been completed, with work still underway to upgrade the Nambrok Creek Drain.

Kilmany East

Permanent barrier installation and sealing was completed on the new highway lanes in May, allowing us to safely direct traffic onto lanes in early June. This traffic arrangement, in effect until late 2022, has allowed us to begin rehabilitating the existing section of Princes Highway.

Rehabilitation will involve re-sealing the road and undertaking drainage works to transform the formerly dual-directional highway into two continuous Sale bound lanes.

We have commenced earthworks and kerbing installation on the new free-flow intersection at Templetons Road, which will deliver improved safety for motorists when turning and performing U-turns on the highway.

Bus Turnaround

As part of the project, we're relocating the school bus stop in Kilmany to a much safer location next to the Kilmany Public Hall. We're constructing a new bus turn around area to accommodate the new bus stop.

Vegetation removal and earthworks are expected to commence on site near the Kilmany Public Hall in the coming weeks with works on the new bus turnaround area to be completed in Spring.











NAIDOC Week on the Princes Highway East Upgrade

The project team held a morning tea to celebrate NAIDOC Week and the 2022 theme 'Get up! Stand up! Show up!'

The morning tea featured local Gunaikurnai guest speakers Les Solomon and Rebecca Hayes who spoke about why we celebrate NAIDOC Week.

The Project has notably engaged with First Nations photographer Wayne Quilliam Photography, and earthmoving business Solomon and Sons. Solomon and Sons have delivered a significant amount of earthworks for us, and have a long history working in the region with Whelan's Group Investments, construction partner for the Kilmany East section.

The morning tea was a humble but meaningful way of celebrating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures and amplifying First Nations peoples' voices to help narrow the gap between aspiration and reality, good intent and outcome.



"A safe workplace is paramount from my perspective as all personnel must be provided with the knowledge and tools to achieve this requirement and subsequently enjoy the 'fruits of their labour"

Let us introduce Alan Ryan, Health and Safety Manager working on the Flynn section of the Upgrade. Alan's role is to ensure the health and safety of both workers and the public, a primary focus when planning, implementing and undertaking works.

The BildGroup mantra of 'Work Safe, Home Safe, Safety is everyone's responsibility' is a key component in developing a safety culture that enables employees to practice these values every day.

Alan has worked in the mining and construction sectors for the past 40 years in several roles including mobile plant operator, leading hand, supervisor and health and Safety, Environment, Quality and Project Management. The experience and skills gained through these roles has provided Alan with the knowledge and ability to analyse, co-ordinate and implement the appropriate risk mitigation controls that assist in ensuring a safe place of work for all.

Being involved in a project that is adding significant value, particularly providing a safer road for the local and wider community, is important to Alan. Having been born, bred, resided, and worked in the Latrobe Valley / Gippsland area throughout, Alan is a dyed-in-the-wool proud local who welcomes any progress that enhances and develops further opportunities within the region.

Vivid Festival

A shout out to our project photographer and Indigenous creative Wayne Quilliam, whose artwork was recently featured at the Sydney Vivid Festival with his display 'Sharing the Life Essence'.

Wayne captures drone footage and images of our project sites each month, demonstrating the progress being made. As well as drone footage, Wayne also captures on the ground still photography of the works being undertaken, and timelapse footage of the construction of the new rail bridge.

Wayne also does an amazing job of bringing Aboriginal histories and cultures to life through his creative work.



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