



HEALESVILLE-KOO WEE RUP ROAD UPGRADE

MARCH 2023



We're building extra lanes and upgrading intersections on Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road to make it quicker, easier and safer to get where you need to be.

Above: Earthworks at the newly constructed Ballarto Road roundabout.

What's been happening?

We've made great progress on the new road between Greenhills Road and Deep Creek. We've:

- asphalted the road
- installed guard rails
- installed new lighting.

Our blitz at the Greenhills Road intersection is nearly complete.

Since the closure of Greenhills Road we've:

- installed drainage
- widened the existing road
- installed new traffic lights.

Now that Greenhills Road is open, vehicles will only be able to turn left in and left out until the traffic lights are switched on.

Vehicles needing to turn right into or out of Greenhills Road, will need to go via South East Boulevard and Commerical Drive.

Works are also progressing at the roundabout south of Deep Creek. We've continued with earthworks, installed stormwater drainage and completed asphaltting works.

We've also completed the foundation layer of the new road between Manks and Ballarto Road and installed retaining walls to build up the road level and prepare for laying asphalt.



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BUILDING EXTRA LANES AND UPGRADING INTERSECTIONS

Traffic switch

Works on the newly constructed section of road between Greenhills Road and Deep Creek are complete.

We've moved traffic onto the new lanes, to the west of the existing Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road, so we can start upgrading the new southbound lanes to the east. Now that traffic has moved, there is one lane in each direction on the new section of road.

We'll also start works to build the new centre median on Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road between South East Boulevard and Greenhills Road.

When the project is complete, there'll be two lanes in each direction from South East Boulevard to Manks Road.

The following traffic changes are now in place



Bourke Road is closed at Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road until **30 November**. Access will be maintained for local residents via Exchange Drive.



Changed traffic conditions on Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road at the South East Boulevard and Livestock Way intersection until **30 November**. There is one through lane, a right turn lane and left turn lane in both directions at this intersection.





Ballarto and Island Road

Works are progressing to build the new roundabout at Ballarto Road, as well as new bridges over McGregor's Drain at both Island and Ballarto roads.

During the closure we've:

- demolished the existing bridge at at Ballarto and Island roads.
- completed the foundation works for the new bridge and started construction of the new bridge over McGregor's Drain
- installed pavement around the new roundabout
- completed storm water drainage around the new roundabout.

We'll soon begin moving traffic on the new section of road at Ballarto Road. Traffic will be able to travel through the new Ballarto Road roundabout one lane in each direction on the new section of road.

Ballarto Road will remain closed while we continue to work at the intersections.

We've closed Island Road between Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road and Lea Road to construct the bridge over McGregor's Drain at the intersection.

This will better cater for heavy vehicle movements. We'll also improve drainage by installing additional culverts. Please visit bigbuild.vic.gov.au for the latest updates.

Continuing lane closures and reduced speed limits

Throughout construction temporary lane closures, reduced speed limits and traffic holds will be in place. Please travel safely through construction areas by following the on-road signage and any instructions from our traffic controllers.

Utility service relocations

We've protected and relocated a majority of the utility services right across the project. Minor utility adjustment works will continue over the coming months. If you experience any issues with your utility services, please contact your utility provider to assist.

Above: The Ballarto Road roundabout is taking shape as asphalting works begin.



Growling Grass Frog Surveys

The Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road Upgrade takes great care when it comes to environmental management. The recent round of fauna surveys has been completed with assessments showing a very successful breeding season for the Growling Grass Frog.

Dedicated frog ponds will be installed in the coming months to support frog breeding.



Protecting the environment

As part of the project's commitment to protecting the environment, we'll be installing 37 culverts as part of the road upgrade. Culverts are designed to channel water under the road and provide safe passage for the native fauna, including the nationally significant Southern Brown Bandicoot and Growling Grass Frog.

So far, we've completed our first fauna crossing and have made progress on over half, including installing eight at the Ellett and Ballarto Road intersections.

Many of the culverts include ledges that provide a high and dry passage for the bandicoots. We're also installing culverts with partially submerged wire mesh baskets filled with rocks to provide a continuous path so frogs can move through in the water.

The culverts also have 'fauna furniture' which include carefully placed hollow clay pipes, logs and rubble that further assist to provide a safe and dry corridor for the bandicoot as they cross under the road in search of food or new habitats.

Some longer culverts also include light wells, that allow for natural light along the length of the fauna crossing to further encourage use by the Southern Brown Bandicoot and Growling Grass Frog.

Pop-ups at Pakenham and Koo Wee Rup

Thank you to everyone who joined us at the pop-up information sessions at Pakenham and Koo Wee Rup in January. It was great to chat with shoppers at Pakenham Central Marketplace and we had a great time at the BBQ in Koo Wee Rup with the locals enjoying some locally sourced meats from Bunyip River Meats.

The project team also attended the Pakenham Show in March along with the Pakenham Level Crossing Removal and Pakenham Roads Upgrade project teams to talk to the community about road and rail upgrades in the area. The team is always available to update community groups on progress – please get in touch if you would find this helpful.

Have a question?

For more information about the project please call 1800 105 105. You can now also sign up for email and SMS updates by visiting roadprojects.vic.gov.au/healesville-kwr

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