



APRIL 2023

York Road Upgrade

Community and Business Consultation Summary

YORK ROAD UPGRADE

Planning is underway for potential improvements along York Road, between Swansea and Monbulk roads in Mount Evelyn. We're seeking solutions to improve safety and create more reliable journeys for road users.

As part of our planning, we're also investigating potential future improvements at the intersections at Swansea and Monbulk roads and to walking and cycling infrastructure.

Planning and development work currently underway includes traffic modelling, environmental investigations and social studies, which will allow us to understand potential impacts, develop design options and confirm scope and costs of different options.

CONSULTATION

From **6–27 April 2022**, we asked the local community and businesses for feedback on the potential upgrade to York Road.

Feedback has helped us understand how people are currently using York Road as well as views on access, efficiency, safety and what's important in the local area. It highlighted the need to improve safety, traffic flow and congestion.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to provide feedback via our online surveys, interactive map, in meetings or at our pop-up community sessions.

130

community members spoken with at **3** in-person pop-up community sessions

10,650

letters and flyers mailed to the local community

58,000

people reached by social media advertising

1,420

views of the Engage Victoria website from **1,310** unique visitors

WHAT WE HEARD

These quotes, from survey and interactive map feedback, highlight common themes expressed by respondents.



"It is a dangerous stretch of road being so narrow and the congestion impacts my commute."

"The population has grown so much that the current condition is not adequate for the number of residents now living in Mount Evelyn."

"The road is old and is due for an upgrade. A lot of tourists travel through as well as trucks, which damages the roads."

"A sealed footpath/bike path with lighting would be great."

ENGAGEMENT STATISTICS

598 COMMUNITY SURVEYS COMPLETED

18 BUSINESS SURVEYS COMPLETED

148 COMMENTS ON INTERACTIVE MAP

10 QUESTIONS ASKED ON Q&A TOOL

KEY THEMES

COMMUNITY SURVEY

96%

SUPPORT A POTENTIAL FUTURE UPGRADE OF YORK ROAD

- **85%** have concerns regarding the current road. Of these concerns included:
 - traffic flow (**68%**)
 - congestion (**68%**)
 - bottlenecks at key locations (**57%**)
 - safety (**54%**)
 - variability in travel time (**33%**)
 - conflicting traffic movements (**20%**)
- **71%** rate traffic flow along York Road to be poor/very poor, **21%** fair and **4%** good/very good
- **46%** rated traffic flow at the Swansea Road and York Road roundabout as poor/very poor and **37%** as fair
- **52%** of respondents said we should consider additional lanes in our planning to improve the Swansea and York roundabout, **35%** a dedicated right hand turning lane, **32%** a dedicated left hand turn lane and **28%** the addition of traffic signals
- **47%** rated traffic flow at the Hereford/ Monbulk Road and York Road roundabout as poor/very poor and **26%** as fair
- **53%** of respondents said we should consider additional lanes in our planning to improve the Hereford/Monbulk Road and York Road roundabout, **34%** a dedicated right hand turning lane, **28%** a dedicated left hand turn lane and **30%** the addition of traffic signals
- **55%** of respondents find access to/ from service roads/connecting roads intersecting with York Road to be poor or very poor and **27%** fair
- **41%** of respondents were neutral in their response to feeling safe driving along York Road (between Swansea and Monbulk roads), while **23%** felt unsafe and **23%** felt safe
- **65%** of respondents said that introducing climbing lanes to allow slower travel for large vehicles would make them feel safer when travelling on York Road, **49%** cited improved lighting
- **55%** of respondents said they walked and cycled in the area, with strong support for a separated walking and cycling path along the road to help make walking and cycling a more attractive option

- **17%** of respondents who didn't enjoy walking and cycling in the area currently cited safety concerns such as proximity of vehicles, poor access to exiting paths and insufficient lighting
- When considering the local environment, amenity and noise, **56%** of respondents said we should be minimising impact to local wildlife, **56%** cited replanting shrubs and trees along the roadside, **41%** cited minimising noise and **38%** minimising vegetation removal.

BUSINESS SURVEY

- **78%** are supportive of a potential future upgrade of York Road
- **78%** are dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with current traffic congestion
- **78%** have current concerns regarding York Road
- **89%** think that a potential future upgrade of York Road would improve their business or operations.

INTERACTIVE MAP AND POP-UP COMMUNITY SESSION FEEDBACK

148 submissions were made on the interactive map. Of these **43%** were regarding traffic flow, property, access and safety related issues, **11%** noted desire for walking and cycling improvements, and **20%** were general comments.

- safety concerns along the entire length of York Road, in particular the need for turning lanes at key points along the lower and middle sections of York Road
- safety concerns at the Monbulk Road roundabout and a desire for more turning lanes
- support to add a separated walking and cycling path along York Road, to make making and cycling a more attractive option
- a desire to reduce congestion and increase traffic flow on the steep section of York Road between Olinda Creek and Wray Crescent, suggestions included adding additional lanes
- minimise vegetation removal and reduce noise during construction
- retain the neighbourhood character of the local area.



WHAT'S NEXT

Feedback is being used to inform our planning and shape the development of potential design options.

We will continue to provide the community with updates and information as planning progresses.

PLANNING TIMELINE

- **6 – 27 April 2022**
 - Community and Business Engagement
- **Current**
 - Technical investigations to better understand the area
 - Develop a Business Case
- **2023**
 - Business Case draft complete

Potential timelines and milestones will be determined through our planning work.




MORE INFORMATION

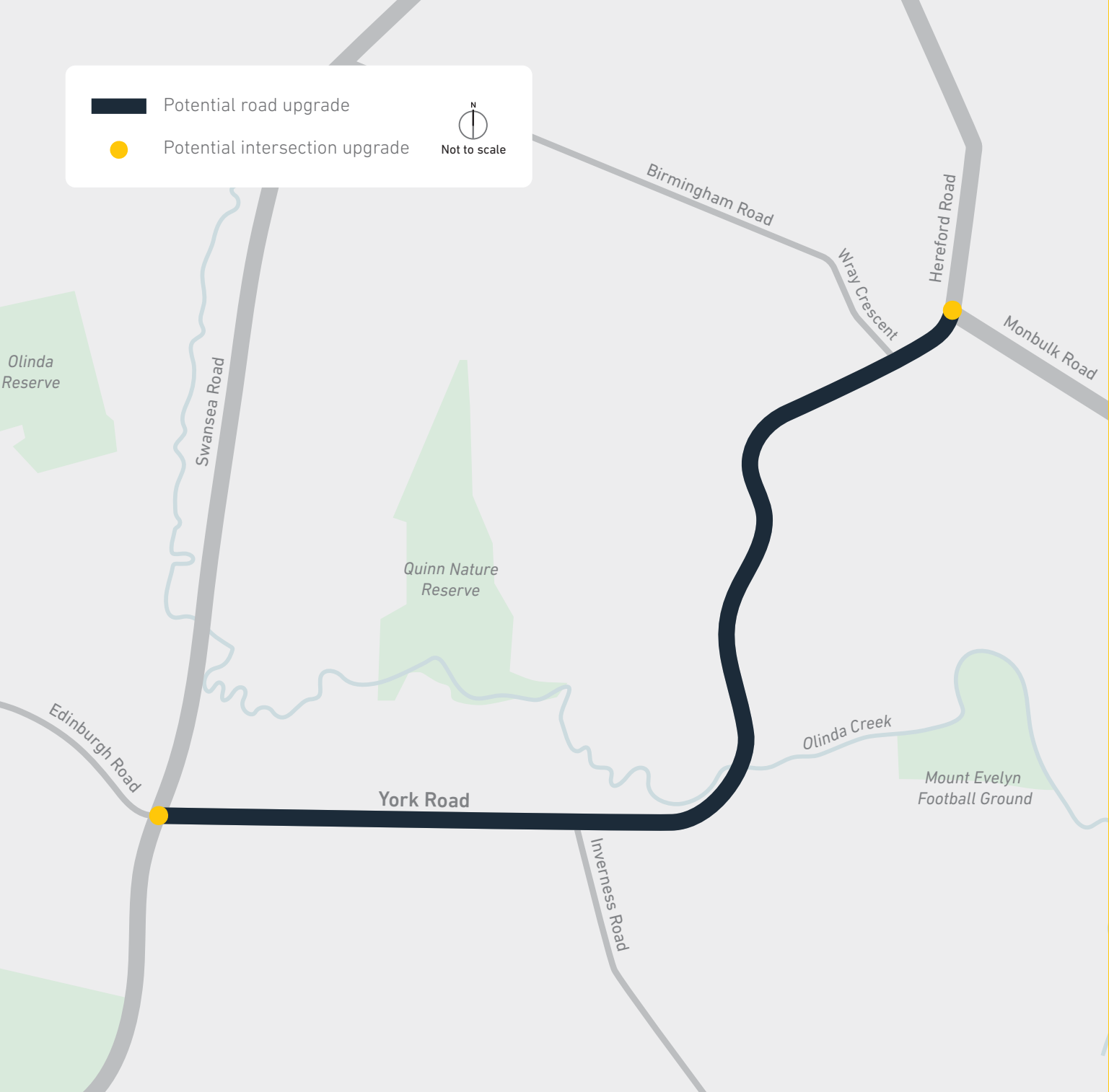
Please contact us on **1800 105 105** or email contact@roadprojects.vic.gov.au, if you have any questions or require more information.

SIGN UP FOR UPDATES

Visit bigbuild.vic.gov.au/projects/mrpv/york-road-upgrade or scan the QR code below.



 Potential road upgrade
 Potential intersection upgrade

 Not to scale



roadprojects.vic.gov.au



For languages other than English please call 9209 0147

1800 105 105 (call anytime)
contact@roadprojects.vic.gov.au



Please contact us if you would like this information in an accessible format. If you need assistance due to a hearing or speech impairment, visit relayservice.gov.au