

HEALESVILLE-KOO WEE RUP ROAD UPGRADE



NOVEMBER 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.

What's been happening?

Turning in and out of Ballarto Road onto Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road is now a lot safer with all legs of the Ballarto Road roundabout opened in late June.

Building the new roundabout presented challenges in a flood-prone environment that is surrounded by environmental exclusion zones, which delayed the opening of the roundabout, so we thank you for your patience.

To build the roundabout we:

- relocated all the overhead and underground utilities along Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road, including power, water, and telecom assets
- laid **5767 tonnes** of asphalt
- positioned 2430 metres of kerb
- installed 12 bridge beams and 26 piles while constructing the bridge at Ballarto Road West
- placed 170 culvert crown units to upgrade the drainage

Our team also built 2 growling grass frog ponds and constructed bandicoot corridors under the road surface.

The new roundabout improves safety at this intersection for the thousands of vehicles that use it each day.

Image above: the new Ballarto Road roundabout opened in June

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Roundabout South of Deep Creek

Major works have been carried out at the new roundabout south of Deep Creek. The roundabout is now open to G&K O'Connor employees, providing a vital connection and safe access for this important local employer.

Before we open the new roundabout to all traffic, we'll complete finishing works which include laying the final layers of asphalt, line marking and installing public lighting.

We're now working to complete the new bridges over Deep Creek and connect it to the roundabout. Crews are working on the approaches to the bridges, installing safety barriers and building the new shared use path.

We're also installing underground fauna crossings for the southern brown bandicoot and growling grass frog to enable our protected wildlife a safer passage from one side of the road to the other.



Protecting our fauna

We've installed culverts along the length of the new dual lane road between Pakenham and Koo Wee Rup.

Culverts are tunnel type structures that are designed to channel water under the road and also provide safe passage for the native fauna, including the nationally significant Southern Brown Bandicoot and Growling Grass Frog. We've also installed a series of dedicated frog ponds with repurposed logs and rocks from construction activities to create new habitat.

Crews guide underground fauna crossing culverts into position.





In the last couple of months, we've:



built the new roundabout south of the new Deep Creek bridges



completed road widening at Livestock Way with two full lanes exiting onto Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road



switched traffic onto the completed new northbound lanes between Deep Creek and Livestock Way, plus we've started works to upgrade the existing lanes in that area



continued asphalting, as well as bridge and culvert works at Island and Ellett roads



continued the installation of fauna crossing culverts and excavation of growling grass frog habitat ponds

Image above: major works at the new roundabout south of Deep Creek are complete, with works continuing to build the approaches to connect it to the new bridge over Deep Creek.



New lanes opening soon

By the start of 2024 all traffic will travel on the new Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road alignment.

In late November and throughout December, we'll continue to switch traffic onto the new lanes.

To meet this huge project milestone we'll need to intermittently close sections of Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road in both directions between Livestock Way and Manks Road at night with detours in place.

Once traffic is moved to the new lanes we'll continue to work on the existing Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road which will become a local access road for local properties.

We'll also continue building the Island Road intersection to tie into the new northbound lanes of Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road. Island Road will reopen in in March 2024.

Works are continuing on the new shared use path with sections progressively opening at the end of 2023 and into 2024. The 10km walking and cycling path will run between Livestock Way and Manks Road, delivering a legacy asset that will serve the community into the future.

Most of our works will take place between 7am and 6pm, Monday to Friday, and on Saturdays between 7am and 1pm. Some works may need to occur at night or on weekends to minimise impacts to traffic. If we need to work at night,we'll let you know ahead of time. Please observe on-road signage and the directions of our traffic controllers, so we can keep you and our workers safe.

In the next few months, we'll also be working on:

- culvert construction
- installation of guard rail
- driveway reconstruction
- landscaping
- installation of fauna fencing
- drainage installation and
- asphalting works.

South east disruptions

We're continuing works on major road upgrades in Melbourne's south east to reduce travel times and improve safety and reliability.

Pakenham Roads Upgrade

Lane and ramp closures on McGregor Road, Racecourse Road and the Princes Freeway will be in place as required. The Princes Freeway will be closed between McGregor Road and Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road inbound from 24-27 November.

Hall Road Upgrade

Hall Road and Western Port Highway intersection will be closed until 20 December.

Narre Warren-Cranbourne Road Upgrade

Cameron Street is closed at Berwick-Cranbourne Road until January 2024. Lane closures continue on South Gippsland Highway until late March 24. Local road closures remain in place at Rochester Parade, Sunbird Avenue, Bellarine Drive, Hunt Club Boulevard and Lyall Street.

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