



# Gippsland Line Upgrade

The Gippsland Line Upgrade will enable more frequent and reliable services for passengers in the region.

The Gippsland Line Upgrade includes:

- second platforms and station amenity works at Bunyip, Longwarry, Morwell and Traralgon stations
- track duplication at Bunyip and Longwarry
- extension of the Morwell crossing loop
- level crossing upgrades
- signalling upgrades
- drainage structure upgrades
- a new rail bridge over the Avon River in Stratford, which is now complete.

## What are the benefits?

The project will deliver improved train services to the growing communities of Gippsland and create 500 jobs in the region.

Passengers are already benefiting from the Gippsland Line Upgrade, with trains now travelling at higher speeds over the new Avon River rail bridge, boosting reliability on the line. Trains are now able to travel at up to 90 km/h on the new structure, a significant improvement on the 10 km/h speed limit on the old bridge.

Level crossing upgrades completed in 2018 enabled more comfortable and modern VLocity trains to travel to and from Bairnsdale for the first time.

The project's major package of works between Pakenham and Traralgon will enable a 40-minute train service frequency between the peaks between Traralgon and Melbourne.

Track duplication, a crossing loop extension and additional platforms will provide more opportunities for trains to pass each other in key sections of the line, boosting reliability and allowing more services to be introduced.

The additional platforms at stations will be built with accessibility and amenity improvements, for better passenger journeys.

Train detection upgrades at level crossings along the line will improve safety for motorists and train passengers. Upgrades to drainage structures will improve infrastructure resilience along the Gippsland Line, which will mean trains can continue to operate efficiently.

## Supporting the local economy

Creating local jobs and boosting the regional economy is a big focus of the Gippsland Line Upgrade. The project will create 500 jobs and provide opportunities for local suppliers as well as apprentices, trainees and cadets to create jobs, develop industry skills and deliver economic benefits to the region.

Rail Projects Victoria will establish a local project office in Morwell, creating jobs and helping to stimulate the local economy.



## Next steps

Construction of the new rail bridge over the Avon River was completed three months ahead of schedule, with trains now travelling on the new structure.

Work is underway on the Gippsland Line Upgrade's major package of works between Pakenham and Traralgon, with construction targeted for completion in late 2022.

## Other rail improvements

Other investments will benefit Gippsland Line passengers over the coming years, including high capacity signalling, which will provide more capacity on the metropolitan network and have flow-on benefits for Gippsland services.

The Victorian Government has committed to building a new station at Pakenham and Pakenham East, which will include dedicated V/Line tracks to reduce congestion between Gippsland and metropolitan trains, and improve service reliability.

These works will future-proof the Pakenham and Gippsland lines, allowing more services to be added in the future.

Gippsland Line passengers have benefited from improved train frequency and reliability with the introduction of 22 train services stopping at Trafalgar, Yarragon, Longwarry, Bunyip and Nar Nar Goon every week in January 2021.

These initiatives are all part of the unprecedented investment to bring better train services to passengers on the Gippsland Line.

## Regional Rail Revival

The Gippsland Line Upgrade is being delivered as part of Regional Rail Revival. The Australian and Victorian governments have invested more than \$4 billion in the Regional Rail Revival program, which is upgrading every regional passenger rail line in Victoria and creating 3,000 jobs and supplier opportunities.

The program is the biggest upgrade to the regional train network since Regional Fast Rail, which transformed regional Victorian train travel more than a decade ago.

Regional Rail Revival is bringing new and upgraded stations, duplicated track, crossing loops, stabling facilities and modern signalling solutions to enable more frequent and reliable services for passengers.



## More information

To find out more about Regional Rail Revival:

 [regionalrailrevival.vic.gov.au](https://regionalrailrevival.vic.gov.au)

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