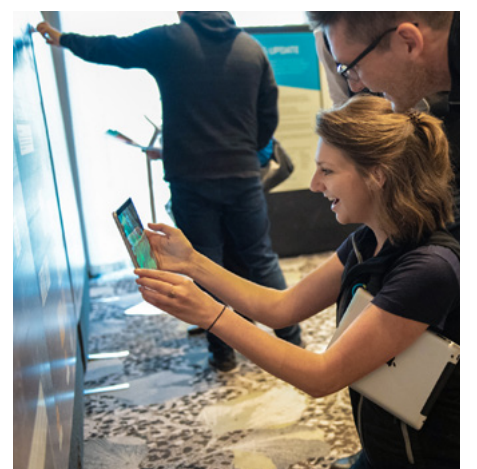




THE LINK

P.02 Your feedback P.03 Walking and cycling P.04 Hitting the road



Welcome to THE LINK

It's about the people who live and work in Melbourne's north-east and eastern suburbs and the people who will use North East Link, an upgraded Eastern Freeway and Melbourne's first busway to get where they need to go. We have a lot of work ahead of us and want to keep everyone informed along the way.



When you're finished with
THE LINK, please recycle.

NORTH EAST LINK COMES TO LIFE

3D images and videos
are the latest way to
see the project during
early planning.

Visitors to our drop in displays have been learning more about the project with a new interactive map, 3D videos and 180-degree virtual reality.

If you didn't make it – it's not too late. Check the back page to see when we'll be in your area.

You can also see everything from the comfort of home. Visit northeastlink.vic.gov.au for the new interactive map, 3D fly-through videos and to give us your feedback.

Continued page 2...

Your feedback shapes North East Link

Continued from page 1...

The latest designs show how tunnels, green bridges, an Eastern Freeway overhaul, dedicated busway and walking and cycling links slash congestion, take traffic off local streets and connect communities.

We've been speaking with communities for more than a year – even ahead of the business case, a first for a major project like this. This means communities have helped shape the project from the get-go.



Thanks to your feedback we are:

- Working with Banyule Council, local stakeholders and residents to explore different design options for local traffic, walking and cycling connections at Watsonia Station and shops. To get involved, visit jointheconversation.northeastlink.vic.gov.au
- Reducing visual impacts from the northern portal tunnel ventilation structures by moving them as far away from homes as possible and locating them on Simpson Barracks land
- Significantly increasing green space along Greensborough Road and adding a new signalised crossing for walkers and bike riders connecting to Wattle Drive
- Simplifying the Manningham Road interchange
- Adding two new crossings on Bulleen Road to make getting to schools sports fields and community clubs safer and easier
- Investigating a footpath on the western side of Bulleen Road so there are paths on both sides of the road
- Upgrading the Belford Road walking and cycling path along the Eastern Freeway
- Adding a shortcut to the Main Yarra Trail along the Eastern Freeway at Burke Road
- Assessing future upgrades to Doncaster Park and Ride and Watsonia Station carpark

Tough noise standards for North East Link

From speaking with communities we know that noise is a key priority and that noise in some areas, particularly along the Eastern Freeway, Greensborough Road and the M80 Ring Road, is already high.

Community feedback has shaped our plans for a noise standard of 63 decibels, which is similar to the noise level of a busy general office.

The noise standard will be applied to all residential areas along North East Link as well as the planned upgrades to the Eastern Freeway and M80 Ring Road.

It will also cover open space where noise barriers are needed to protect residents or noise sensitive buildings such as schools.

As part of the Environment Effects Statement (EES) being prepared

A noise standard of 63 decibels will apply along the entire project alignment

Noise is being studied and modelled this year as we prepare the EES

More than 60 locations have been monitored

More information about noise walls will be on public display in 2019

this year, noise specialists have been recording existing noise levels near homes, schools and community buildings and modelling predicted changes to noise levels once the project is built.

This helps our project engineers to determine where new or upgraded noise walls will be needed and to include these in the project design.

Feedback from communities we're receiving now is helping to shape ideas for what new noise walls could look like.

Busway by numbers

Melbourne's first dedicated busway will be built as part of North East Link, and our engineers are looking to successes in Sydney and Brisbane to get the best fit along the Eastern Freeway.

Doncaster Area Rapid Transit (DART) bus routes are the busiest in Melbourne which makes building a dedicated busway along the Eastern Freeway a crucial part of the North East Link Project.

Buses will travel in their own lanes, separated from traffic merging on and off the freeway and getting to and from the city will be faster and easier.

A new Park and Ride will be built at Bulleen and Doncaster Park and Ride will get a major upgrade.

Two Park and Rides – Doncaster and Bulleen

Up to 30 percent faster travel times

Travel speeds of up to 100 kilometres an hour

Smoother trips for the 16,000 people who already use DART services every day

Local services will also benefit from smoother trips with access points on and off the busway at Thompsons Road and Chandler Highway.

What ideas do you have for the new busway? See the latest designs and give feedback on our website or follow us on social media to share your thoughts.

Connecting Melburnians by bike and foot

We've been talking with walkers, runners and cyclists across the north-east and it's clear you want better connectivity for all forms of transport. That's why North East Link will include more than 25 kilometres of new walking and cycling paths.

North East Link will significantly expand the cycling network in the north-east, with new routes to Greensborough, Watsonia, Heidelberg and La Trobe University, connecting people to local shops, attractions and jobs.

Community feedback is playing a vital role throughout the design process.

In response to some key issues raised at information sessions, we're adding a direct connection at Burke Road and removing the steep hill from Belford Road in Kew.

We'll keep working with walkers and riders to help shape the look and feel of North East Link's cycling and pedestrian links.

Visit northeastlink.vic.gov.au to see the latest designs.



Key features of the latest designs include:

- Completing the long awaited eastern bike corridor – a new commuter route to the city along the Eastern Freeway between Chandler Highway and Merri Creek
- A bridge over the Yarra River to cut more than a kilometre from journeys along the Main Yarra Trail
- Green bridges to create new walking and cycling connections and green spaces for communities
- Safer walking and cycling connections near schools and community venues, including:
 - An underpass connecting Lower Plenty Road and River Gum Walk
 - New paths and safer crossings at Bulleen Road

North East Link Community Liaison Groups

Community Liaison Groups (CLGs) are a way for people to be involved in the planning stage of North East Link and are a link between the North East Link Authority and the community.

Two groups represent the northern and southern parts the project and participate in regular forums, which incorporate community feedback and help resolve issues.

The groups have an independent chair and bring together residents, businesses, students, environmental groups, councils, VicRoads and North East Link Authority.

Each group has a student representative: Raymond Myrteza from Marcellin College (south group) and Johanna Tabares from Melbourne Polytechnic (north group).

Meet Ray



Ray is from Marcellin College and lives in Eaglemont. He enjoys playing soccer for his local club and spending time with friends.

The year 10 student became our school CLG representative after his Business Management (a year 11 subject) teacher suggested he join. Ray thought 'wow, this could be interesting', and aspires to a career in management.

Ray attends meetings before school and hears about community issues and ideas, and talks to locals affected by the project. Ray says he also enjoys hearing about the construction equipment that could be used for the tunnels.

A key member of the group, Ray provides input into the conversation from both a student and local perspective.

Ray says he learns a lot from being in the group.

"A major piece of knowledge I have taken away is the planning aspect, it has helped me understand planning for my classes."

"The group has also helped me understand a greater range of team work," he says.

Look out for student rep Johanna in the next issue.

Urban design: shaping local communities

Looking for opportunities to improve the look and feel of local areas, and how people move about, is an important part of the planning process for major projects like North East Link.

Kevin Begg, lead urban designer for North East Link Authority, says feedback from communities is central.

“Urban design is how places look, feel and function. It addresses parks and cycle paths, shopping areas and waterways, pedestrian bridges and landscape buffers.”

“For North East Link, ‘natural’ and ‘connected’ are recurring themes we are hearing from communities.”

The Urban Design Strategy for North East Link responds to three distinctive ‘character areas’ and will give the project builders ideas for their designs.

“This is about maximising opportunities for the community as part of the design process,” says Kevin.

We’re interested to hear your feedback on our urban design strategy and ideas for your local area.

To get involved visit jointheconversation.northeastlink.vic.gov.au



‘Ridgeline’ character area



‘Koonung Creek Valley’ character area

North East Link Authority spends months developing the urban design strategy with three main inputs:

- We learn from previous documents and implement things that worked
- We speak with local councils to find out local knowledge
- We speak with communities to understand what is important in their area

‘Yarra River Valley’ character area

We’re hitting the road

See us at a shopping centre near you

The North East Link team is popping up at shopping centres to share key information about the latest designs.

You’ll be able to see 3D videos, 180-degree views and artist impressions. We’ll also be asking what you think about how we’ve incorporated community feedback into the design.

Because space is limited, these pop ups are mini versions of our September displays.

Our website is up to date with the latest events near you
northeastlink.vic.gov.au

Saturday 13 October
9:00am – 5:00pm

Victoria Gardens Shopping Centre
Ground Level, 620 Victoria Street
Richmond

vicgardenssc.com.au

Thursday 18 October
9:00am – 7:00pm

Box Hill Central
North Building, 1 Main Street
Box Hill

有翻译

boxhillcentral.com.au

Sunday 21 October
10:00am – 5:00pm

Pacific Epping
Ground Level, 571-583 High Street
Epping

pacificpepping.com.au

Saturday 27 October
9:00am. – 5:00pm

Armada Dandenong Plaza
Level 3, Corner of McCrae
& Walker Streets,
Dandenong

armadadandenongplaza.com.au

Sunday 14 October
9:00am. – 5:00pm

Eastland Shopping Centre
Level 2, 175 Maroondah Highway
Ringwood

eastland.com.au

Saturday 20 October
9:00am – 5:00pm

Northland Shopping Centre
2 -50 Murray Road
Preston

northlandsc.com.au

Thursday 25 October
9:00am – 5:30pm

Bulleen Plaza
79/109 Manningham Road
Bulleen

bulleenplaza.com.au

The Link is printed on 99% recycled paper and wrapped in biodegradable packaging.



Contact us

- 1800 105 105
- community@northeastlink.vic.gov.au
- North East Link Authority
GPO Box 4509, Melbourne VIC 3001

Follow us on social media

- [@northeastlinkmelb](https://www.facebook.com/northeastlinkmelb)
- [@nelmelb](https://www.instagram.com/northeastlinkmelb)

Translation service

- for languages other than English, please call 9679 9896.
- Please contact us if you would like this information in an accessible format.



Authorised and published by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne