

**MARCH 2021** 





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# **PROJECT OVERVIEW**

The Victorian Government is removing 18 level crossings and building 12 new stations as part of a \$3 billion upgrade of the Frankston line that will improve safety, reduce congestion and allow more trains to run more often.

The Victorian Government has fast-tracked the removal of two dangerous and congested level crossings in Glen Huntly - one year ahead of schedule.

The Level Crossing Removal Project (LXRP) will lower the rail line into a trench, build two road bridges over the rail line at the existing crossings to keep traffic moving, and build a new Glenhuntly Station that will include a public forecourt with landscaping.

The project will also create better train and tram connections for the local community and include a new walking and cycling path.

Early works begin in mid 2021. We are targeting boom gate removal in 2023 and project completion in 2024, one year ahead of schedule.

### Why these level crossings need to go



#### Improve traffic flow

20,000 vehicles travel through these level crossings each weekday



#### Reduce travel times

The boom gates at Neerim and Glen Huntly roads can be down for almost 60 minutes in the weekday peak



#### Improve safety

Removing the level crossings will significantly improve safety for pedestrians, cyclists, tram users and motorists



#### **Better connections**

The project will revitalise the Glenhuntly Station precinct, improving connections between the station, shops, homes and community facilities



#### Improve facilities

The new Glenhuntly Station will provide modern and safe facilities for over 3000 people who use the station each day



# INTRODUCTION

LXRP has engaged with the community and key stakeholders, seeking feedback about what improvements you would like to see as part of the project and what is important to you about your area.

Your responses have helped us understand local impacts, your priorities for the area and have informed our planning approval process.

The consultation period ran from 27 October to 29 November 2020 and was restricted to online and postal engagement based on health advice in response to coronavirus.

The feedback we received online and via a small number of hard copy surveys will be used to develop the station precinct and final station designs.

### Your feedback

#### Community members completed a total of 546 surveys:

- 545 online and one printed survey
- 3137 visits to the Glen Huntly project page on the Engage Victoria online portal
- 90 queries received and responded to on the Ask Us section of the online portal
- 545 subscribers sent email updates in October and November 2020 encouraging participation in the engagement survey
- 10,000 plus homes and business letterboxed with two community updates in October and November 2020



# WHAT YOU TOLD US

### We are building a new Glenhuntly Station as part of the project.

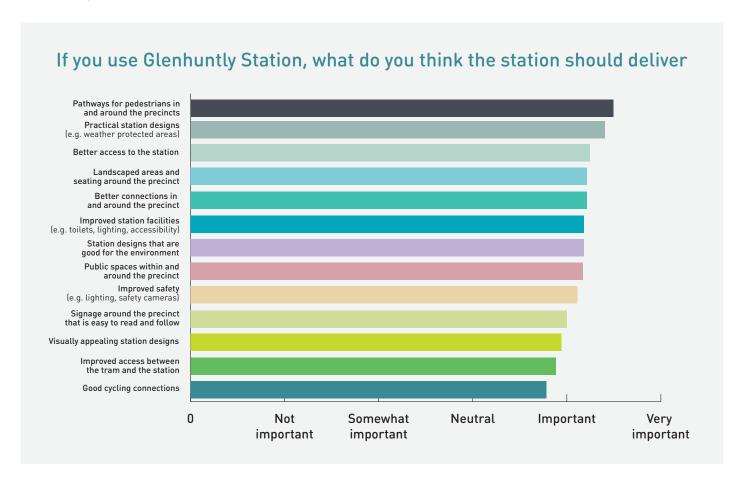
The top three issues you raised in the survey were improved connections between the station and the local area, better pedestrian access and landscaping and seating around the new station precinct.

#### Feedback collection

Using our online engagement portal we gathered information via an online survey with a set of questions in which we asked you to voice any concerns about the project, ask questions and provide feedback.

25% of survey respondents use Glenhuntly Station daily

27% use the station up to three times a week



## How you would like us to improve Glenhuntly Station

#### Passenger facilities

You told us that the existing Glenhuntly Station is exposed to the elements and there is often congestion at the pedestrian gates on Glen Huntly Road.

The new station will have improved weather protection and better access to the platforms from the new forecourt. This will provide easy access to Glen Huntly Road and with the boom gates gone, there will be much less congestion for pedestrians and vehicles.

#### Station access

You asked us to consider access to the platforms from both ends of Glenhuntly Station.

We are refining the station design to make it as passenger friendly as possible, while meeting the requirements of Metro Trains Melbourne (MTM), the train operator, and the Department of Transport.

#### Train-tram connections

You asked us to improve the train and tram connections on Glen Huntly Road.

The new station precinct will focus on improving train, tram and bus connections and local amenity and safety.

## What's important to you

#### During this phase of consultation, some key themes were consistent.

Many of you told us that Glen Huntly has a unique community feel and there are particular aspects of the area that you value highly.

#### Trees and vegetation

You asked us to keep as many mature trees and other plants as possible, particularly the Canary Island date palms along Royal Avenue and the London plane trees on Dorothy Avenue.

We are yet to determine the extent of vegetation removal required to enable construction of the rail trench, new station precinct and pedestrian and bike paths. We will minimise impacts as much as possible. We will develop a vegetation management plan closer to the start of construction and landscaping and revegetation will form part of our project.

#### Pedestrian and bike access

You told us that improved pedestrian and bike connections in the area is important, particularly safe off-road cycling.

We are continuing to investigate the most effective route for a pedestrian and bike path and will have more information for the community later this year.

Improved pedestrian and bicycle access is a key element of our project.

More than 80 per cent of you who completed our survey told us that you walk to the station, while 10 per cent of you cycle.

#### Car parking

Just over 20 per cent of you who completed our survey told us that you drive to catch the train from Glenhuntly Station. Our commitment is no net loss of car parking at Glen Huntly, retaining the two existing station car parks.

#### Works impacts

Some of you asked us about the impacts of construction. We need to dig out thousands of tonnes of soil to construct the rail trench, which will be about 1100 metres long and up to 30 metres wide to accommodate three station platforms. At the peak of construction in 2023 we will be working 24 hours a day.

Early works will start later this year and we will provide more information about timeframes and impacts when we are closer to starting construction.

#### Stakeholder engagement

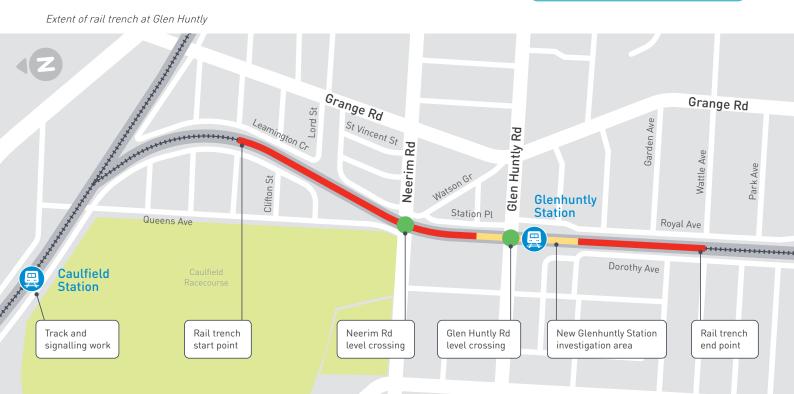
Some of you asked us whether we work with the City of Glen Eira in the lead up to and during our works. Council is one of our key stakeholders and we will continue to work closely with them as we progress towards removal of the boom gates at Neerim Road and Glen Huntly Road.

# Glenhuntly or Glen Huntly?

Some of you asked about the different spellings for the suburb and the station.

Glen Huntly, two words, is the name of the suburb and is used for Glen Huntly Road. Glenhuntly, one word, has been the official name of the station since 1937.

There are no plans to change the name of the station.



### Your top requests

96.5%

of people said they wanted practical station design, such as weather protected areas





95%

of people said they wanted pathways for pedestrians





89%

of people said they wanted landscaped areas and seating around the precinct



88%





of people said they wanted better connections between the station, local streets and the Glen Huntly shopping strip

## Project timeline



#### Mid 2020

 Ongoing site investigations



#### Late 2020

 Community consultation



### **Early 2021**

· Early designs announced and community consultation



#### Mid 2021

- Final designs announced
- Site preparation and early works start



#### 2022

Major construction



#### 2023

Boom gates removed



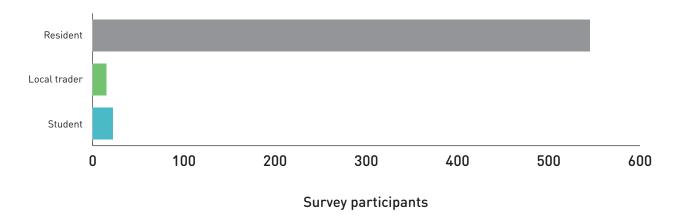
· Project completed

\*Timeline above subject to change



## Where you live

#### Contributions by type



Most of the survey participants were residents.

Most people who completed the online survey lived in postcode 3163 (Glen Huntly and Carnegie).

Most survey participants primarily travelled around the local area by car (87.21%). Walking (74.75%) and tram (64.98%) were the next most-used modes of transport.

# **OUTCOMES AND NEXT STEPS**

Thank you to everyone who contributed comments and gave us feedback. We are using the information you gave us to refine the designs for the new Glenhuntly Station.

Our next round of consultation will help us refine aspects of the project, including the look and feel of the station precinct.

### Keeping in touch

The best way to stay up to date on the project and any developments is by signing up to email updates.

Subscribe to e-updates at levelcrossings.vic.gov.au/subscribe

Visit our website for more project information: levelcrossings.vic.gov.au





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