

PAKENHAM ROADS UPGRADE – STAGE 1

JULY 2023



We're upgrading the Princes Freeway in Pakenham, relieving bottlenecks, improving traffic flow, and making your journeys safer and more reliable.

Works on the upgrade are now well underway. Since our last update, we've:

- completed placing the soil for the foundations of the new McGregor Road freeway off ramp and almost completed building the embankments for the Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road bridge

- installed 570m of safety barriers along Princes Freeway to keep crews and the community safe during works
- started building the extra inbound lane on the Princes Freeway
- started stripping soil to build the new lanes on Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road
- installed drains and pipes to redirect the winter rain away from works
- repaired potholes on the Princes Freeway after recent wet weather.

Image above: Progress to construct the new ramps at McGregor Road

This year, we're upgrading roads and rail infrastructure around Pakenham.

We'll be working hard to remove 3 level crossings and upgrade the Princes Freeway interchanges.

As you travel around, road and train disruptions may affect your travel.

Plan ahead

**[bigbuild.vic.gov.au/
pakenhamdisruptions](https://bigbuild.vic.gov.au/pakenhamdisruptions)**



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Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road traffic changes

From late July, there'll be changes to the way you travel on Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road.

We'll move traffic to the eastern side of Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road to make room to build the new lanes on the western side.

One lane of traffic will run in each direction with speeds reduced to 40km/h.

These changed conditions will be in place until early 2024.

To prepare for this change there will be day time lane closures on Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road between Southeast Boulevard and the Princes Freeway while we remove the centre median and replace it with temporary lanes.

Once complete, the road will be closed for a few nights while we install barriers and complete line marking for the new traffic arrangement.

Image: Works will be carried out behind barriers on Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road until early next year.



New bridge starts to take shape

Since February, our crews have been busy building the embankments for the new Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road bridge over the Princes Freeway.

This involved placing more than 200,000 tonnes of dirt to build the supports, called embankments, on both sides of Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road. We'll now start to build the bridge structure that will cross the Princes Freeway and form the new lanes on Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road.

In May we placed temporary safety barriers in the median of the Princes Freeway to create a safe working area for crews as they prepare the area for the central pier that will support the bridge span.

In August we'll begin to use large piling machines for the next step in building the central pier. These machines act like a hammer and will drive large pillars, called piles, into the ground like nails. The piles will be hammered deep into the ground to create a strong foundation for the central pier, supporting the bridge platform.

You may experience increased noise and vibration when piling works take place. We'll monitor noise and vibration levels to ensure

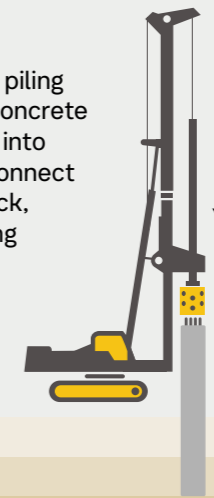
that they're within acceptable limits and speak to residents who may be affected ahead of time.

If you're concerned about these works, please contact us on **1800 105 105**.

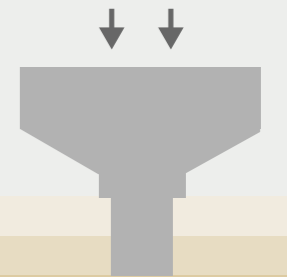
After we complete piling works, we'll build up the central pier with concrete before lifting beams into place to form the bridge platform.

HOW WE'RE BUILDING THE NEW BRIDGE

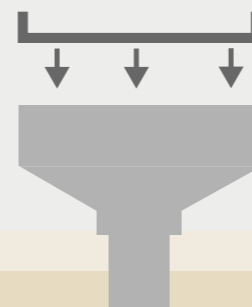
STEP 1 | Large piling rigs drive long concrete columns (piles) into the ground to connect with soil and rock, creating a strong foundation for the bridge.



STEP 2 | Concrete is poured to build the new central pier.



STEP 3 | Bridge beams are placed on top of the central pier. The beams are then joined with concrete to create a bridge deck, forming the base for the new road.



STEP 4 | Drainage is installed to ensure that water does not pool on the new road. Asphalt is laid to provide the surface for the new road.



STEP 5 | Road lines are marked and barriers installed to divide the lanes of traffic.



Yakking with Pakenham

Since our last update, we've been spending time in the Pakenham community to share information on the project and answer any questions you may have about our works.

You may have seen us out and about with our friends from the Level Crossing Removal Project (LXRP) team at the Pakenham Library or at the sunny Yakkerboo Festival.

During the July school holidays, we'll be teaming up with the LXRP team and the Pakenham Library to help keep the kids entertained.

For more information, visit roadprojects.vic.gov.au/Pakenham-community

Building Roads and Bridges free school holiday activity

Pakenham Library,
Henry Street Pakenham

Thursday 6 July,
10am to 2pm

Friday 7 July,
9am to 2pm

No RSVP required.



Engaging with the community at the Yakkerboo Festival in April.

roadprojects.vic.gov.au

1800 105 105 (call anytime)

contact@roadprojects.vic.gov.au



For languages other than English please call 9209 0147



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