

# EPPING ROAD UPGRADE

MARCH/APRIL 2023



## We're upgrading Epping Road, between Craigieburn Road East and Memorial Avenue, to help you get home safer and sooner.

We're adding extra lanes and upgrading key intersections to improve traffic flow and travel times.

The upgrade will also lower the risk and severity of crashes by adding safety barriers in the centre medians and along the side of the road.

We're also building safer walking and cycling facilities to create better connections to local schools, shopping centres and other services.

## What's been happening

Major works have begun, so you'll start to notice changes to the way you travel along Epping Road.

In recent weeks we've installed road safety barriers to keep you and our workers safe while we build your new lanes.

We're establishing our main construction support site on Craigieburn Road East, which we'll move into in April.

This site compound will remain in place until the project is complete in mid-2025.

Along Epping Road, you'll notice temporary fencing, increased heavy vehicle movements, and there may be some medium-high level noise.

We'll do our best to minimise this wherever possible.

*Image above: Building our main construction support site at Craigieburn Road East*



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## What we're doing and when

With the road safety barriers now in place on the east side of Epping Road, we'll start:

- transporting materials and machinery
- removing rocks and excavating the ground
- relocating and protecting underground services.

We've identified the presence and location of underground services such as water, power, gas and telecommunications that need to be protected or relocated.

Many of these services run along the entire length of Epping Road between Craigieburn Road East and Memorial Avenue, and service thousands of homes and businesses across Melbourne's north.

From April, we'll start moving them out of the way so we can avoid disrupting the services you rely on every day, while keeping traffic moving on Epping Road.

Service relocations are some of our most challenging work, as it relies upon third-party asset owners who are responsible

for managing and maintaining these services right across metropolitan Melbourne.

Their availability is at times affected by storms, fire and flood. We're working with APA, Ausnet, Yarra Valley Water and Telstra to ensure this work is completed with minimal impact to services and the public.

You may not always see these works happening, as much of it takes place underground or at night wherever possible to minimise impacts on traffic and ensure the safety of our workers and motorists.

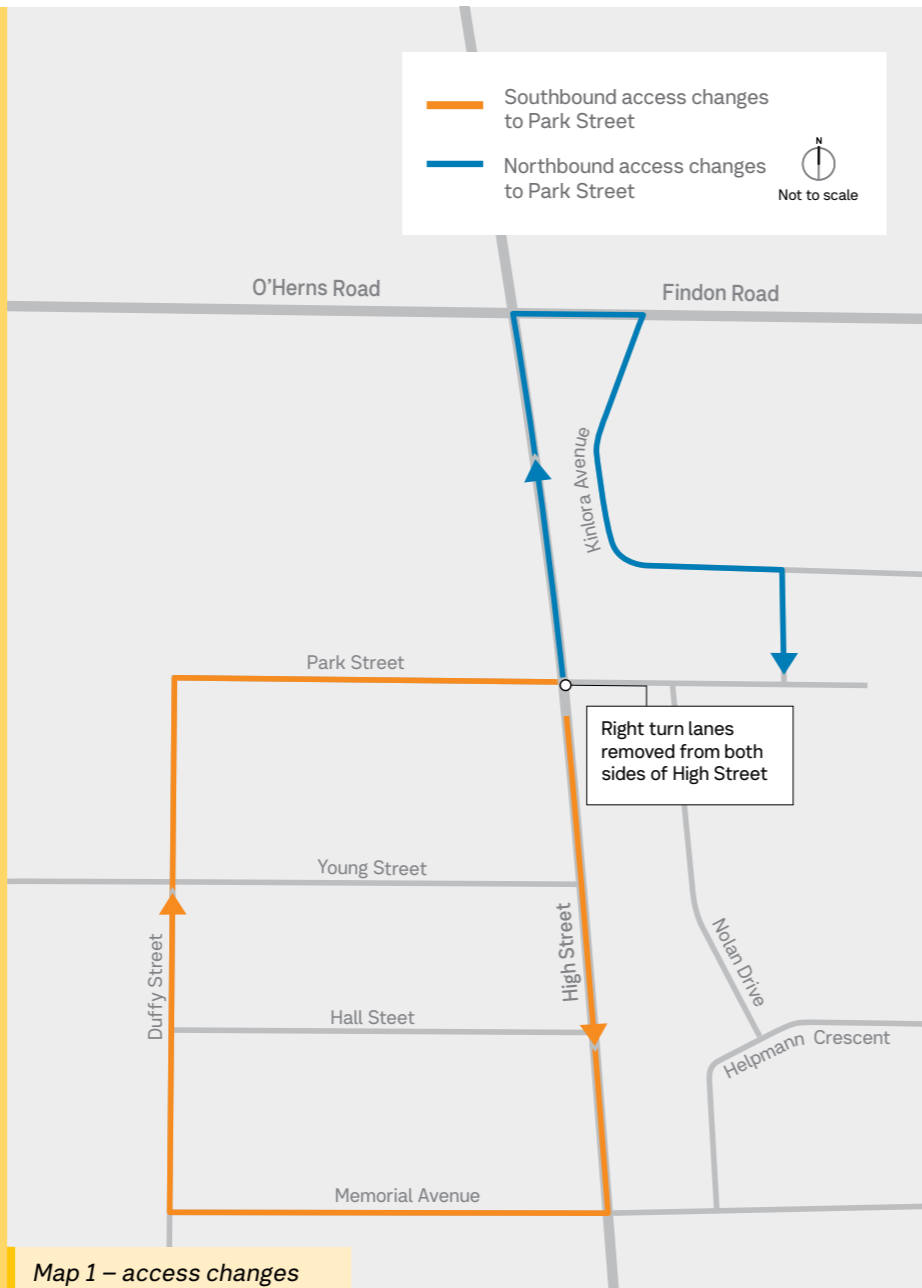
### Changed traffic conditions at the Park Street intersection

From mid-April until late 2024, we'll temporarily remove the dedicated right turn lanes into Park Street from both sides of High Street while we build your new southbound lanes.

You can safely access Park Street from Findon Road or Memorial Avenue so that traffic can keep moving through the intersection (See Map 1).

The northbound bike lane on High Street between Memorial Avenue and Park Street will also be closed during this time. While the bike lane is closed, there will be a minor detour via Memorial Avenue, Duffy Street and Park Street. The detour is only expected to add two minutes to your journey.

The northbound and southbound Young Street bus stops will be temporarily closed from mid-April until late 2024, affecting routes 356, 357 (night service) and 577. During this time, passengers will need to use the Memorial Avenue northbound and southbound bus stops and Epping Recreation Reserve northbound bus stop (See Map 2).



Map 1 – access changes



## What to expect

### Working hours

Most of our works will take place between 7am and 6pm, Monday to Friday. Some works may need to occur at night or on weekends to minimise impacts on traffic or services. If we need to work at night, we'll let you know ahead of time.

We'll move progressively along the road, and a lot of our works will take place behind traffic barriers to minimise disruptions to traffic and ensure the safety of our workers and the community.

### Traffic impacts

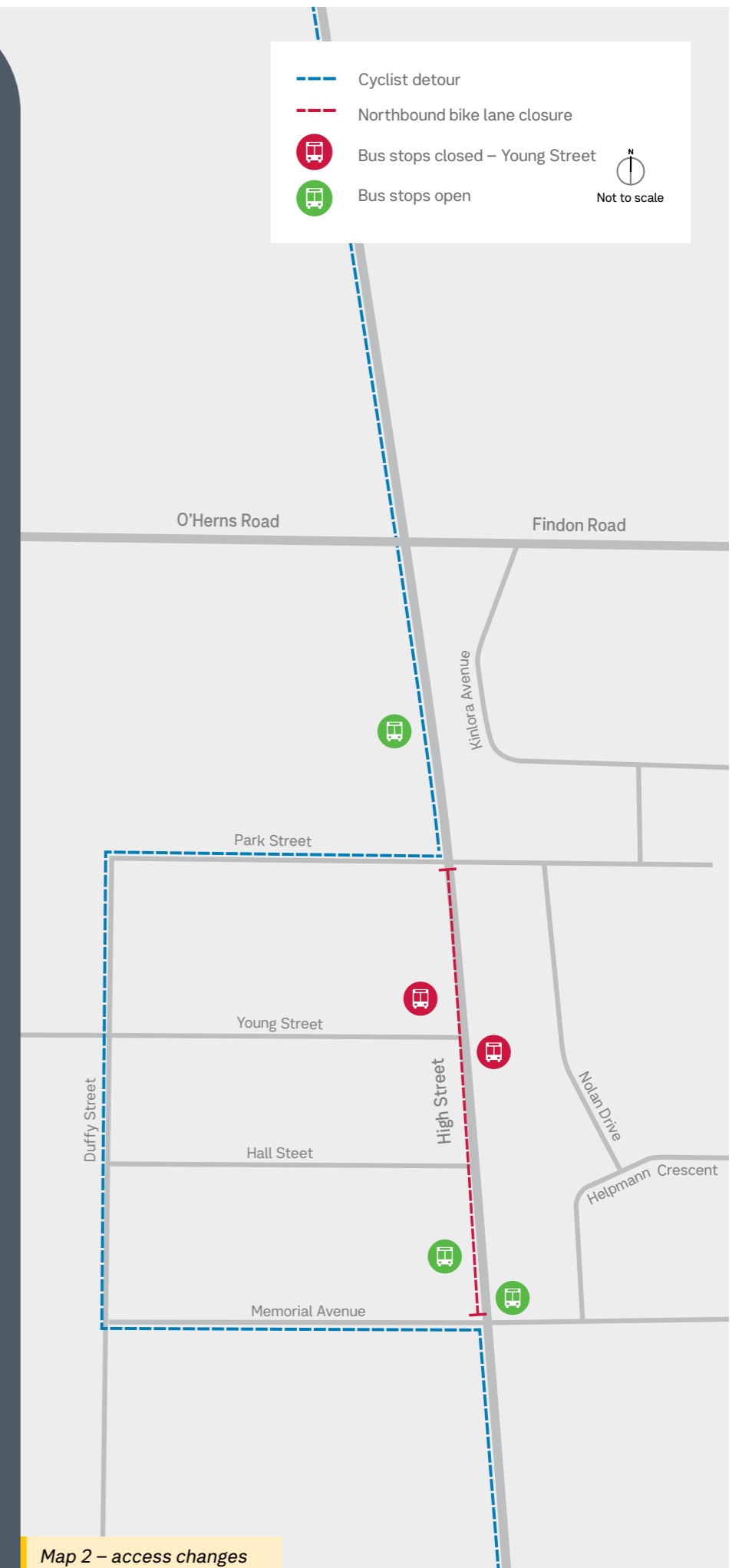
There will be ongoing traffic changes while we build the Epping Road Upgrade. These may include:

- road, lane and footpath closures and detours
- bike lane closures and detours
- bus stop closures
- speed limit reductions.

Please observe on-road signage and the directions of our traffic controllers, so we can keep you and our workers safe.

### Noise and vibration

There will be some noise and vibration during construction. Noise and vibration may be generated from moving vehicles, machinery, rock breaking, piling, reversing beepers or generators used to power equipment. When works need to take place at night, we'll make all reasonable efforts to reduce noise as much as possible.



Map 2 – access changes

# 40km/h through construction zones saves lives

The speed limit on Epping Road between Craigieburn Road East and Memorial Avenue has been changed to 40km/h while we build the upgrade, to keep you and our workers safe.

We've reduced the speed limit to 40km/h because, even when we're not working, there are still risks associated with reduced lane widths, concrete safety barriers and deep excavations behind barriers.

When driving near a construction site, there may be humps and drops in the road and soft road surfaces, which may increase risks for drivers. Some of these dangers may be easy to spot during the day, but much harder at night.

Research shows that the fatality rate drops considerably when speeds are reduced from 60km/h to 40km/h. These changes on Epping Road are all about getting you and our workers home safe.

## Project timeline

- ✓ Mid to late 2022
  - Site investigations
- ✓ January 2023
  - Major works start
- 2023 to 2024
  - New southbound lanes built
- 2024
  - Traffic switch to new lanes
- 2024 to 2025
  - New northbound lanes built
- 2025
  - Project complete

## Stay informed

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