



# PAKENHAM ROADS UPGRADE – STAGE 1

FEBRUARY 2023



**We're upgrading Racecourse Road, McGregor Road and the Princes Freeway in Pakenham, relieving bottlenecks, improving traffic flow and making your journeys easier and more enjoyable.**

## Ramping up for major construction

We've spent the last few months getting the site ready to start major works on Stage 1 of the Pakenham Roads Upgrade. We've set up our site compound, built access roads and started installing safety barriers.

From **late February**, activity will ramp up as we begin 24/7 works at McGregor and Healesville-Koo Wee Rup roads to:

- bring in material to build the new freeway ramps at McGregor Road
- build new bridge embankments at Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road
- complete tree and vegetation clearing
- continue site investigations for further work on the project.

*Above image: Artist's impression of the new east facing ramps at the McGregor Road interchange*



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## Autumn Earthworks

For approximately **seven weeks from Friday 24 February, we'll work 24/7 at the McGregor Road and Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road interchanges.**

During this time, we'll bring in more than 200,000 tonnes of dirt, rock and clay excavated from another of Victoria's Big Build project sites.

This initiative finds an immediate home for usable material, reducing the amount of new fill excavated from quarries and construction material in landfill.

This material will help build the foundation for the new McGregor Road ramps, and embankments for the bridge over the Princes Freeway at Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road.

The recycled material will be transported to the project site every night for seven weeks with our crews working around the clock to move the fill into place for our upgrade works.

Throughout these works, we'll have changed traffic conditions and lane closures in place on the Princes Freeway and Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road. You may notice an increase in trucks at night, and we want to thank you in advance for your patience.

Stay tuned for more sustainability initiatives as the project continues.

### Did you know?

**Not all dirt is the same. This fill will undergo stringent testing prior to arriving at our project site, making sure it's exactly right for our use and meets guidelines set out by the Environmental Protection Agency.**



To keep you and our workers safe we'll continue setting up safety barriers on the Princes Freeway and Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road.

We'll close the citybound lanes of the freeway between Healesville-Koo Wee Rup and McGregor roads **between 7pm to 5am each night from Sunday 26 February to Sunday 5 March.**

Detours will be in place via Southeast Boulevard and Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road (see map below).

We'll also close the northbound lanes of Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road near the freeway interchange from **Sunday 5 March to Friday 10 March from 7pm to 5am each night.** Detours will be in place via

Southeast Boulevard, McGregor Road and Princes Highway. There will be delays expected of up to 5 minutes during this time. Please follow traffic signs to safely detour around our works.

Visit Victoria's Big Build to view all Pakenham disruptions [bigbuild.vic.gov.au/pakenhamdisruptions](http://bigbuild.vic.gov.au/pakenhamdisruptions)



Princes Freeway inbound lane closures, 26 February to 5 March

## Maintaining roads during construction

**During community consultation for Stage 1 of the Pakenham Roads Upgrade, you told us that you were concerned about the number of potholes on your local roads.**

As part of our work activities we will continue to maintain the road surface within our project area including:

- McGregor Road at the Princes Freeway
- the Princes Freeway between McGregor Road and Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road
- Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road between Southeast Boulevard and Peet Street.

By the completion of Stage 1 in mid-2025, this upgrade will deliver:

- new road surfaces throughout the project area
- a new bridge over the Princes Freeway at Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road
- new traffic lights at the Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road interchange to replace the existing roundabouts
- new on and off ramps at McGregor Road
- an additional lane on the Princes Freeway between McGregor and Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Roads.



Scan to view our interactive project map and learn more about Stage 1 of the upgrade.

### Stage 1 project timeline

- ✓ **March 2022**
  - Funding committed to the Pakenham Roads Upgrade
- ✓ **April to November 2022**
  - Planning and procurement phase
- ✓ **Mid 2022 to early 2023**
  - Site investigations and early works for Stage 1
- **February 2023**
  - Major construction begins for Stage 1
- **Mid-late 2023**
  - Major construction begins for Stages 2 & 3
- **Mid 2025**
  - Project completion



## Stage 2 & 3 community consultation

In August 2022, we asked for feedback from the community to help inform our planning and design for Stage 1 of the project.

Consultation for Stages 2 and 3 of the Pakenham Roads Upgrade, at McGregor and Racecourse roads, will open soon.

Scan the QR code below to sign up for project updates and to be notified when consultation begins.



Sign up for project updates

## Pakenham Show

Have questions about the project or prefer to chat in person?

We'll attend the Pakenham Show on **Saturday 18 March**. Visit us to chat about the upgrade, and to learn more about the upgrades at McGregor and Racecourse roads.

We'll be accompanied by team members from the other projects working in your area, so come along to learn more about the changes happening to your transport network in Pakenham.

## Community Pop-up Sessions

We'll be hosting more pop-up sessions in the coming weeks around Pakenham.

Keep an eye on our website at [roadprojects.vic.gov.au/pakenham-project-update](https://roadprojects.vic.gov.au/pakenham-project-update) for more information, or subscribe for updates using the QR code on the front page.



## Traffic changes

**There will be lane closures and reduced speeds on McGregor Road, Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road and on the Princes Freeway from now until the end of the project.**

As we move into major construction you can expect regular minor impacts to traffic on roads in the project area, including on the Princes Freeway.

Please observe all traffic signage and directions as you move through the area and allow extra time for your journeys.

We'll continue to inform you ahead of time when we're planning highly disruptive works. Sign up for updates at [roadprojects.vic.gov.au/subscribe](https://roadprojects.vic.gov.au/subscribe) or by scanning the QR code on the front page.

In the coming weeks we'll begin works to add the new lanes to the Princes Freeway, between McGregor and Healesville-Koo Wee Rup roads. This will require intermittent daytime lane closures and speed reductions on the freeway while we complete activities including utilities works for traffic monitoring systems.

We'll do our best to minimise construction impacts like noise, dust, vibration and light spill on

the local community as much as possible. We'll be on the ground speaking with affected communities and businesses throughout construction.

## Open for Business

We're committed to supporting and maintaining access to local businesses throughout the project.

Please continue to support your local businesses as we complete the Pakenham Roads Upgrade, and keep an eye out for trader support campaigns from the project.

## Keeping you informed

We'll let you know in advance if any of our works will affect you.

If you haven't heard from us and think you'll be impacted by upcoming works, please contact us on **1800 105 105** or [contact@roadprojects.vic.gov.au](mailto:contact@roadprojects.vic.gov.au)

For more information on the Pakenham Roads Upgrade project, visit our project page at [roadprojects.vic.gov.au/PKHM](https://roadprojects.vic.gov.au/PKHM).

You can also sign up for email and SMS updates by visiting [roadprojects.vic.gov.au/subscribe](https://roadprojects.vic.gov.au/subscribe) or texting PKHM to **0499 073 073**.

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