

# EPPING ROAD UPGRADE

WINTER 2023



**We're upgrading  
Epping Road to help  
you get home safer  
and sooner.**

## What's been happening

Since our last update, we've:

- started upgrading culverts at Findon Creek
- continued earthworks, including removing topsoil and rock
- progressed the protection and relocation of essential services including water and gas
- started installing retaining walls along Epping Road
- installed a new water main at Park Street

## Project timeline



**Mid – Late 2022**

- Site investigations



**January 2023**

- Major works start



**2023 – 2024**

- Utility relocation works and building new southbound lanes



**2024**

- Move traffic to new southbound lanes



**2024 – 2025**

- Upgrades to northbound lanes and intersections



**2025**

- Project complete



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## What's coming up

### Culvert upgrades at Findon Creek

In late July, we installed 30 box culvert units and 18 link slabs to extend the culverts under Lehmanns Road on the east side of Epping Road, near Findon Creek.

The new culverts are 23 metres long, 12 metres wide, and 2 metres high. The units and slabs weigh a total of 429 tonnes, which is the equivalent of nearly 7 E-class trams.

In the coming months we'll:

- finish upgrading the culverts and drainage under Lehmanns Road so we can start building the new eastbound lanes
- continue upgrading the culverts under the east side of Epping Road, on both sides of Lehmanns Road, where we're building the new southbound lanes.

### Upcoming works and service relocation update

Over the past couple of months, we've started works to relocate and protect essential underground services including gas, water, electricity, and telecommunications.

Due to the complexity of these works, we aren't always able to relocate all services at the same time. This means that we may need to come back and close some roads and lanes multiple times to move the services and make sure the area is ready so we can build the new road base and new lanes.

On occasion, we may need to temporarily close sections of Epping Road and High Street to connect these services to homes and businesses. Detours will be in place to get you where you need to go. We'll let you know ahead of time about any works that may affect your journey. Please plan ahead and allow extra time when travelling through the area.

While we're completing these vital works, your service provider will contact you directly if there will

be any changes to your service. We'll do everything we can to minimise these disruptions.

#### What to expect

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

- delays on Epping Road and High Street
- temporary holds in traffic
- road, lane and footpath closures and detours
- bike lane closures and detours
- temporary bus stop closures
- speed limit reductions
- temporary parking changes

We'll contact you ahead of time if we need to change the way you access your property.

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

## What are service relocations?

Service relocations are an important part of road construction. Before we build a solid base for your new lanes, we need to move essential services out of the way so we can avoid disrupting the services you rely on every day, while keeping traffic moving on Epping Road and High Street.

Moving services is a complex process and involves careful planning and coordination with service providers and third parties such as Telstra, NBN, Yarra Valley Water, APA and many more.

Along Epping Road and High Street, we're protecting and relocating:



2 km of gas pipes



2 km of water pipes



8 km of power cabling



5 km of telephone and nbn cabling

Scan the QR code to watch our video and learn more about service relocations on the Epping Road Upgrade



## Building Bee Hotels with students at Wollert Secondary College

Our team visited Wollert Secondary College, which opened this year, to educate the 52 year-7 foundation students about our sustainability goals on the Epping Road Upgrade, and how we're protecting the environment during construction. We're committed to minimising impacts on the environment, which is why we have a range of safeguards and initiatives in place, including the use of new sustainable materials with lower embodied carbon and using more recycled materials.

As with all major road projects, we sensitively balance our impact on the environment with the need to improve road safety and journey reliability. This includes identifying sensitive and protected flora and fauna and developing measures to reduce potential impacts on those species.

One way we're doing this on the Epping Road Upgrade is to build and install 10 bee hotels in the Wollert Secondary College school garden, with help from the students. We used soil recycled from the excavation works on the east side of Epping Road, and donated flower beds, plants, citrus trees and garden tools to the school on the day.

Bee hotels are a great tool to teach students about the diversity of nature, wildflowers, and crop pollination. The students will learn firsthand about pollination and the vital role of bees in maintaining our food supply and contributing to biodiversity and other ecosystem services.

These small structures are designed to attract native solitary bees and provide long-term accommodation where they can nest, rest and breed.

This is just one way in which the Epping Road Upgrade is creating positive and long last lasting benefits – beyond the improvement of local road infrastructure – and contributing to building better communities.



Image above: Building bee hotels with the students



## Working hours

Most of our works will take place between 7am and 6pm, Monday to Friday, and on Saturdays between 7am and 1pm. Some works may need to occur at night or on weekends to minimise impacts on traffic or utility services. If we need to work at night, we'll let you know ahead of time.

## Construction impacts

There will be some noise and vibration during construction.

Noise and vibration may be generated from moving vehicles, machinery, digging trenches, rock breaking, piling, reversing beepers or generators used to power equipment. We'll monitor noise, vibration, light towers and dust levels to ensure these impacts are kept to a minimum, especially at night. If you're likely to be affected by these works, we'll be in touch with you before they start.

*Image above: Culvert installation at Lehmanns Road*

## Stay informed

For more information, please visit our project website at [roadprojects.vic.gov.au/epping](https://roadprojects.vic.gov.au/epping)

If you have any questions about the project or our works, please contact us. Our team is available 24 hours a day.

Sign up at [roadprojects.vic.gov.au/](https://roadprojects.vic.gov.au/) **subscribe** to receive email and SMS updates direct to your phone.

## Community support services

If you need to talk to someone about how our works are impacting your health, you can call a free, confidential support service on **1300 830 687** and quote 'MRPV'.

[roadprojects.vic.gov.au](https://roadprojects.vic.gov.au)



For languages other than English please call 9209 0147

1800 105 105 (call anytime)

[contact@roadprojects.vic.gov.au](mailto:contact@roadprojects.vic.gov.au)



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