

PAKENHAM ROADS UPGRADE – STAGE 1

OCTOBER 2023



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

Since our last update, we've started piling works for the new Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road bridge over the Princes Freeway. We've installed piles in the centre median of the freeway – making way for works to start building the new bridge structure.

We've hammered 14 concrete piles 28 metres into the ground, forming a strong foundation for the centre pier that will support the new bridge. We've also:

- finished earthworks for the new McGregor Road inbound exit ramp and started works to connect the ramp to the existing roundabout
- completed underground water mains relocations along Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road north of the freeway and McGregor Road south of the freeway
- installed safety barriers along the outbound lanes of the Princes Freeway to create a safe working area for crews to begin earthworks for the new freeway lane

- dug small tunnels under the freeway to install pipes for traffic monitoring system cables
- started removing soil and vegetation along the outbound lanes of the freeway to prepare the area for building the extra lane
- begun removing soil along Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road south of the freeway to make way for the new lanes.

Above: We'll upgrade the Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road roundabouts, installing a new bridge over the Princes Freeway and traffic lights to improve traffic flow



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UPCOMING WORKS

With piling works finished, we'll start building the central bridge pier that will support the new Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road bridge. We're also close to completing the new McGregor Road inbound exit ramp, which will provide another access point for vehicles to exit the Princes Freeway to Pakenham.

In October, we'll connect the new inbound exit ramp to the existing southern freeway roundabout on McGregor Road. These works will involve building the new ramp up to the same height as the existing roundabout and laying asphalt along the new ramp, ready for traffic to use by the end of the year.

In November, we'll remove and replace asphalt along the left-hand lanes and road shoulders of the Princes Freeway to improve the road surface.

Princes Freeway closures

In November, we'll close the Princes Freeway between Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road and McGregor Road overnight and over two separate weekends while we're completing asphaltting works in this section of the freeway.

- We'll first close the outbound lanes of the freeway from **7pm Friday 10 November to 5am Monday 13 November** to replace the asphalt on the northern half of the freeway. We'll also close the Cardinia Road outbound entry ramp during this time to reduce traffic travelling outbound on the freeway.
- We'll then close the inbound lanes of the freeway overnight from **Monday 13 November to Thursday 23 November, between 8pm and 5am each night**. During these closures, we'll remove safety barriers along the freeway to create room for our crews to asphalt the inbound lanes.
- Finally, we'll close the inbound lanes of the freeway from **7pm Friday 24 November to 5am Monday 27 November** to complete the asphaltting on the southern half of the freeway.
- Detours will be in place via the Princes Highway, McGregor Road, Southeast Boulevard and Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road.

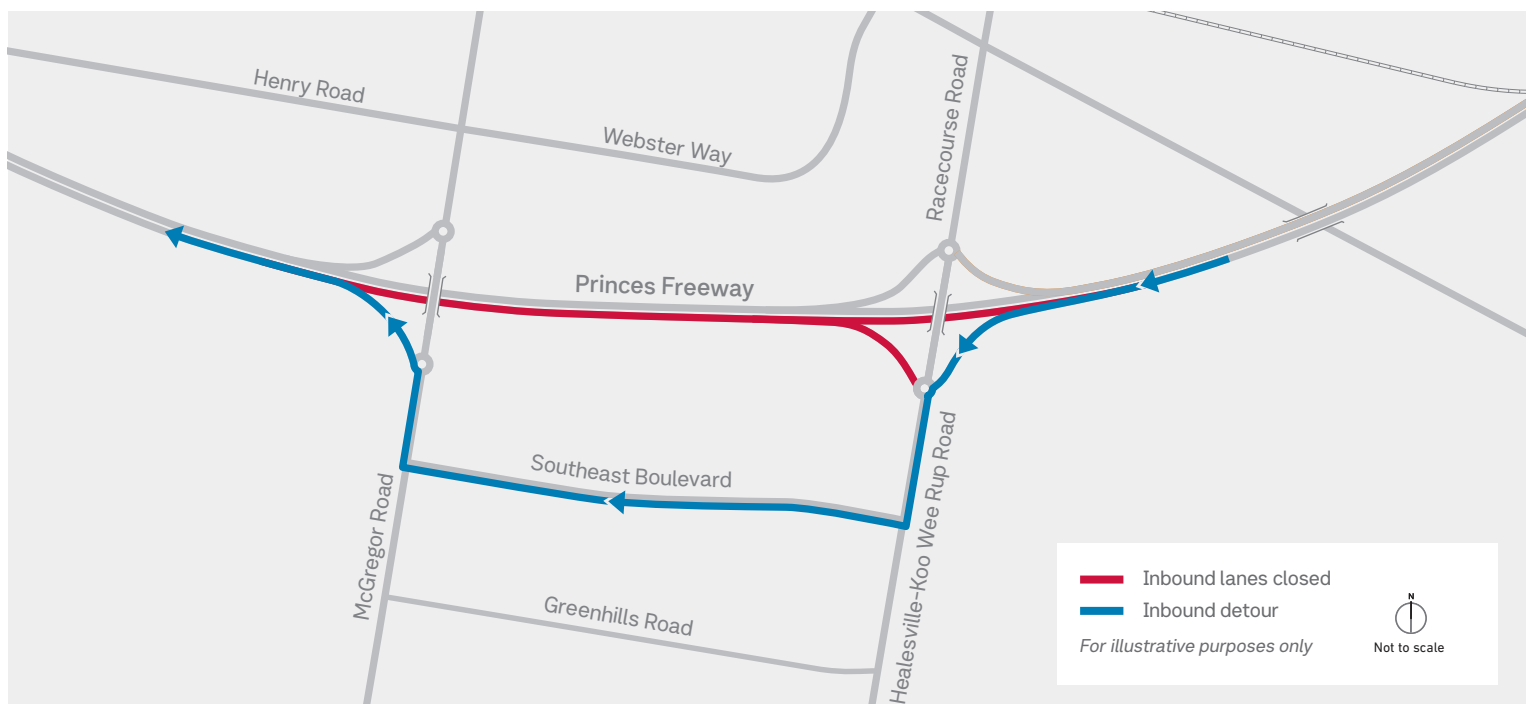
Delays of up to 25 minutes are expected, depending on the time you travel and your destination. Please plan ahead, and allow extra travel time.

These works are weather-dependent. If rain is forecast, we'll reschedule the works to occur at a later date. Please subscribe for updates via email or **SMS at bigbuild.vic.gov.au/roads-subscribe** to stay up to date on the latest information for these works.

Construction impacts

Our construction works may generate varying levels of noise and dust. We'll monitor noise and dust levels and put measures in place to ensure we're keeping impacts to a minimum. If you have any concerns about these works or think you might be affected, please contact us on **1800 105 105** or via email at **contact@bigbuild.vic.gov.au**

Overnight closure

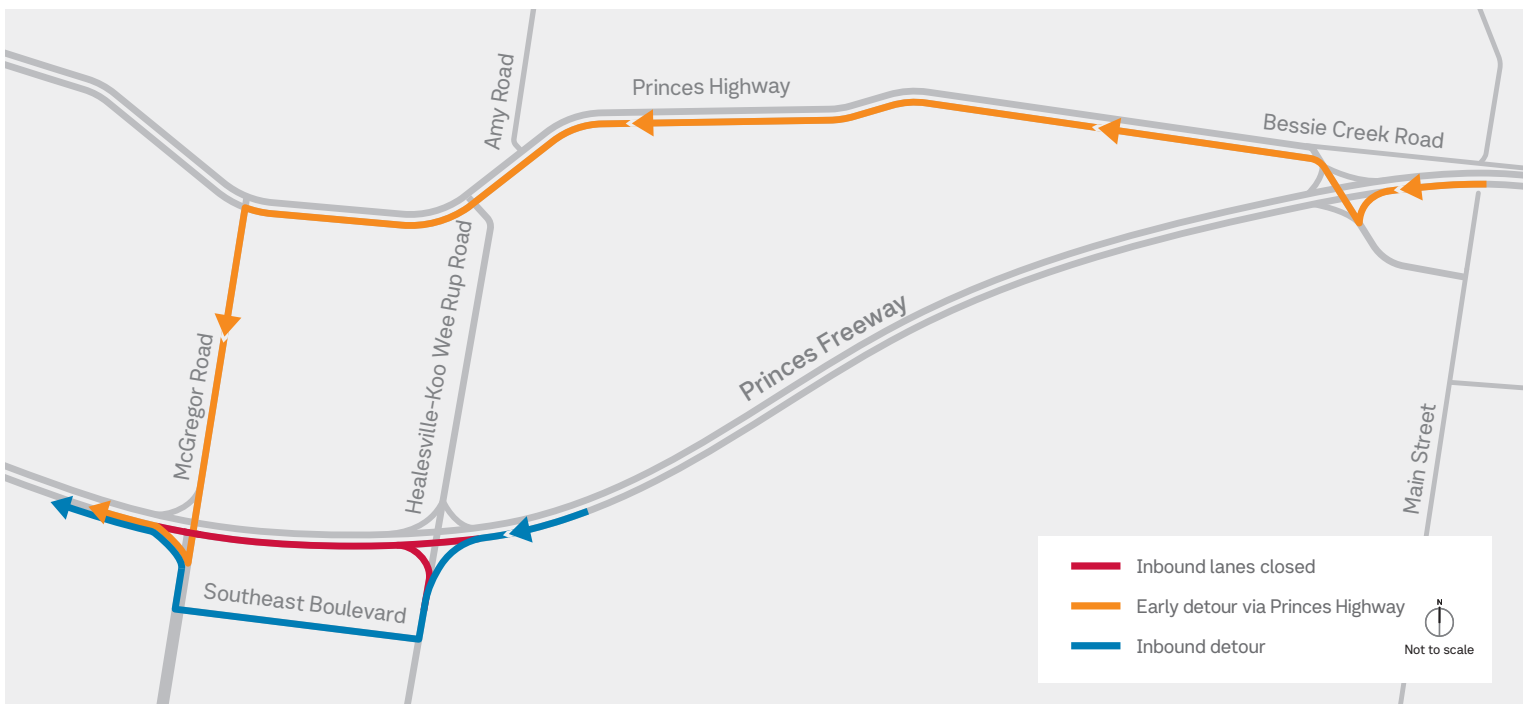


Weekend closure (10 to 13 November)



Outbound

Weekend closure (24 to 27 November)



Inbound

FAST FACTS

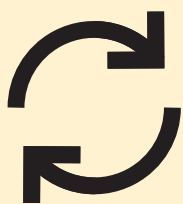


41861 

CUBIC METRES OF SOIL TRUCKED IN TO BUILD THE NEW BRIDGE EMBANKMENT

920000 ^{TONNES}

TONNES OF SOIL PLACED TO BUILD THE 9-METRE-TALL EMBANKMENTS



SOIL REUSED FROM OTHER PROJECTS TO BUILD EMBANKMENTS

43 

LAYERS OF SOIL TO BUILD THE NORTH EMBANKMENT

 38

LAYERS OF SOIL TO BUILD THE SOUTH EMBANKMENT

Making space for new lanes

One of the first steps in building a road project like the Pakenham Roads Upgrade is preparing the area for major construction.

Part of preparing the area includes moving the existing utilities you rely on every day, such as power, telecommunications, water, gas and sewerage, out of the way of the new lanes, ramps, and structures like bridges.

We've identified around 1400 metres of utilities in the project area that need to be protected, modified or relocated, and have relocated over 360 metres of pipe so far.

Usually, relocating underground utilities involves installing new services by digging trenches in the ground or drilling out small tunnels underground to lay new pipes.

In some cases, existing underground services may be safely kept in place by adding protection around the exposed service, such as concrete.

We work together with service providers to design, build and activate the new services so we can minimise disruptions to the community. We do our best to limit the impact of our utility relocation and protection work on the day-to-day lives of the community and aim for a seamless switch between old and new utility locations.

Once the utilities are safely out of the way, we can get on with building the parts of the project that will get you to where you need to go, safer and more reliably.



Above: Water utility relocation taking place on Healesville-Koo Wee Rup Road

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1800 105 105 (call anytime)

contact@bigbuild.vic.gov.au



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