

Rail bridges over Maddox Road. Artist impression only, subject to change.

Maddox Road and Champion Road, March 2025

Updated designs released for Newport level crossing removal



We're removing the level crossings at Maddox Road and Champion Road in Newport. Updated project designs have now been released.

The Maddox Road level crossing will be removed by building passenger and freight rail bridges over the road. The rail bridges will start to rise near Blenheim Road and return to ground near Challis Street.

We'll close Champion Road at the level crossing. A new link road, connecting Maddox Road to Champion Road via Akuna Drive, will open before the Champion Road level crossing is closed in 2026.

To keep the community connected we'll also build a pedestrian and cycling bridge over the rail line at Champion Road.

New project features

In response to community feedback, we're delivering a range of new project features. These include new architectural treatments on the rail bridges over Maddox Road, more trees

and greenery for the local area and new places and connections for the community to enjoy.

Project updates



Architecturally designed panels on the rail bridges and retaining walls with colour and decorative patterns and shapes



Planting 145 large trees and 30,000 plants, shrubs and grasses



A new pedestrian path linking Park Crescent and Akuna Drive



New recreational space

Why these level crossings need to go



Up to 48 trains pass through the level crossings during the morning peak



Boom gates down for around 50 minutes of the morning peak



Improved safety for drivers, bike riders and pedestrians



Sign up for updates
levelcrossings.vic.gov.au



Newport Level Crossing Removals precinct plan

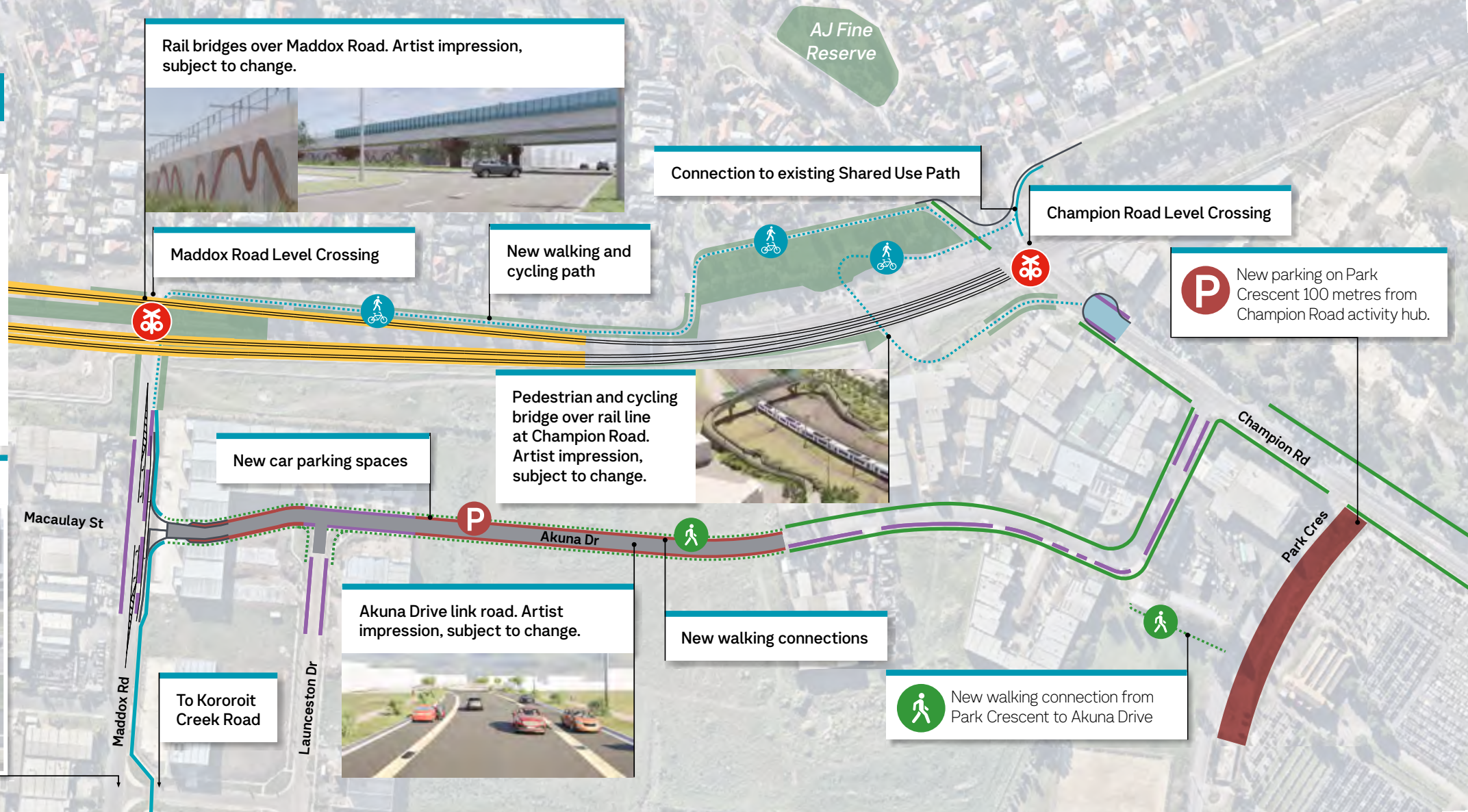
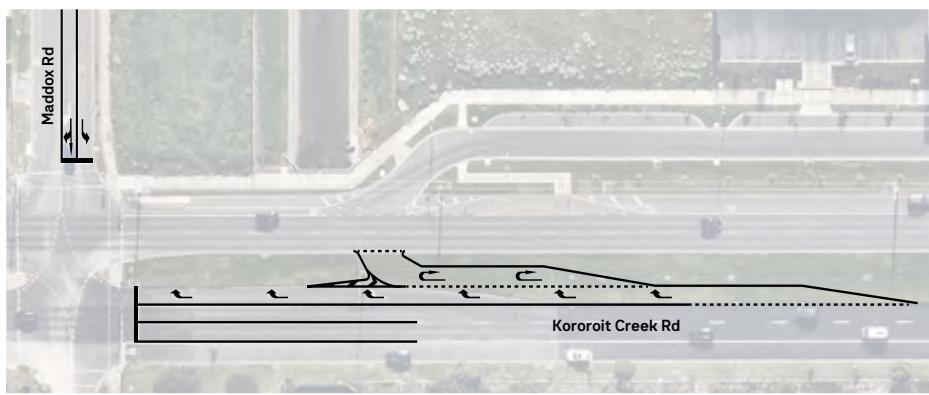
Aerial view of Maddox Road, Champion Road and Akuna Drive extension. Concept only, subject to change.

Legend

- Link road alignment
- Champion Road changes
- Car parking to be removed
- Landscaping and native grass
- New car parks
- New footpath
- New Shared Use Path
- Existing footpath
- Existing Shared Use Path
- Level crossings gone for good in 2026

Indicative only. Subject to change.
Satellite image: August 2024

Upgrading the Maddox Road and Kororoit Creek Road intersection



Brighter bridges, greener spaces and stronger local connections

In response to your feedback, we’ve updated the designs with new architectural treatments on the rail bridges and retaining walls, more trees and greenery and new local connections and recreational space for the community to enjoy.

Visually enhancing the rail bridges

We’re adding vibrant new architecturally designed panels on the rail bridges to reflect the community’s request to improve the look and feel of the local area. A touch of colour will also be added to concrete retaining walls. Both designs will include

decorative patterns and shapes, bringing new life to the space.

Adding more greenery

We know that trees and vegetation are important to you. So, we’re increasing the number of large trees we will plant from 90 to 145. This, combined with our commitment to plant 30,000 plants, shrubs and grasses, will increase the tree canopy and contribute to greening the local area.

Improving accessibility

A new pedestrian path has been added in Quarry Reserve next to the Williamstown Horse and Pony Club. This new path will make it easier and safer for locals, workers and visitors parking on Park Crescent to access nearby businesses on Akuna Drive.

We will also be working with Hobsons Bay City Council (HBCC) to investigate additional cycling connections in the area, such as a new shared use path at Rosshire Road.

Maddox Road safety improvements

We are working with local council to ensure that any upgrades on Maddox Road complement the project and keep traffic flowing safely.

More spaces for the community to enjoy

We’ve identified two locations for new recreational space – Market Street and within AJ Fine reserve at 122 Champion Road. We want your feedback on these locations and how to make best use of the space.

The new recreational space will provide a welcoming space where locals can connect, relax and feel a sense of belonging within the community.

New recreational space

We’ve identified two locations for new recreational space – Market Street and within AJ Fine Reserve. The new recreational space will provide a welcoming area where locals can connect, relax and feel a sense of belonging within the community. We want your feedback on these locations and how to make best use of the space. Visit engage.vic.gov.au/lxrp-newport to complete the survey.



Market Street

A tree lined street, this location will allow for seating, grassed areas or nature play.

AJ Fine Reserve

Located within a five-minute walk from the project area and the Champion Road activity hub, the reserve is ideally located to become a new pocket park. Options for inclusion could include a space with grassed areas, nature play or picnic tables.



Early works are underway

A project of this size and scale involves months of planning. We carefully schedule works to ensure efficient use of large machinery and minimise disruption during construction.



Surveying as part of early works

Early works for the project have begun and activities in the lead up to major construction will include:

- setting up site offices and facilities
- fencing off work areas to keep the community and our workforce safe
- relocating utility services and undertaking drainage works in preparation for the new rail infrastructure
- removing trees and vegetation that will be impacted by the project

- starting works for the combined services route, which houses the wiring that powers and controls signals, internal rail network telecommunications and power supplies to trains and other parts of the rail network
- relocating power lines and underground telecom lines, where required.

Residents and businesses in the local area will receive more details ahead of any works.



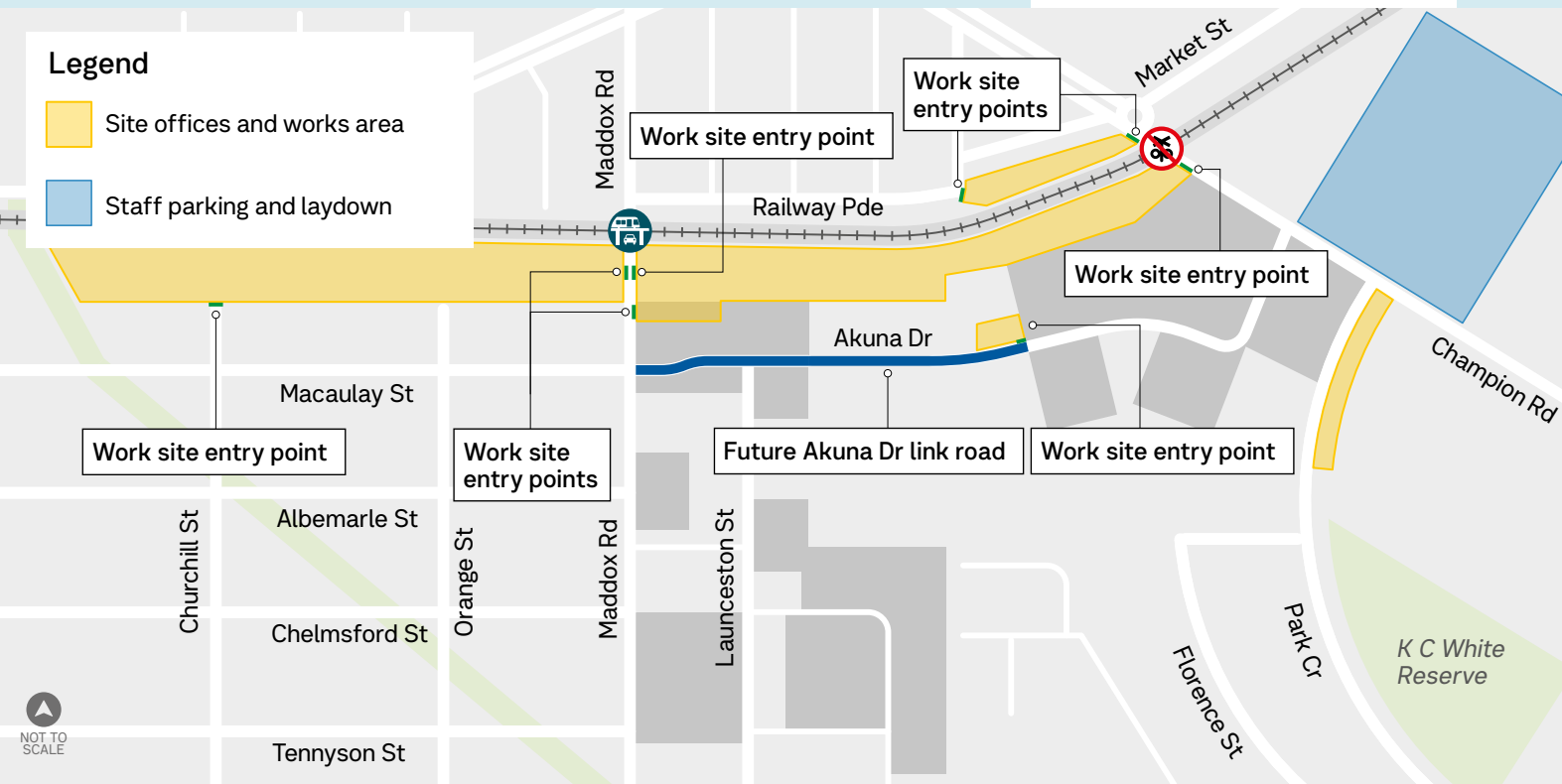
Setting up site facilities

To prepare for construction, we are setting up site facilities for our project team, including temporary site offices. During this time, you will see an increase in construction workers and vehicles in the area.

These sites will primarily be used during normal daytime construction hours: Monday to Friday between 7am and 6pm and Saturday between 7am and 3pm, with some out of hours works required at times.

When required we'll also work on weekends or at night for major construction. We'll give residents plenty of notice.

We'll keep local residents and traders informed about ongoing works taking place in the area.



Thanks for having your say

Through November and December 2024, we asked you to help us shape aspects of the design for the new pedestrian and cycling bridge over the rail line at Champion Road.

We received 115 online submissions with the most popular themes for the bridge resting points being the unique natural environment that can be seen along the Hobsons Bay Coastal Trail closely followed by Newport's industrial heritage.

We also heard that:

- it is important to you to have safe walking and cycling connections
- having more accessible paths will encourage you to walk and cycle through your local area.

Your feedback will contribute towards the final designs for the pedestrian and cycling bridge.

You can find out more about what we heard from the community in our consultation reports at levelcrossings.vic.gov.au/newport



Pedestrian and cycling bridge over the rail line at Champion Road. Artist impression only, subject to change.

Have your
say

Help shape
the design



AJ Fine Reserve
at Champion Road

Have your say and help shape Newport's newest recreational area

You told us that new outdoor spaces are important for the community.

In response to your feedback, we've identified two locations for new recreational spaces: Market Street and within AJ Fine Reserve.

Give us your feedback on the potential recreational space locations and what features you would like to see.

Your ideas will help us create new recreational space, whether it's activity areas, seating options, playground equipment, or something else.



Complete the survey

Scan the QR code or visit engage.vic.gov.au/lxrp-newport to complete the survey and together we'll create a community space for everyone to enjoy.

Stay up to date

The best way to stay up to date with the project is to:



Sign up to email updates at levelcrossings.vic.gov.au/subscribe



Register for SMS updates by texting **NEWPORT** to **0429 839 892**



Call us on **1800 105 105**



Email contact@levelcrossings.vic.gov.au

Project timeline



Late 2022

Project announced



2023

Vision and values
engagement

Early site investigations
and planning



Early 2024

Planning consultation
and community surveys

Stakeholder Liaison
Group meetings begin

Continue site
investigations
and planning



Late 2024

Designs released

Early works begin



2025

Updated designs
released

Major works begin

Final designs release



2026

New link road opens

Champion Road level
crossing closed

Maddox Road level
crossing removed

Newport level
crossing free

* Timeline subject to change.

levelcrossings.vic.gov.au

contact@levelcrossings.vic.gov.au



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English, please call 9209 0147.

1800 105 105 (call anytime)

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