



BallaratLine

UPGRADE

What we heard from you

New station layouts

About the project

The Australian and Victorian governments are upgrading the Ballarat line to deliver more trains and improved reliability for Melbourne's outer western suburbs, Melton, Bacchus Marsh, Ballan and Ballarat.



The Ballarat Line Upgrade is an important project for regional Victoria and Melbourne's outer western areas. Once complete, it will improve access to jobs, social activities and services for thousands of people who rely on the Ballarat line.

The Melbourne Metro Rail Authority (MMRA) has recently been engaging with communities along the Ballarat line to keep them informed and involved in the project as designs develop.

Your feedback

As part of the Ballarat Line Upgrade, we're upgrading Rockbank, Bacchus Marsh and Ballan stations.

Consultation on these station upgrades began in late August 2017. This included an online survey on the Ballarat Line Upgrade website which displayed early designs of the proposed station layouts.

To support this, MMRA also held three pop-up consultation sessions at each station in August, speaking with more than 550 commuters.

Community drop-in sessions were also hosted at Rockbank Hall, Lerderberg Library in Bacchus Marsh and the Ballan Mechanics Institute in September. Team members provided information about the proposed station upgrades, answered questions and gathered feedback from local residents.

During this period, there were more than 2,000 visits to the project website and 150 surveys submitted.



Australian Government

BUILDING OUR FUTURE



Engagement snapshot

Engagement type	Facts and figures
Station pop-up sessions	580 conversations at Rockbank, Bacchus Marsh and Ballan stations during August
Community drop-in sessions	70 conversations with community members at community drop-in sessions during September
Online engagement	2,177 visits to the Ballarat Line Upgrade website during the station consultation period
Surveys (online and printed)	150 surveys received

What we heard from you

Better access to platforms for all users, including wheelchairs and prams

Improved station facilities with better access to ticketing and passenger information

More car parking and better connections with buses and taxis

Better lighting and closed-circuit television (CCTV) camera coverage

Functional stations that complement local heritage areas

Nice landscaping and plants that fit in with the area

Rockbank station



Benefits

Rockbank station will be upgraded to cater for the growing local community.



Works will include:

- Demolition of the existing station
- Rebuilding two new platforms
- Construction of a new accessible pedestrian overpass linking the north and south platforms
- Providing a sealed carpark, bus bays, taxi bays, secure bike storage areas and drop-off zones
- Future proofing for possible future station and track expansion

Station design feedback

27%

Safety and security

26%

Parking and transport

21%

Station facilities

19%

Access and connections

4%

Heritage and integration

3%

Landscaping and vegetation



Top three aspects that received the most feedback

27%

Safety and security

We heard that lighting (clearly lit platforms, waiting areas, safety zones, pedestrian pathways, and car parks), CCTV cameras, and emergency assistance intercoms are important for station users.

26%

Parking and transport

Road safety and providing safe pedestrian and vehicle access to Leakes Road and providing enough car parking spaces to cater for future growth is important to local residents.

21%

Station facilities

We heard that easy to access myki machines, better information displays, as well as adequate shelter from weather (including covered overpasses, waiting areas and bike facilities) are important.

Bacchus Marsh station



Benefits

Bacchus Marsh station will be upgraded to cater for the growing local community. The station precinct will be designed to respect the existing heritage buildings while improving the experience for commuters.



Works will include:

- Building a new platform
- Removal of the existing train storage facilities
- Additional parking, bicycle hoops and drop-off zones on the south side of the station
- Improved layout of bus bays
- Construction of a new accessible pedestrian overpass linking the north and south platforms
- No significant changes to the existing station building

Station design feedback

23%

Parking and transport

21%

Access and connections

18%

Heritage and integration

15%

Safety and security

15%

Station facilities

8%

Landscaping and vegetation



Top three aspects that received the most feedback

23%

Parking and transport

Improved traffic access around the station is important to the community, especially around Parwan Road. This also includes better pick-up and drop-off zones, bus connections and parking.

21%

Access and connections

We heard that ensuring access for the elderly and mobility impaired is extremely important. This includes installing pathways and overpasses wide enough to accommodate wheelchairs, scooters and prams.

18%

Heritage and integration

Feedback emphasised the importance of preserving heritage aspects of the station. This includes retaining the historic turntable and ensuring any new infrastructure is sympathetic to the existing station buildings.

Ballan station



Benefits

Ballan station will be upgraded to cater for the growing local community. An extra platform will be added to improve train services by allowing two trains travelling in opposite directions to arrive at the same time. The station precinct will also be designed to respect the existing heritage buildings.



Works will include:

- Building a new platform
- Construction of a new accessible pedestrian overpass linking the north and south platforms
- No significant changes to the existing station building
- Improved layout of bus bays
- New bicycle facilities including secure bike storage

Station design feedback

22%

Access and connections

21%

Heritage and integration

16%

Safety and security

16%

Parking and transport

14%

Station facilities

11%

Landscaping and vegetation



Top three aspects that received the most feedback

22%

Access and connections

Feedback highlighted the need for easy access for all people, especially elderly and disabled persons. Weatherproofing, including covered walkways and footbridges with non-slip surfaces are also important.

21%

Heritage and integration

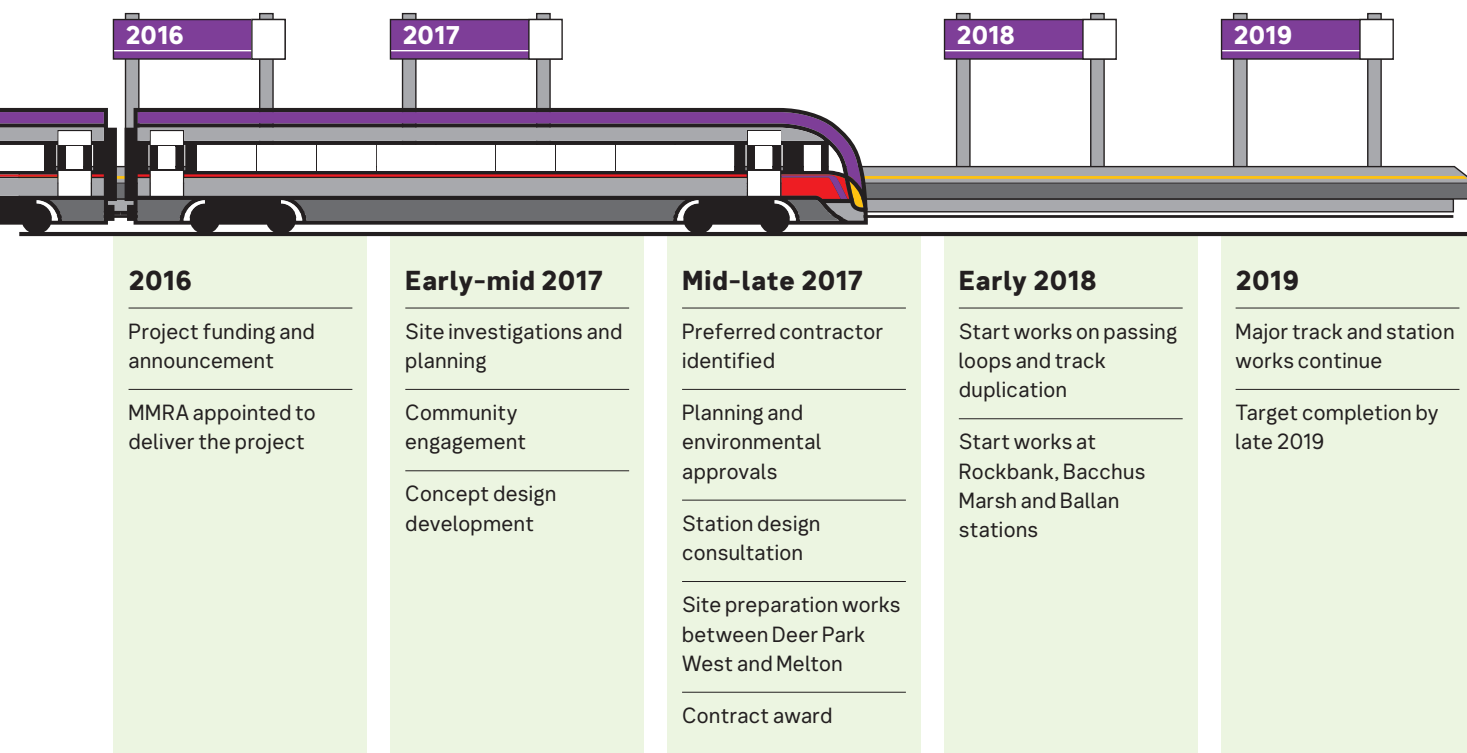
We heard that retaining the heritage aspects of Ballan station is rated highly. Any new infrastructure such as overpasses and shelters should also be integrated with the existing look and feel of the station.

16%

Safety and security measures

Clearly lit areas (platforms, waiting areas, safety zones, pedestrian pathways, and car parks), more CCTV cameras as well as emergency assistance intercoms are important for station users.

Project timeline



Other feedback

Although all feedback is valued, some of the comments received were considered out of scope for the Ballarat Line Upgrade.

Out of scope feedback included:

- Requests for manned station hours to be extended and the presence of Protective Service Officers (PSOs)
- Requests to remove level crossings near stations, including at Leakes Road (Rockbank), Parwan Road (Bacchus Marsh) and Stead Street (Ballan)
- Questions about additional bus routes, changes to bus timetables and providing more frequent bus services to stations and surrounding areas
- Requests for further track duplication and additional platforms, as well as infrastructure to provide for electrification to Rockbank and Bacchus Marsh
- Requests for improved technology on trains including access to Wi-Fi
- Feedback about the costs of ticket prices for travel on the Ballarat line and potential increases to myki fare rates

These comments have been passed on to the relevant responsible agencies for consideration.

What's next?

Feedback gathered during recent consultation will be considered as we continue to develop the station designs.

Feedback from all community pop-ups, drop-in sessions and surveys has been provided to the construction contractor – a consortium comprising of Lendlease, Coleman Rail and SMEC – to inform their design work.

We want to thank everyone who has contributed feedback on station designs and we look forward to providing updates on the project as it progresses.

Sign up for more project updates online.

Contact Us

For more information about the Ballarat Line Upgrade:

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Interpreter
Service

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Arabic

العربية

Russian

Русский

Cantonese

廣東話

Serbian

Српски

Greek

Ελληνικά

Sinhalese

සිංහල

Italian

Italiano

Spanish

Español

Korean

한국어

Turkish

Türkçe

Macedonian

Македонски

Vietnamese

Tiếng Việt

Mandarin

普通话