



Artist's impression of Watsonia Road landscaped bridge

# Building better connections for Watsonia

Fact sheet  
May 2026



We're completing the M80 Ring Road, delivering new lanes through to Plenty Road and a seamless connection to the North East Link tunnels – taking 19,000 cars and trucks a day off Greensborough Road and giving local roads back to local people.

Works are well underway to build the landscaped bridges at Watsonia Road and Elder Street.

These new bridges will improve local connections to Watsonia Station and provide a green gateway to Watsonia shops.

Once completed, the bridges will keep local traffic at street level and move through traffic to the lowered express lanes, reducing congestion and making it easier and safer to travel about the area.

The wider walking and cycling paths on the bridges will mean safer trips with better access that connects to more than 10 kilometres of new and upgraded paths being delivered as part of M80 Ring Road Completion.

Greensborough Highway will continue to provide toll-free local access and is being rebuilt to join the new bridges for smoother journeys. The lanes will be for local trips between Greensborough, Watsonia, and Rosanna.

As we continue building the M80 Ring Road, the Watsonia Road landscaped bridge will keep traffic moving during Elder Street landscaped bridge construction and major excavation for the lowered express lanes to the North East Link tunnels.

Access to Elder Street will change during this period and will be maintained via temporary arrangements.



For the latest updates on what's happening in Watsonia, visit [bigbuild.vic.gov.au/roads/watsonia-precinct](https://bigbuild.vic.gov.au/roads/watsonia-precinct) or scan the QR code.

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Artist's impression of Elder Street intersection

## How we're building the new landscaped bridges and the express lanes to the North East Link tunnels.

To keep traffic moving and maintain connectivity in Watsonia, construction is happening in carefully planned stages.

### Stage 1: Watsonia Road landscaped bridge works underway

In August 2024, the Watsonia Road intersection with Greensborough Highway was realigned. Earlier in the year the commuter car park at Watsonia Station was relocated to Frensham Reserve, which provided space for traffic lanes to move closer to the Watsonia shops in the former car park area.

This was the first step toward building the Watsonia Road landscaped bridge with works continuing behind barriers. Over the following 18 months, construction activities included installing underground foundations, placing end and middle supports, setting concrete beams, and preparing the bridge deck.



Temporary bus stops at Watsonia Station

### Stage 2: Watsonia Station temporary access changes

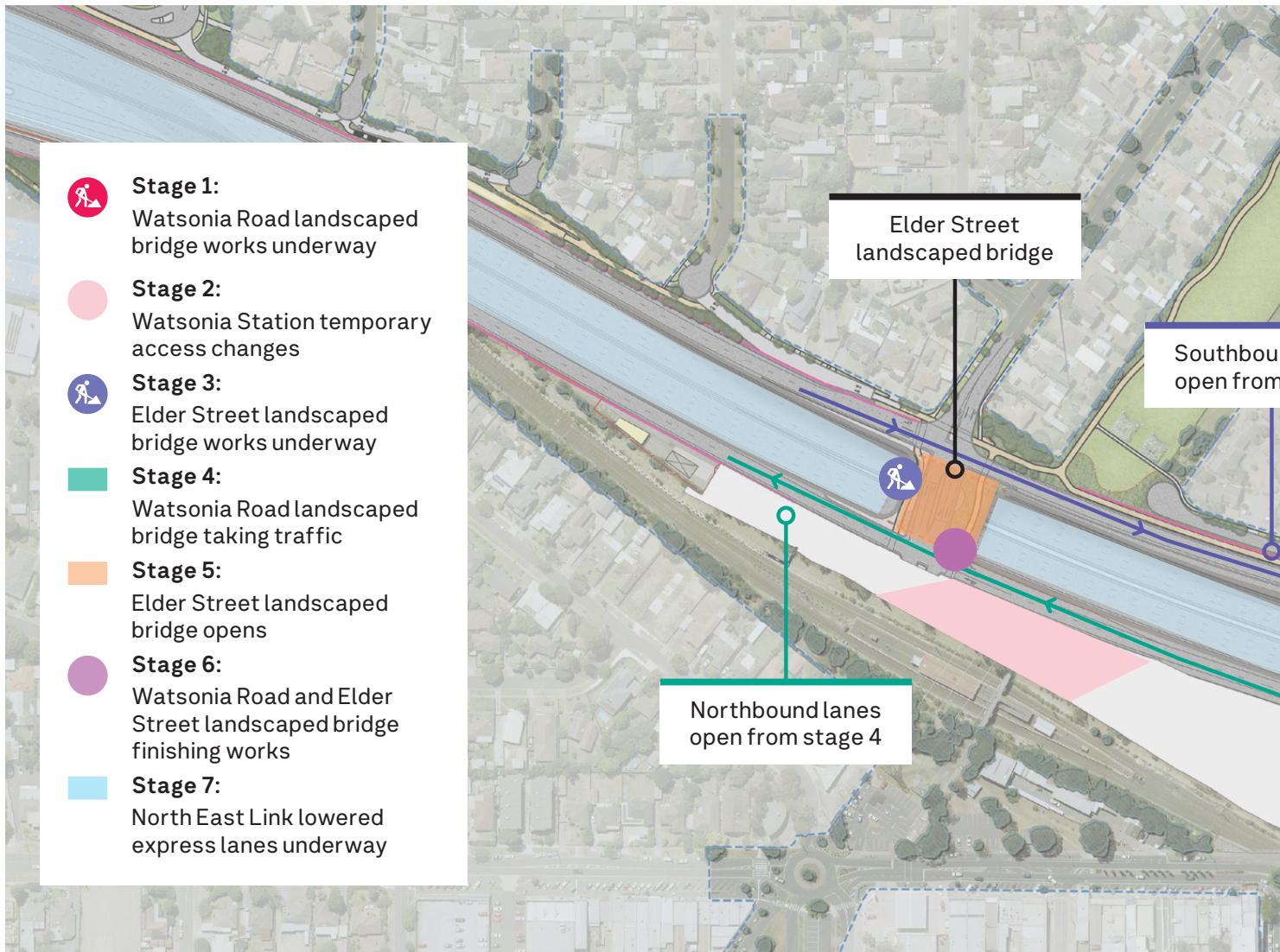
In October 2025, temporary access changes were introduced at Watsonia Station car park. Entry to the car park became one-way from Greensborough Highway northbound with a new signalised intersection installed for vehicles exiting north or south.

The bus stops were relocated into a streamlined loop to support service reliability and reduce congestion. This created space for the Elder Street landscaped bridge foundation works to begin.

### Walking and cycling access

During construction in Watsonia, walking and cycling access to the station and shops will remain available with a strong focus on safety and accessibility for all.

At times, some footpaths and walking and cycling paths may need to be temporarily closed or redirected. Clear signage and wayfinding will be in place to help guide people around worksites and toward their destination.



### Stage 3: Elder Street landscaped bridge works underway

From May 2026, Greensborough Highway northbound lanes will shift into the former commuter car park at Watsonia Station to become the first permanent lanes for the upgraded arterial Greensborough Highway. This involves building new roadway, including pavement, drainage, traffic signals, barriers and line marking. The new traffic lanes will seamlessly connect with temporary access changes already in place at Watsonia Station. These changes will maintain traffic flow as works ramp up to complete the Elder Street landscaped bridge.

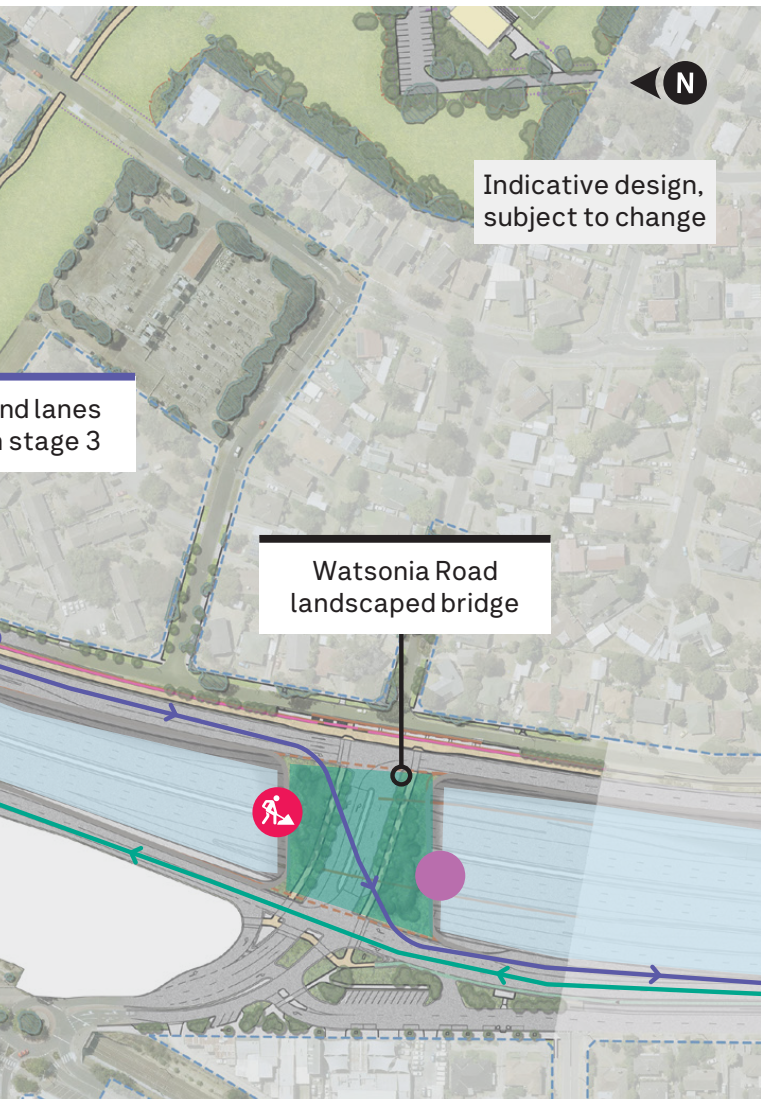
### Stage 4: Watsonia Road landscaped bridge taking traffic

From mid-2026, Greensborough Highway southbound lanes will move onto the new roadway built on top of the retaining walls near Dennett Street and Service Road. These lanes will cross the Watsonia Road landscaped bridge before continuing south along Greensborough Highway, onto Watsonia Road and northbound on Greensborough Highway. A signalised U-turn north of Elder Street will temporarily replace right turns from Greensborough Highway.

The pedestrian crossing at the Elder Street intersection will be temporarily closed during bridge works, and the signalised intersection near the Frensham Reserve commuter car park will become the main Greensborough Highway crossing in the area. These changes clear the central corridor ready to remove the existing Greensborough Highway ahead of major excavation.



Greensborough Highway works



## Construction Snapshot

- **August 2024**  
Watsonia Road landscaped bridge works underway
- **October 2025**  
Watsonia Station temporary access changes
- **Early 2026**  
Elder Street landscaped bridge works underway
- **Mid-2026**  
Watsonia Road landscaped bridge opens on temporary lanes
- **Late 2026**  
Elder Street landscaped bridge opens
- **Late 2026**  
North East Link lowered express lanes works underway

## Managing construction impacts

We have strict controls in place to manage potential construction impacts during works.

If you have any concerns, please call our project team 24/7 on **1800 105 105**.

### Stage 5: Elder Street landscaped bridge opens

In late 2026, the completed Elder Street landscaped bridge will connect to the new northbound and southbound lanes. This change will reinstate right turns to Elder Street and allow the signalised U-turn to be removed while major excavation progresses in the central corridor.

The pedestrian crossing at the Elder Street intersection will be restored with new and improved walking and cycling paths. The upgraded Greensborough Highway in Watsonia will be substantially completed, although some temporary arrangements will remain.



Greensborough Highway realignment works

### Stage 6: Watsonia Road and Elder Street landscaped bridge finishing works

Following stage 5, we'll make further changes to the way motorists use the Watsonia Road landscaped bridge. In 2027, we'll finalise the Watsonia Road intersection to make way for the connection to the new Greensborough Road boulevard and service road south of Watsonia Road.

Walking and cycling path construction, road surfacing and line marking, lighting and signage, planting and irrigation, barriers and rails, and pavement and signal works on both landscaped bridges will continue until project completion. Some works may be done overnight and require temporary pedestrian and traffic changes to keep people moving.

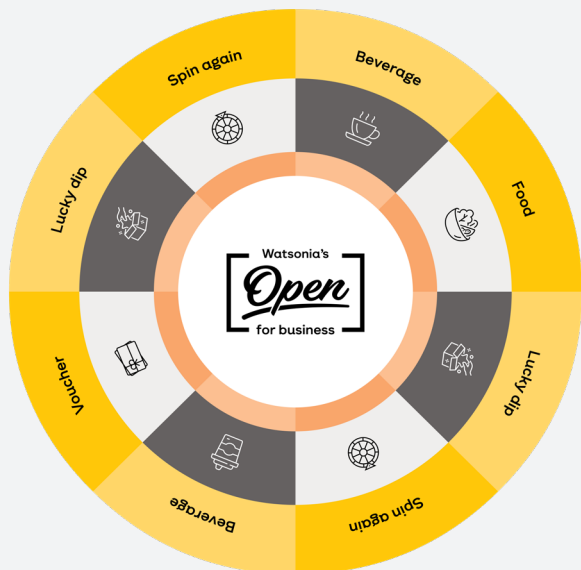
### Stage 7: North East Link lowered express lanes underway

From late 2026, construction will focus on building the lowered express lanes to the North East Link tunnels. This includes completing major excavation in the central corridor, installing strong retaining walls and ground anchors for stability, and building new roadway beneath the landscaped bridges. Construction of the new Watsonia Station car park will continue alongside these works until project completion.

## Spin, win, and celebrate local!

Get ready for new way to show your love for local traders. The Spin and Win is rolling out soon, bringing giveaways, surprises, and fun for our community.

Also, keep an eye out for our signature tote bags, printed locally and packed with locally sourced products.



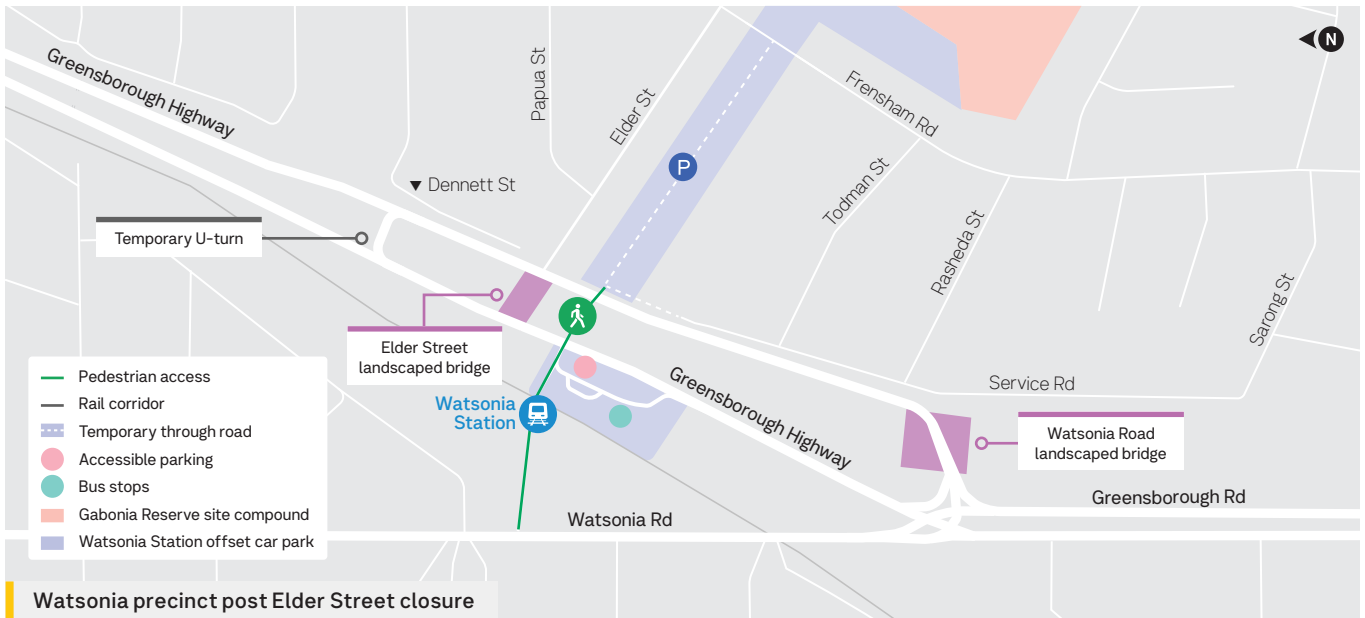
## Connect with your local traders

The M80 Ring Road Completion is proud to have partnered with local traders to deliver the current edition of the Trader Directory.

Look out for the next edition coming out soon.



Anchor Fish and Chips as seen in the summer edition of the Trader Directory



## Greensborough Highway traffic disruptions

As works progress in stages, there will be traffic disruptions on Greensborough Highway in Watsonia. To keep traffic moving during the day, we're planning for these to happen overnight whenever possible.

During 2026, Greensborough Highway will experience nightly single and double lane closures in both northbound and southbound directions.

In May 2026, over several nights, northbound traffic will temporarily use southbound lanes under traffic management. Following this, Elder Street will be fully closed at Greensborough Highway for three weeks. A major weekend blitz on Greensborough Highway, with delays expected, will then restore left in/left out access to Elder Street using a temporary signalised U-turn.

Please allow extra time for your journey and plan ahead.



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## Elder Street signalised U-turn

Building the Elder Street landscaped bridge will require temporary traffic arrangements to maintain local access. In mid 2026, right turns from Greensborough Highway onto Elder Street will be replaced by a temporary signalised U-turn. Here's how it will work:

### Approach Elder Street

Travelling north on Greensborough Road, look for signage directing to the U-turn bay north of Elder Street.

### Enter the U-turn Bay

Move into the designated turn lane as directed and enter the queue.

### Complete the U-turn

When safe and the signals allow, make the U-turn to head south on Greensborough Highway.

### Turn into Elder Street

Continue south and make a left turn into Elder Street.

For right turns from Elder Street onto Greensborough Highway, first turn left and then make a U-turn at the Watsonia Road intersection to head north and continue your journey.

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

1800 105 105 (call anytime)



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For languages other than English please call 9209 0147

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