

Building the Eastern Busway at the Chandler Highway interchange

Fact sheet

September 2026

BIG BUILD
EASTERN FREEWAY



Eastern Freeway Ringwood-bound and Eastern Busway bridge

We're upgrading the Eastern Freeway with a new Eastern Busway, smart technology, new walking and cycling paths, and a connection to North East Link – slashing travel times and improving travel in Melbourne's east.

Since early May 2026, you may have noticed large concrete pillars in the middle of the freeway and at the Chandler Highway Ringwood-bound exit ramp. These foundations will support construction of the Eastern Busway bridge that will take city-bound buses towards the Hoddle Street exit.

Since June we've also been concreting a retaining wall at the base of the busway bridge. From September you'll start to see this structure take shape as exterior panels are added and the wall reaches a height of up to 7m.

When complete in 2028, the Eastern Busway will provide dedicated bus lanes, separated from traffic, along the Eastern Freeway from Doncaster Road to Hoddle Street, cutting travel times for 6 million passengers that use the freeway buses each year.



Busway bridge pier taking shape in the centre median

Busway key facts



11km

of dedicated, express bus lanes along the Eastern Freeway from Doncaster Road to Hoddle Street



100km/hr

travel speeds up to



30%

faster travel times up to



6 million

bus trips a year



Opening in 2028

with North East Link and the upgraded Eastern Freeway



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Construction timeline



2026

- Build foundations for the busway bridge over the Eastern Freeway
- Dig out and shape the ground for new ramps
- Install concrete panels for the retaining wall
- Build support posts to hold up the bridge and ramps



2027

- Eastern Busway and new Chandler Highway exit ramp major construction



2028

- Eastern Busway and new Chandler Highway exit ramp operational
- Project complete



Scan to learn more

To learn more about the busway and how it connects from Doncaster to Hoddle Street, check out the Victoria's [Big Build website](https://www.bigbuild.vic.gov.au).



Chandler Highway Ringwood-bound exit ramp and Eastern Busway

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