



# LEVEL CROSSING REMOVAL PROJECT

# BRIDGE BUILDING IS UNDERWAY

MELTON HIGHWAY  
ISSUE #5 – JULY 2017

The bridge on the south side of Melton Highway has started to emerge as major construction to remove the dangerous level crossing continues in Sydenham.

In mid-May we shifted all four lanes of traffic onto the north side of the highway, clearing the space for us to start building the bridge on the south side. This construction method means we can focus on safely building the bridge while traffic can continue to flow alongside it.

We completed the foundations for the bridge in late May after drilling more than 50 'piles' to support the bridge structure. These piles are holes drilled

up to five metres deep into the ground, then filled with steel and concrete to provide a stable base.

In June we started to build the reinforced earth wall. This wall will gradually grow to a maximum height of around 8 metres as it approaches the railway line. We will then place large bridge beams over the railway line to connect the two sides.

We expect this first section of the bridge to be taking traffic before the end of this year, with the boom gates gone for good. Once this happens, we will start to build the other half of the bridge on the northern side of the highway, before connecting the two.



For more information about how you can get involved, visit [levelcrossings.vic.gov.au](http://levelcrossings.vic.gov.au)



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# WEEKEND CLOSURE OF MELTON HIGHWAY AND SUNBURY RAIL LINE

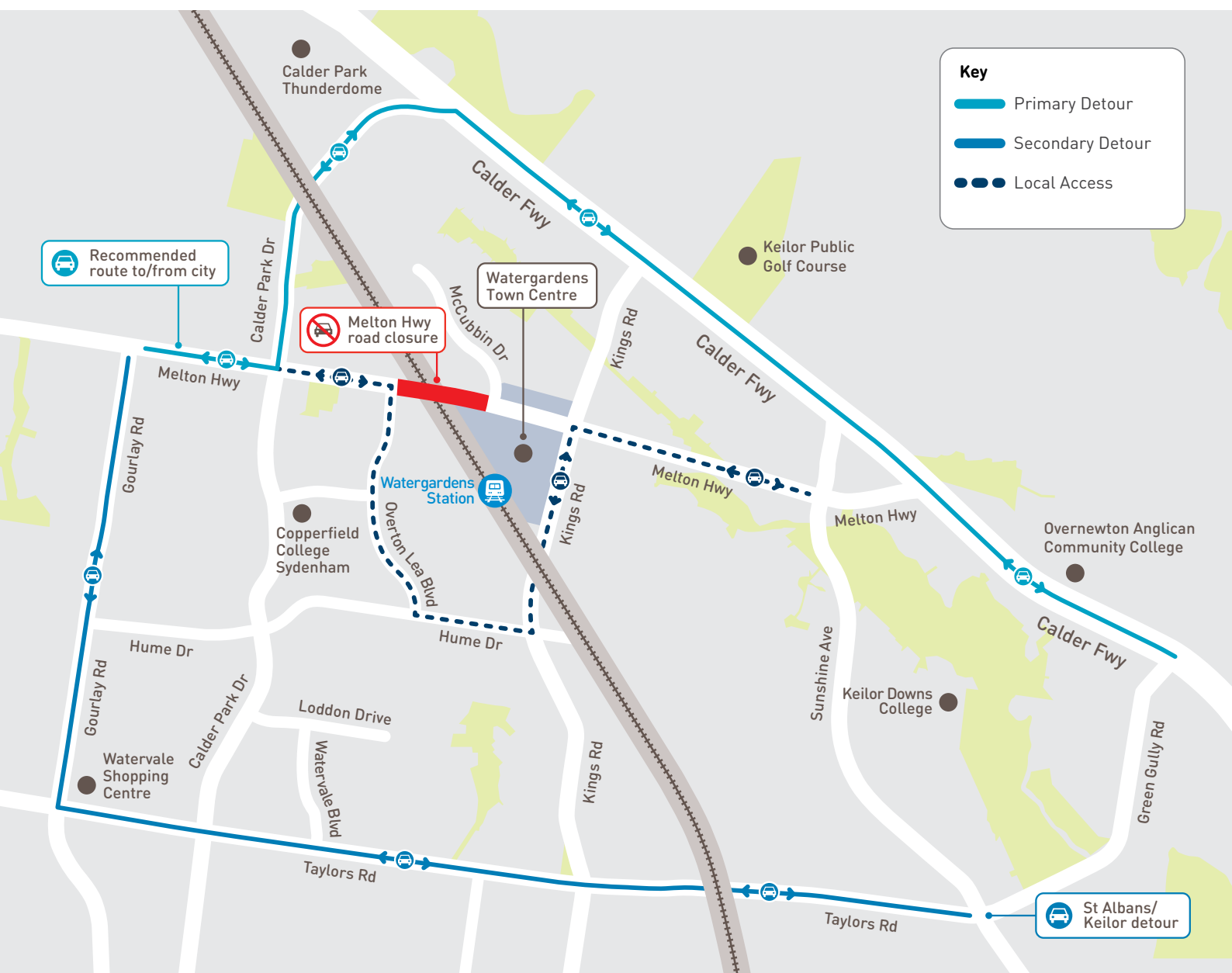
Melton Highway will be closed at the level crossing from 8.00pm Friday 28 July until the early morning of Monday 31 July. During this period, trains will be replaced by buses between Sunbury and Sunshine.

In order to complete the works safely and efficiently, Melton Highway will be closed at the level crossing so that the overhead electrical wires for the trains can be lowered to allow installation of the bridge beams. There will be detours in place to help drivers get where they need to go. These detour routes are outlined in the map below.

Local businesses, including Watergardens Town Centre will remain

open for business as usual, so please come and support your local traders.

The level crossing will also be closed to pedestrians and cyclists due to the lowered electrical wires. The nearest crossing is at Watergardens Station. Due to the length of this pedestrian detour, we have arranged alternative transport to get pedestrians from one side to the other. Please call our team on 1800 762 667 if you need assistance with your travel.





## We moved the level crossing

To keep traffic flowing safely, we recently shifted the level crossing to the north.

To achieve this, we worked around the clock over a weekend in mid-May, and stopped trains from running so that work could be done safely on and around the tracks. Thank you for your patience while we got this work done.

Moving the boom gates involved lifting them out of the ground with a crane,

modifying each beam so that it fitted in its new location, installing it back into the ground and connecting it back up to electricity. Once electricity was restored, we extensively tested the boom gates to make sure they were operating safely before the trains started running again.

## Victoria Road traffic changes

For the safety of drivers and pedestrians, there will soon be changes to access in and out of Melton Highway from Victoria Road.

You will see large machinery, heavy material and workers operating on and near Victoria Road.

There will be signs, traffic management and detours so people can still access their homes and businesses.



### Information sessions

Our team held a pop-up information session at Watergardens Station in May, where we handed out information and free coffee to commuters.

We also visited the Watergardens Town Centre, where we spoke to community members and provided information on changes to the road network that began in mid-May.

Our next information sessions will be from 9.00am - 5.00pm Saturday 22 July and 10.00am - 5.00pm Sunday 23 July at Watergardens Town Centre, near Bakers Delight. Please come along to meet the team and learn more about the project

# Project timeline

## ✓ January - March 2017

- Geotechnical works around the level crossing
- Initial investigatory works and surveying
- Establish construction site near the level crossing

## ✓ April - May 2017

- Build bridge foundations
- Temporarily widen the north of Melton Highway, relocate services, install temporary traffic signals, shift the level crossing slightly to the north

## ✓ Mid 2017

- Two lanes of traffic in each direction switched to the north of Melton Highway over the temporary level crossing
- Construction of the bridge on the south side of Melton Highway commences (stage one works)

## ○ Late 2017

- Completion of stage one bridge and road works
- Two lanes of traffic in each direction will switch over to the new bridge on the south side of Melton Highway
- Removal of the Melton Highway boom gates
- Construction of the bridge on the north side of Melton Highway (stage two works)

## ○ 2018

- Construction of north side bridge continues
- Sydenham and Victoria roads are joined under the bridge
- Landscaping and under-bridge paving works

## ○ Late 2018

Project completion

# What's coming up next?

We are building the south side of the bridge (stage one works), which will be completed by late-2017.

Major construction works will include cranes lifting up to 24 'Super-T' concrete beams (like those pictured below) into place, large rollers to compress road and pathway surfaces, the construction of the bridge retaining walls, and the creation of new pathways for pedestrians and cyclists.

Following the completion of the south side, we will begin construction of the north side of the bridge. When we begin constructing the north side, traffic will switch over to the new bridge on the south side of Melton Highway and the boom gates will be gone forever.

Over the next few months you will also notice crews busy with construction around Victoria Road and building an extended local access driveway on Robertsons Road along the current pathway through Taylors Creek Reserve. The pathway will be closed from the end of June until September 2017 while these works take place.



## Communicating with us

You can call us on 1800 762 667 (24 hours, seven days) to ask any questions or raise concerns.

To keep up to date with upcoming works, changes to traffic conditions or for more information about the project, you can visit our website or sign up for email updates at [levelcrossings.vic.gov.au/subscribe](http://levelcrossings.vic.gov.au/subscribe).

## CONTACT US

- ✉ [contact@levelcrossings.vic.gov.au](mailto:contact@levelcrossings.vic.gov.au)
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