

Media Release

The Hon Jacinta Allan MP

Leader of the House

Minister for the Coordination of Transport – COVID-19

Minister for Transport Infrastructure

Minister for Suburban Rail Loop



Monday, 17 August 2020

CHELTENHAM STATION REOPENS WITH BOOM GATES GONE FOR GOOD

The new Cheltenham Station is now open to the public after two months of intensive work along the Frankston Lines to remove three more level crossings.

Minister for Transport Infrastructure Jacinta Allan today marked the reopening of the station after work continued with strict safety measures to support jobs and businesses through the pandemic, and deliver this important community connection.

Cheltenham is the eighth of 12 new stations to be built on the Frankston line as part of a \$3 billion rail infrastructure investment that also includes removing 18 level crossings, more than any other rail line in Victoria.

The new station has two sets of lifts and stairs and a new forecourt and community open space along Charman Road featuring the iconic station palm trees. A multi-level rail passenger car park is set to be completed next year.

Finishing touches to the Cheltenham and Mentone stations, landscaping and a new 3.5 kilometre walking and cycling path between Cheltenham and Mentone will continue until late 2020.

Frankston line trains have been running in the new rail trenches below Park and Charman roads in Cheltenham and Balcombe Road in Mentone, since mid-July, and the roads have been open free of boom gates since June – easing bottlenecks that caused delays and frustration for the 38,000 vehicles that cross the rail line each day.

The new modern stations in Cheltenham and Mentone are five-star Green Star design rated and include solar panels, water saving and rainwater collection, and will significantly reduce potential greenhouse gas emissions.

Construction on large-scale public infrastructure projects has been deemed critical under Stage four restrictions, so works will continue, with strict health and safety protocols in place like significantly reduced workforce numbers.

Across Melbourne, the Victorian Government is removing 75 level crossings by 2025. The Cheltenham and Mentone project means 38 dangerous and congested level crossings are now gone for good.

Victorians are reminded to avoid public transport unless leaving the house for essential purposes, to always wear a face covering when in public, practice good hand hygiene and physically distance wherever possible.

Quote attributable to Minister for Transport Infrastructure Jacinta Allan

“Despite the challenging conditions the pandemic has created, we’re continuing work on our critical infrastructure projects with strict safety measures to create safer connections for our communities and support local jobs.”

Quote attributable to Member for Mordialloc Tim Richardson

“We’ve transformed the Cheltenham and Mentone communities with three level crossings gone for good, and two new stations with plenty of space for the community to enjoy.”

Quote attributable to Member for Southern Metropolitan Region Nina Taylor

“I’d like to thank the construction team who have worked around the clock to remove these level crossings, and the community for their ongoing support and patience while we completed this critical project.”

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