## Media Release

The Hon Jacinta Allan MP Leader of the House Minister for Transport Infrastructure Minister for Suburban Rail Loop



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## HALLAM ROAD LEVEL CROSSING TO GO FOR GOOD

The dangerous and congested level crossing at Hallam Road in Hallam will soon be a thing of the past, as major works ramp up during Autumn.

The Hallam Road level crossing has been the site of 14 near misses in the past 10 years - 11 involving pedestrians and three involving vehicles. The crossing impedes the flow of more than 20,000 motorists each day, with the boom gates down for more than a third of the two-hour morning peak.

The level crossing will now be gone for good in April – with a new rail bridge built over Hallam Road and a new Hallam Station. The rail bridge will create safer journeys and ease congestion for motorists as they travel throughout the area – as well as improve connectivity between Cranbourne, Spring Square and Hampton Park Town Centre.

Crews have started adding the finishing touches to the new station, which will open to passengers in May. The station has been built with two entrances and modern facilities for the 2,200 passengers who use the station each day. It includes a new forecourt on the west side of Hallam Road, improved parking and more bike storage, as well as safer pedestrian and cycling connections around the station precinct.

Buses will replace trains between Dandenong and Pakenham stations from 9pm Wednesday 9 March to last service Monday 21 March, as crews work around the clock to complete the project. Trains will use the new elevated rail bridge from Tuesday 22 March.

Hallam Road will be closed at the level crossing from Wednesday 9 March to Saturday 2 April. Bus stops will be moved during this time to allow crews to remove the existing rail line and reconstruct the road.

The existing Hallam Station will be closed from 9pm Wednesday 9 March. Trains will run express through Hallam Station, with shuttle buses taking passengers between Dandenong, Hallam and Narre Warren stations to connect with train services.

Twenty-two level crossings are being removed on the Pakenham line, with 10 already gone, making the line completely level crossing free by 2025 – paving the way for more trains more often when the Metro Tunnel opens and High-Capacity Trains have been fully rolled out, with space for more passengers on every service.

The Hallam Road level crossing removal will also complement the Hallam Road Upgrade, which boasts an extra lane in each direction on Hallam Road between Ormond Road and South Gippsland Highway, and an upgraded intersection at Hallam Road, South Gippsland Highway and Evans Road. Since its completion in 2020, the Hallam Road Upgrade has improved safety and traffic flow for the tens of thousands of people who rely on these key arterials every day.

The Labor Government is getting rid of 85 level crossings across Melbourne by 2025, with 56 already gone for good.

More information about the project, as well as bus replacements and road closures can be found online at levelcrossings.vic.gov.au/disruptions

## Quotes attributable to Minister for Transport Infrastructure Jacinta Allan

"We're getting on with removing this dangerous and congested level crossing in Hallam – which has been the site of 14 near-misses in 10 years – and holds up thousands of commuters every day."

"We're also building a new road bridge and new station as promised – to create safer journeys and ease congestion for motorists as they travel throughout the area."

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## **Quote attributable to Member for Narre Warren North Luke Donnellan**

"We're transforming travel in the south-east by getting rid of the dangerous and congested level crossing at Hallam Road for good and building a new road bridge and station - improving safety in the area and creating more reliable journeys for motorists."