

Media Release

The Hon Ben Carroll MP

Minister for Industry and Innovation
Minister for Manufacturing Sovereignty
Minister for Employment
Minister for Public Transport



Wednesday, 26 April 2023

DELIVERING A BETTER YARRA VALLEY BUS NETWORK

The Andrews Labor Government is improving the Yarra Valley bus network to deliver more frequent, direct and reliable services for passengers.

Minister for Public Transport Ben Carroll today announced the route changes and additional services that would commence later this year, following consultation with the community and local councils.

These changes are designed to better connect locals to employment, education and shops – and forms part of Victoria’s Bus Plan, which is delivering improvements to the state’s bus network to get passengers where they need to go.

Route 685 will be upgraded to link Healesville, Healesville Sanctuary, Badger Creek, Coldstream and Yarra Glen and will become the primary public transport connection to Lilydale Station.

Services will increase on this route to a 40-minute frequency on weekdays and Saturdays, and a 60-minute frequency on Sundays, with more evening services added.

Route 686 Healesville to Badger Creek will be replaced by the extended route 685 which will provide a consistent service to Badger Creek area. In response to low patronage Route 687 Healesville to Chum Creek will be discontinued.

Route 684 from Eildon will stop at Lilydale Station allowing passengers to connect to train services to complete their journey to the city. In response to community feedback through the consultation process, the service will extend to Ringwood Station instead of Chirnside Park Shopping Centre, providing additional transport and shopping connections.

The service will also wait for up to 20 minutes at Ringwood Station for late running trains, ensuring Eildon passengers do not miss their connection.

Victoria’s Bus Plan sets out how the Victorian Government will increase the number of people choosing to take the bus by delivering higher frequency, direct bus routes.

The Andrews Labor Government has invested over \$520 million to improve local bus services in growth areas, implement bus reform, improve accessibility and customer outcomes.

Quote attributable to Minister for Public Transport Ben Carroll

“We’re improving the Yarra Valley bus network, with more direct and higher frequency services to make catching the bus a better option for locals travelling to employment, education, shops, healthcare and other transport modes.”

Quote attributable to Member for Eastern Victoria Tom McIntosh

“We’ve listened to the community and the upgrades to the Yarra Valley bus network will give locals more options about when they travel and get them where they need to go.”

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