

Media Release

The Hon Nick Staikos MP

Minister for Housing and Building

Minister for the Suburban Rail Loop

Acting Minister for Transport Infrastructure

Acting Minister for Public and Active Transport

Acting Minister for Planning



Tuesday, 14 July 2026

HAVE YOUR SAY ON BENDIGO'S BUS FUTURE

People in Bendigo deserve a bus network that works for them.

That's why the Allan Labor Government is asking locals to help shape the future of buses in Bendigo and surrounding communities.

Community consultation is now open until 23 August.

Good bus services make it easier to get to work, school, the shops and medical appointments.

As Bendigo grows, we want to make sure local bus services grow with it.

The review will look at how services can better reflect changing travel patterns and identify priority areas for improvements.

This comes as the Allan Labor Government introduces new and improved Bendigo school bus services to give students more options to get to school.

From the start of Term 3, the changes will improve services for students travelling to schools in Flora Hill, Junortoun, Kangaroo Flat, Bendigo, Eaglehawk, Epsom, Maiden Gully, White Hills and Strathdale.

It also builds on the introduction of free public transport for Victorians under 18 and half price public transport for everyone until 1 January 2027 – helping families with cost of living.

The Labor Government has invested more than \$990 million into delivering new and improved bus services, adding more than 25,000 extra weekly services across our network.

The Bendigo bus review is being delivered as part of a \$162 million investment to improve bus networks in the *Victorian Budget 2025/26*, which also backed recent reviews in Ballarat and Geelong.

Consultation will be delivered online as well as at pop-up sessions across the region. To learn more, visit engage.vic.gov.au/Bendigo-Bus-Network.

Quotes attributable to Acting Minister for Public and Active Transport Nick Staikos

"Regional communities deserve bus services that keep up with how they live, work and travel today."

"This is about listening to locals and planning a bus network that works better for Bendigo and surrounding communities."

Quote attributable to Member for Bendigo East Jacinta Allan

"Whether it's making it easier to get to work, getting the kids to school or getting to appointments, we want to hear how local buses can work better for Bendigo."

Quote attributable to Member for Bendigo West Maree Edwards

"As Bendigo grows, our bus network needs to grow with it. This is your chance to help shape what's next."

Media contact: Alex Woods 0422 572 228 | alex.woods@minstaff.vic.gov.au