

Media Release

The Hon Jacinta Allan MP
Minister for Transport Infrastructure



**DELIVERING
FOR ALL VICTORIANS**

Tuesday, 11 December 2018

VICTORIA'S BIG BUILD CONTINUES OVER SUMMER

Drivers and public transport passengers are being urged to plan ahead over summer, as works continue on the Andrew Labor Government's unprecedented pipeline of major transport projects and vital road and rail maintenance.

A major construction blitz will take place in January to prepare for the new fleet of High Capacity Metro Trains and the Metro Tunnel.

One of the biggest ever power, signalling and communications upgrades to Melbourne's train network is taking place on the Cranbourne/Pakenham lines in preparation for the arrival of bigger better new trains in mid-2019. The works will also be co-ordinated with construction on the Metro Tunnel's eastern entrance in South Yarra.

From 2-13 January, buses and V/Line coaches will replace trains between Flinders Street and Westall on the Cranbourne and Pakenham lines, between Flinders Street and Moorabbin on the Frankston line and the entire journey on the Gippsland Line.

There's also significant works across the rail network, with overnight and weekend works on the Belgrave/Lilydale, Glen Waverley, Alamein, Sandringham, Sunbury, Werribee and Williamstown lines.

Buses will replace trains from 12-27 January on Bendigo, Swan Hill and Echuca services for maintenance and essential works between Sunbury and Swan Hill. Maintenance will also be carried out between Warrigal Road and Camberwell Road from 3-12 January during this time, with buses replacing trams for part of the journey.

From 2-24 January, the intersection of Yan Yean, Diamond Creek and Aqueduct Roads in Plenty will be closed, as part of the \$131 million duplication of Yan Yean Road.

The January construction blitz builds on current works on the Cranbourne, Pakenham and Gippsland lines from 1-23 December, with V/Line completing major maintenance works and other upgrades along the Gippsland line.

Passengers travelling to and from the city on affected lines during these summer works should allow an extra 45 - 75 minutes journey time. Extra bus services will be in place to cater for the expected demand.

Further power and signalling upgrades will take place on more than 80 kilometres of track in 2019. More details will be provided when these works are confirmed.

Replacement V/Line coaches on the Gippsland, Bendigo and Ballarat lines will operate express and semi-express services, and all works have been timed to coincide with the quieter Christmas/New Year holiday period.

For project and disruption information visit bigbuild.vic.gov.au. To plan your journey visit ptv.vic.gov.au or vicroads.vic.gov.au.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Transport Infrastructure Jacinta Allan

"We're not wasting a day building the Metro Tunnel, upgrading track and signalling, and delivering vital maintenance to get Victorians home safer and sooner."

"We ask drivers and passengers to plan ahead while we build the road and rail upgrades Victoria needs."

Quote attributable to Minister for Public Transport Melissa Horne

"Summer holidays are a busy time with so many fantastic events – we thank the travelling public for their patience as we get these works done, to deliver more frequent and reliable services."

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