

Monash Freeway UPGRADE



Managing noise and vibration during construction

The Monash Freeway Upgrade project team works hard to reduce the impacts associated with major construction works on its surrounding communities.

Noise and vibration

Noise and vibration disturbances are an unavoidable occurrence when constructing major civil works, including those involved with the Monash Freeway Upgrade. We manage the works to reduce these disturbances as much as possible. Noise and vibration impacts will vary depending on the activities being undertaken.

Some of the main sources of noise and vibration include:

- Excavators and graders breaking ground.
- Profilers stripping pavement.
- Laying asphalt.
- Noise from trucks delivering materials.
- Generators and power tools.
- Piling rigs and cranes.
- Rollers compacting soil and rock.
- Reversing alarms on mobile equipment.

Noise regulatory requirements

Noise management is a critical part of planning and design, both during construction and once the Monash Freeway Upgrade is complete. A number of regulatory requirements are in place to protect the local community and ensure that any unavoidable effects are well managed.

For more information about noise levels during construction, refer to the EPA Victoria Environmental guidelines for major construction sites (publication 480).



Laying asphalt in the shoulder of the Monash Freeway - works like this can be a source of noise during road construction projects.

Construction noise management

Construction companies are required to be considerate in regard to noise and working hours while construction work is underway.

To reduce the impact of construction activities that can generate noise, works are conducted during the day wherever possible. Where this is not possible, for example for safety reasons, all care will be taken to ensure noise is minimised.

Where noisy works must be undertaken at night, any potentially affected residents will be notified in advance. Notifications include letters, print and radio advertising or face-to-face contact.



What is vibration?

During the widening of the Monash Freeway, there are a number of activities that can cause ground vibration. These activities include bridge strengthening and piling works, asphalt rolling and the movement of trucks. The levels of vibration and impacts on surrounding buildings depend on ground conditions transmitting the vibration and on the distance of works to buildings.

In some cases residents may feel vibration as a result of works. We are able to perceive vibration at lower levels than are necessary to cause any damage. Construction activities will be monitored where necessary or mitigated to prevent damage occurring.

Measures to reduce effects

To minimise and manage the effect of noise and vibration, we:

- Schedule noise-generating activities within daytime working hours wherever possible.
- Use broadband reversing alarms on mobile machinery and equipment. These alarms are quieter than the standard reversing beepers used on most construction sites.
- Inform those likely to be affected by noisy works prior to works commencing.
- Undertake property condition surveys on residences located along the work zones before construction begins.
- Arrange loading activities to avoid reversing where practicable, reducing the use of reversing beepers.
- Regularly maintain all plant and machinery to ensure optimal performance and use quieter equipment where possible.

- Establish and maintain safe buffer distances between equipment and residences.
- Monitor noise and vibration during construction to ensure its compliance.

If you are concerned about the level of vibration in your house as a result of construction or if noise is above what would be considered reasonable, please call us on 1300 280 939.

Read more

VicRoads Traffic Noise Reduction Policy 2005: www.vicroads.vic.gov.au

EPA Victoria Environmental guidelines for major construction sites (publication 480): www.epa.vic.gov.au

Environmental Protection ACT 1970: www.epa.vic.gov.au

VicRoads Noise guidelines – Construction and maintenance 2007: www.vicroads.vic.gov.au