

Monash Freeway UPGRADE

COMMUNITY UPDATE > October 2016

The Victorian Government is widening and upgrading the Monash Freeway to help you get home sooner and safer.

The freeway will be widened from four to five lanes in each direction between EastLink and the South Gippsland Freeway, and from two to three lanes in each direction from the South Gippsland Freeway to Clyde Road. The project will also add smart technology to improve traffic flow and better manage incidents on the road.

Work has started – it's official!

What to expect

Barriers will be installed along the works zone in early November to increase worker and driver safety during construction. Most of the works will be done behind the barriers – you may not always see us but we're there, so please observe the reduced speed limit.

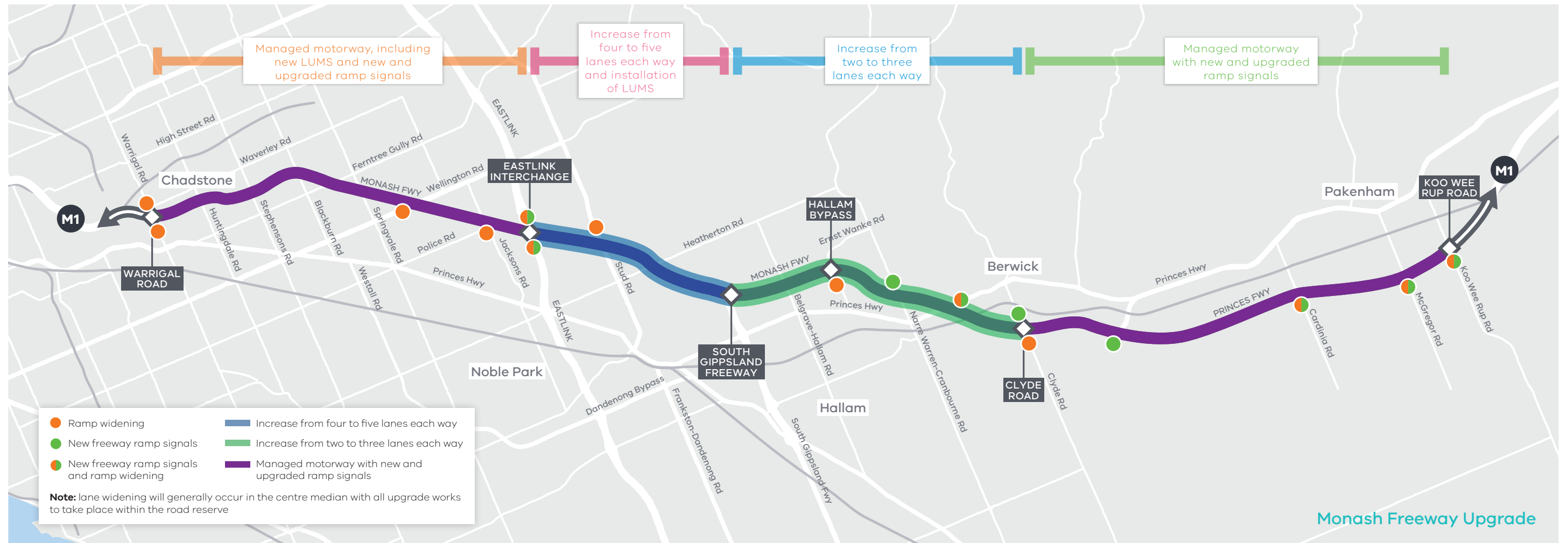
Temporary yellow lines will be marked on the road, indicating new traffic conditions. These changes are designed to ensure the same number of lanes can be open during the day while work is taking place.



Above is an illustration representing the newly aligned lanes, marked in yellow, with construction taking place behind barriers.

Register for updates

To keep up to date about the project and to hear what works are to be happening when, visit the website at westerndistributorproject.vic.gov.au/monash and fill out the registration form, being sure to tick the Monash Freeway Upgrade box. We'll make sure you're in the know!



What's involved?

The Monash Freeway Upgrade includes:

- Around 30 kilometres of additional traffic lanes
- Widening from four to five lanes in each direction between EastLink and South Gippsland Freeway
- Widening from two to three lanes in each direction from South Gippsland Freeway to Clyde Road in Berwick.
- Overhead Lane Use Management Signs (LUMS) added between Warrigal Road and South Gippsland Freeway. The overhead electronic signs allow a more efficient response to changing traffic conditions by giving drivers advance notice of lane closures and variable speed limits.
- New and upgraded ramp signals and extra space for more cars on ramps from Chadstone to Pakenham
- Widening and strengthening of bridges
- A new concrete median barrier between EastLink and the Princes Highway

- Improved lighting at various interchanges

The upgrade works will all occur within the existing road reserve, which means no homes will be impacted. There will be no new tolls introduced on the Monash Freeway.

Key benefits

The project's benefits include:

- Smoother travel and better reliability for over 200,000 motorists a day on the busiest sections
- A 20 per cent reduction in crashes that cause serious injury
- Up to 400 jobs at the peak of construction
- Capacity for 50 percent more vehicles in the peak hour on the Hallam Bypass
- Capacity for 20 percent more vehicles on the busiest section of the freeway, from EastLink to the South Gippsland Freeway

Status and next steps

- Work on the Monash Freeway Upgrade started in September 2016
- Temporary lanes, marked with yellow lines, will be installed in November
- Temporary barriers with screens to reduce driver distraction will also be installed in November for driver and worker safety
- Some sections will have the top layer of asphalt removed to facilitate later works with less disruption to drivers
- In November and December works will start on some Monash Freeway bridges to widen them in order to accommodate new lanes

Register for updates

See page one for details on how to register and we'll make sure you're in the know!

Keeping the Monash moving during construction

Keeping existing traffic flowing on the Monash is a priority throughout construction. To achieve this, the current number of lanes will remain open during peak times and construction will be staged to avoid major disruption to road users.

Notifications and traffic information will be provided closer to the works, via VicRoads' VicTraffic mobile app, road signage, print and online. Drivers are reminded to be alert to changes in traffic conditions and obey road work speed limits.

Managing construction impacts

During construction, strict environmental management measures will be in place to ensure that construction noise, dust, drainage and other community impacts are minimised as much as possible.



Current and upcoming works

You may have noticed our crews working on the road at night. They've been conducting early works in preparation for the road widening, which has included the removal and replacement of asphalt on the shoulder.

Works will increase over the coming months, including the start of works on bridges as the project takes off.

We've been out and about!

The Monash Freeway Upgrade team has been visiting shopping centres in the areas around the freeway to make sure the word is getting out and that you are aware of what we're doing. It's been great to hear your thoughts about the freeway and our project, and to answer your questions.



Discussing the project with local residents at Fountain Gate Shopping Centre

Contact the team

Have a question about the Monash Freeway Upgrade? If you need more information or would like to provide feedback, please get in touch.

EMAIL monashupgrade@ecodev.vic.gov.au

WEBSITE westerndistributorproject.vic.gov.au/monash

PHONE 1300 280 939

FACEBOOK facebook.com/westerndistributorproject

TWITTER twitter.com/WDMelb#WDMonash

POST Monash Freeway Upgrade
Locked bag 2004
Brandon Park VIC 3150



Interpreter service: 13 14 50