The West Gate Tunnel Project will provide a vital alternative to the West Gate Bridge, quicker and safer journeys and remove over 9000 trucks from residential streets in the inner west.

The project is a partnership between the Victorian Government and Transurban and is being built by a joint venture between CPB Contractors and John Holland.

A key feature of the project is an elevated road above Footscray Road with links to CityLink, Dynon Road and Wurundjeri Way, with direct freight connections to the Port of Melbourne.

Construction method

The elevated road will be built using the span-by-span construction method.

Span-by-span construction builds the road deck continuously from one end of the structure to the other concrete segments, one after the other.

Concrete precast segments manufactured locally in Benalla will be used and transported to the work site.

The elevated road will be built using a custom-designed crane. Starting at the city end of Footscray Road, the launching gantry will lift each segment into place to form a span before moving forward to build the next span. See diagram over the page.

The machine will continue west towards Footscray for 1.2 kilometres to build the outbound lanes before it changes direction to build the city-bound lanes. In total, the machine will travel 2.5 kilometres to build six new lanes.
Keeping Footscray Road open

It will take around two years to build the elevated road.

The construction method means Footscray Road can stay open with less disruption for cyclists and motorists and maintains uninterrupted access to the port for our important freight and logistics industries.

Check out our YouTube channel to see the gantry being built and videos of what the new road will look like.

How the elevated road will be built

1. Concrete segments are transported to site.

2. They are lifted piece by piece until a total of 17 segments are in place.

3. Steel cables are threaded through the segments and tightened to form a span. Grout is then poured, encasing the steel cables to secure and strengthen the span.

4. The machine then moves forward to make the next span.

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