Project overview

The West Gate Tunnel Project will deliver a vital alternative to the West Gate Bridge, providing a much needed second river crossing, quicker and safer journeys, and remove thousands of trucks from residential streets.

Why are we building the West Gate Tunnel?

Currently, more than 200,000 vehicles a day rely on the West Gate Bridge, and a single incident can stop traffic.

The West Gate Tunnel Project will end Melbourne’s reliance on the West Gate Bridge by building a new tunnel and new links to the port, CityLink and the city.

The West Gate Tunnel Project will:
- Give people a choice – the tunnel or the bridge
- Get over 9,000 trucks off local streets in the inner west
- Allow 24 hour truck bans on six local roads
- Cut travel times to and from the west
- Better connect Melbourne’s freeway network to help people and goods move around
- Create 6,000 jobs
- Make local roads and the West Gate Freeway safer and more reliable
- Provide 9 hectares of new public open space in the west
- Build and maintain better noise walls along the West Gate Freeway, making it quieter at houses, parks and sport fields.
Key benefits of the design

- Widening the West Gate Freeway from 8 to 12 lanes
- New twin tunnels under Yarraville
- A bridge over the Maribyrnong River providing a second river crossing that joins an elevated road along Footscray Road
- A direct connection to Hyde Street for trucks carrying hazardous goods, over-height or local trips
- Improved access to the Port of Melbourne
- Connections to CityLink, inner northern suburbs and the city
- Extending Wurundjeri Way to provide a city bypass
- Smart technology adding to the M1 freeway management system

Road and tunnels

- More reliable and quicker trips
- More productive freight
- Less congestion with traffic better distributed across two routes

Cycling and walking

- Over 14 kilometres of new and improved cycling and walking paths
- Improved community safety and connectivity with multiple new cycling and walking paths linking both sides of West Gate Freeway
- Nearly 9 hectares of new open space including parkland and wetlands and more than 17,000 trees planted along the project
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Liveable communities

- Thousands of trucks off local streets and the West Gate Bridge
- World-class urban design reflecting the cultural and maritime history of Melbourne’s west
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- World-class urban design reflecting the cultural and maritime history of Melbourne’s west
- More than 9 kilometres of new and improved noise walls
- New park in Altona North
- New open space and landscaping at Stony Creek and Moonee Ponds Creek
- New park and wetland opposite Yarraville Gardens
- Enabling truck bans on six roads to take over 9,000 trucks off local streets
Construction 2018-2022

The West Gate Tunnel Project will be built over five years from 2018 until 2022.

The project is a partnership between the Victorian Government and Transurban and will be built by construction contractors CPB Contractors and John Holland.

During construction, our focus is on safety and on minimising disruption. We will work hard to make things as easy as possible for local residents, business, cyclists, and motorists as we get the work done.

The tunnel and new lanes on the West Gate Freeway, Footscray Road and Wurundjeri Way will open to traffic in 2022.

Contact us

Do you have a question about the project? If you need more information or would like to provide feedback, please get in touch.

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