COMMUNITY UPDATE

Getting you where you need to be safer and sooner

Works to upgrade Plenty Road are progressing well, with an extra lane in each direction between McKimmies Road and Bush Boulevard taking shape.

We’re also upgrading intersections and installing new traffic lights at Rivergum and Mayfield Drives.

When complete in mid-2019, the first stage of the upgrade will improve travel times and access to local jobs, schools, shops and parklands.

On track for completion

Look up and you will notice a clearer view with more than 1.5km of overhead powerlines moved underground.

To carry out these works we drilled under Plenty Road at Bush Boulevard to thread overhead cables underground. By working under the intersection instead of cutting open trenches we were able to keep roads open and minimise disruption to traffic.

Above: Students from Mill Park Primary School planting new trees.

To date, we have:

- Worked over 137,069 hours
- Laid more than 17,600 tonnes of new asphalt
- Placed more than 3,000 cubic metres of crushed rock
- Installed more than 6,800 metres of safety barriers
- Added more than 10,300 metres of roadside kerbs
- Used more than 154 pieces of machinery

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Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne
Upcoming work

Asphalting will continue during the day and night along the length of Plenty Road throughout June.

We will also be laying the final layer of the new road surface and continuing to upgrade the McKimmies Road, Mayfield Drive, Childs Road, Rivergum Drive, Centenary Drive and Bush Boulevard intersections.

We’ll continue to install kerb, street lights, and finish the 2.8 kilometre long walking and cycling path on the western side of the road.

We’ll also soon be installing the new traffic lights at Mayfield and Rivergum Drives.

We’ve recently sprayed grass seeds along the project and you will soon see some patches of land turn green. We’ll also plant over 19,000 trees, shrubs and groundcover in the coming months. Species include Spotted Gum, Silky Oak, Grevillea, White Correa and Flax Lilies.

Stage two contract awarded

The contract for the next stage of works on Plenty Road, between Bush Boulevard and Bridge Inn Road has been awarded to Decmil who are also delivering the first stage of the project.

This upgrade is a vital next step for this important road corridor. When completed it will make the journey from Mernda to Mill Park safer and quicker for the 35,000 people who rely on it every day.

The next stage includes:
• widening the road from 4 to 6 lanes between Bush Boulevard and Riverdale Boulevard
• widening the road from 2 to 4 lanes between Riverdale Boulevard and Bridge Inn Road
• improving cycling and walking facilities
• upgrading 12 intersections, including Bridge Inn Road, Waterview Drive and Francesca Drive.

Major construction on stage two of the project will begin later this year and is expected to be complete by mid-2021.

Improving road safety

From January 2013 to December 2018 there were 64 crashes on Plenty Road between McKimmies Road and Centenary Drive.
To make the road safer, the first stage of the Plenty Road Upgrade is installing over **10,000 metres of safety barriers**.

These barriers will prevent vehicles from leaving the road, and potentially hitting unforgiving roadside objects or rolling over.

*Left: Roadside works along Plenty Road.*

*Above: The intersection at Bridge Inn Road and Plenty Road will be upgraded as part of the next stage of the Plenty Road Upgrade.*
Inspiring the next generation

We recently had the chance to visit the bright and energetic kids at Goodstart Early Learning in Mill Park.

The kids were eager to participate in discussions about building roads, dressing up in high vis and checking out construction works.

A new home for unused pipes

We recently donated three large pipes that were no longer needed, to a hobby-farmer in need. The pipes have been put to good use by the farmer as a fix for a muddy driveway, giving them a second lease on life.

Local businesses are open

Businesses on Plenty Road remain open during our works and we are committed to supporting these traders where we can. We encourage you to shop local, support the local economy and help your local community thrive.

Earlier this year we launched a competition to support local businesses. We had over 1000 entries to the competition and four lucky shoppers each won a $250 prize pack which included vouchers from local stores.

Thank you to everyone who took part in the competition and shopped at the participating local businesses.

Above: The project’s Site Supervisor helps a farmer load unused pipes into his ute.

Works timeline

- **December 2017**: Early works commenced (stage 1)
- **February 2018**: Contract awarded to Decmil (stage 1)
- **March 2018**: Construction works commenced (stage 1)
- **April 2019**: Contract awarded to Decmil (stage 2)
- **Mid 2019**: Construction works anticipated to be complete (stage 1)
- **Late 2019**: Major construction anticipated to commence (stage 2)
- **Mid 2021**: Construction works anticipated to be complete (stage 2)

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