



COMMUNITY UPDATE

SUMMER 2020
DRYSDALE BYPASS

We're on the home stretch!

Welcome to our summer update. In this issue we look back at the progress we've made over the past 12 months and provide an update on construction activities scheduled for early 2020.

The Drysdale Bypass project is on track to be completed mid next year. Once complete, the bypass will ensure smoother and more efficient travel through the Bellarine Peninsula, especially during the busy summer holiday season.

Locals and visitors will also experience less trucks on High Street, giving the centre of Drysdale back to the community.

This is one of the biggest infrastructure projects in the region and we understand this impacts on residents' day-to-day lives. We want to take this opportunity to thank the Drysdale and wider Bellarine Peninsula communities for their patience during construction.

The project team is proud of what we have achieved to date. Please continue to get in touch if you are impacted by our works, or simply want to find out more.

-  250,000 man hours
-  100 workers on site each day
-  44,500 tonnes of asphalt laid
-  7kms of drainage installed (70% of total drainage)
-  1 km of safety barriers installed
-  6km of walking and cycling path built

Image above: the new Peninsula Drive roundabout opened in April 2019.

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Construction update

Please see the map for details of our summer works program.



Extended working hours

We will be making the most of the summer weather and extra daylight hours from January to March, working later where necessary to make faster progress. Our regular work hours are 7am to 5pm, Monday to Friday and 7am to 1pm on Saturdays. Extended hours may include starting at 6am in the morning and working to sunset in the evening as well as working until 3pm on Saturdays. Early in the new year we'll be undertaking nightworks in certain locations along the Bypass. We'll provide further details to local residents in early 2020.

Haulage along the bypass

Early in the new year, we will be backfilling at the pedestrian underpass and the rail overpass. This means we will need to move material from areas along the bypass to these structures. We will use major roads where we can and will advise residents if trucks need to travel along their local road. We will ensure the trucks cover their loads when moving through Drysdale.

Dealing with dust

Most of the earthworks for the bypass are now complete. However, there may be some dust created at the rail overpass when we start backfilling.

Throughout the warmer months, we will continue to minimise air-borne dust by running water carts through active work sites, hydroseeding exposed mounds and mulching along embankments.

Landscaping work will commence in autumn, which is the best time of year to plant the 120,000 trees, shrubs and ground coverings we have on order.

Bellarine Rail Trail detour

From December until February 2020, a section of the Bellarine Rail Trail will remain closed. A detour has been put in place to ensure the safety of rail trail users as we build the overpass over the Bellarine railway line.

The pedestrian and cycling detour now runs along the walking and maintenance tracks and detour fencing and signage is in place to assist. If you want to check out the new concrete walking and cycling track, then get down to the Bellarine Rail Trail before the end of February 2020.

Community pop up

Do you have questions or feedback about the Bypass?

Yes? Then please come along to our next Community Pop Up event where both MRPV and our construction partner Decmil will answer questions and discuss the next phase of the project. Everyone is welcome to attend. We'll be holding the event in early 2020 and will provide further information soon.

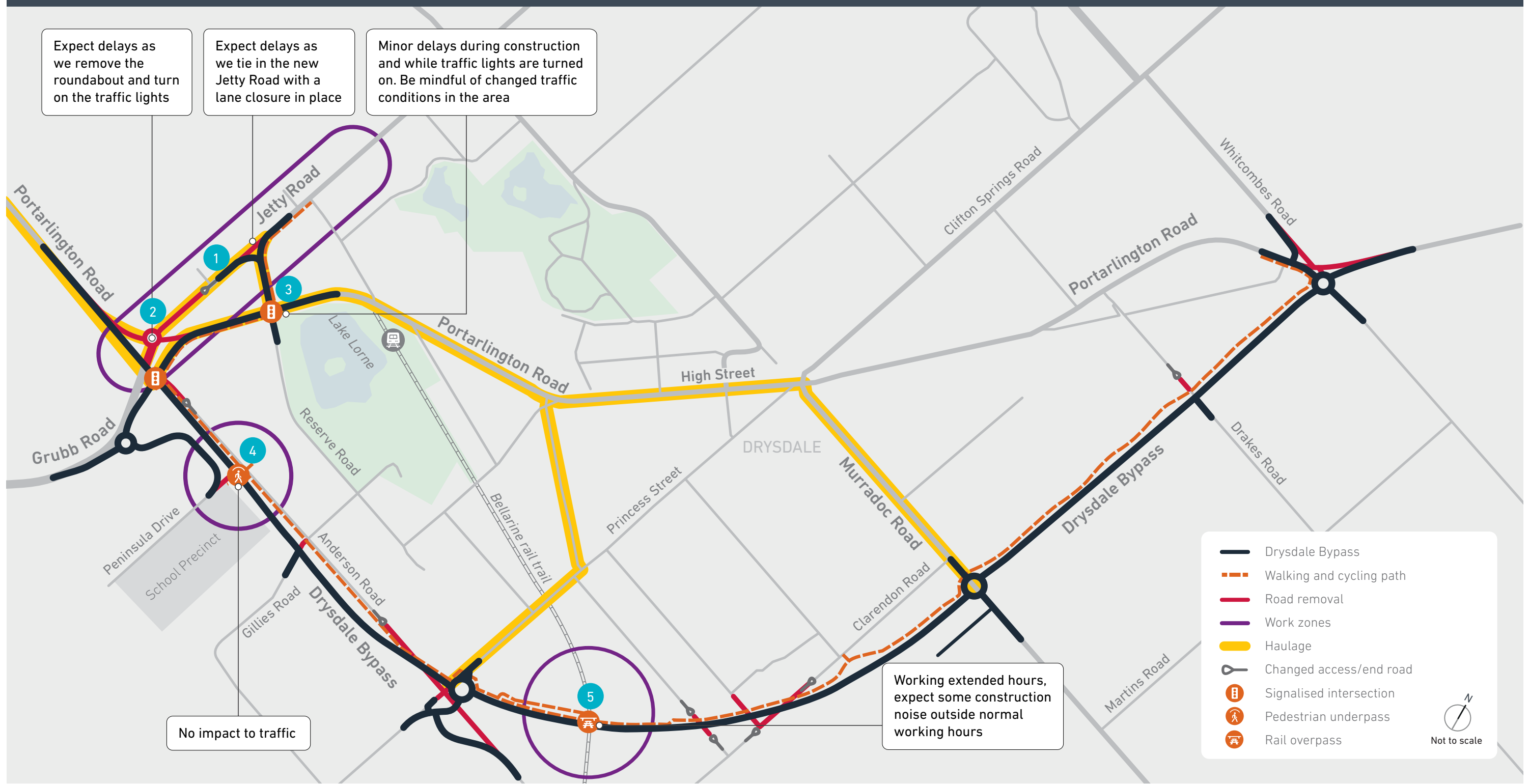
Summer works program – upcoming works

- 1 January – February 2020: Connect the new Jetty Road into the local road network.
- 2 March 2020: Remove roundabout and turn on traffic lights.
- 3 February – March 2020: Turn on High Street and Reserve Road intersection.
- 4 January – May 2020: Works continue at the pedestrian underpass including backfilling and beam installation.
- 5 January – June 2020: Works continue at the rail overpass including extended working hours to complete the backfilling and wall construction.

2019 Achievements

- Major earthworks complete
- Three of four roundabouts built
- 70% of drainage complete
- 60% of walking and cycling path complete
- Traffic lights installed at western intersection
- Staged works so that traffic disruption over the busier Christmas and New Year period is minimised

Our construction partner will shut down on Friday 20 December 2019. Works will resume on Monday 6 January 2020. If you need to discuss anything during this time, please get in touch via the Contact Centre on 1800 105 105.



Expect delays as we remove the roundabout and turn on the traffic lights

Expect delays as we tie in the new Jetty Road with a lane closure in place

Minor delays during construction and while traffic lights are turned on. Be mindful of changed traffic conditions in the area

No impact to traffic

Working extended hours, expect some construction noise outside normal working hours



Drysdale Bypass wins heritage award

The Drysdale Dig led to the discovery of nearly 120,000 artefacts, some between 20,000–30,000 years old!

The Drysdale Bypass team received the inaugural 'Interpretation of a Heritage Place' award from the Wadawurrung at the 2019 Geelong Heritage Awards.

Our educational campaign gave 500 local school pupils the chance to get hands-on with the Drysdale cultural heritage salvage and learn first-hand from Wadawurrung elder Uncle Byron Powell about their rich cultural history.

The award recognised our cultural heritage processes and highlighted best practice approaches of our Cultural Heritage Management Plans in road projects.

The cultural heritage salvage work has been an important part of the project's delivery and has helped us better understand and respect the indigenous history of the area.

The artefacts are now being analysed by a team of cultural heritage experts and we're looking forward to learning more about the history of the artefacts and the story of Wadawurrung people in 2020 when the artefact analysis is complete.

We will work alongside the Wadawurrung community in sharing the findings of the analysis as well as helping the Traditional Owners with repatriation of the artefacts.



Images above: Drysdale students learning about the importance of the Cultural Heritage salvage process.

Revegetating the landscape

With major earthworks now complete, we have started landscaping in most areas with topsoiling and mulching close to completion. We will start planting around 120,000 trees, plants and ground coverings in autumn 2020.

Over the past three years we have been working closely with Bellarine LandCare and members of the community to develop the Drysdale Bypass landscaping design which will feature species indigenous to the Bellarine Peninsula.

Bellarine LandCare are also helping us to propagate seeds and will provide some of the plants to be used along the roadside and the walking and cycling path.

We know how exciting it is when the landscaping begins. Our next update will provide more detailed information about different plant species, and where and why certain planting locations have been chosen.

Connected community

Over the last year the Drysdale Bypass project team has recorded over 2,100 interactions with our community. On average that's almost 200 conversations a month, and just over 40 per week! We are delighted that our community is so engaged.

This is how we have been communicating with you over the past 12 months:



900+ calls



550+ face to face interactions



650+ online interactions



Contact us

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