

Artist's impression of widened bridge over Darebin Creek



COMMUNITY UPDATE

FEBRUARY 2021

CHILDS ROAD UPGRADE

We're starting works in February 2021

The Childs Road Upgrade is another step closer, with locally based Ace Contractors Group being awarded the contract to build the project.

The project will:

- add an extra lane in each direction between Beaumont Crescent and Prince of Wales Avenue
- install traffic lights at Bowman Drive
- build a new bridge over Darebin Creek and upgrade the existing bridge
- build new and upgraded shared walking and cycling paths
- connect the north and south Darebin Creek Trail on the east side of the creek
- install safety barriers along the road.

The Childs Road Upgrade will:

- improve traffic flow and travel times
- provide an alternative route for east-west travel to help motorists avoid the South Morang and Epping town centres
- make it easier and safer for you to walk or cycle around your local area
- improve safety by lowering the risk and severity of crashes by adding safety barriers.

What we're doing

In February we'll start relocating and protecting underground utility services. We'll also continue site investigations to better understand the ground conditions before we start major construction.

As most of this work will be carried out beside the road, you won't see a great deal of construction activity until April. We'll set up our site office in March ahead of major construction starting in April. This will include:

- tree and vegetation removal
- installing temporary fencing and traffic barriers
- removing the roundabout at Bowman Drive and adding temporary traffic lights to prepare for the new intersection with traffic lights
- using large machinery to prepare the ground for the new road.

To complete these works safely, we'll need to close lanes and reduce speed limits. We will notify you of any traffic impacts. You can also sign up for email or SMS updates at roadprojects.vic.gov.au/subscribe.

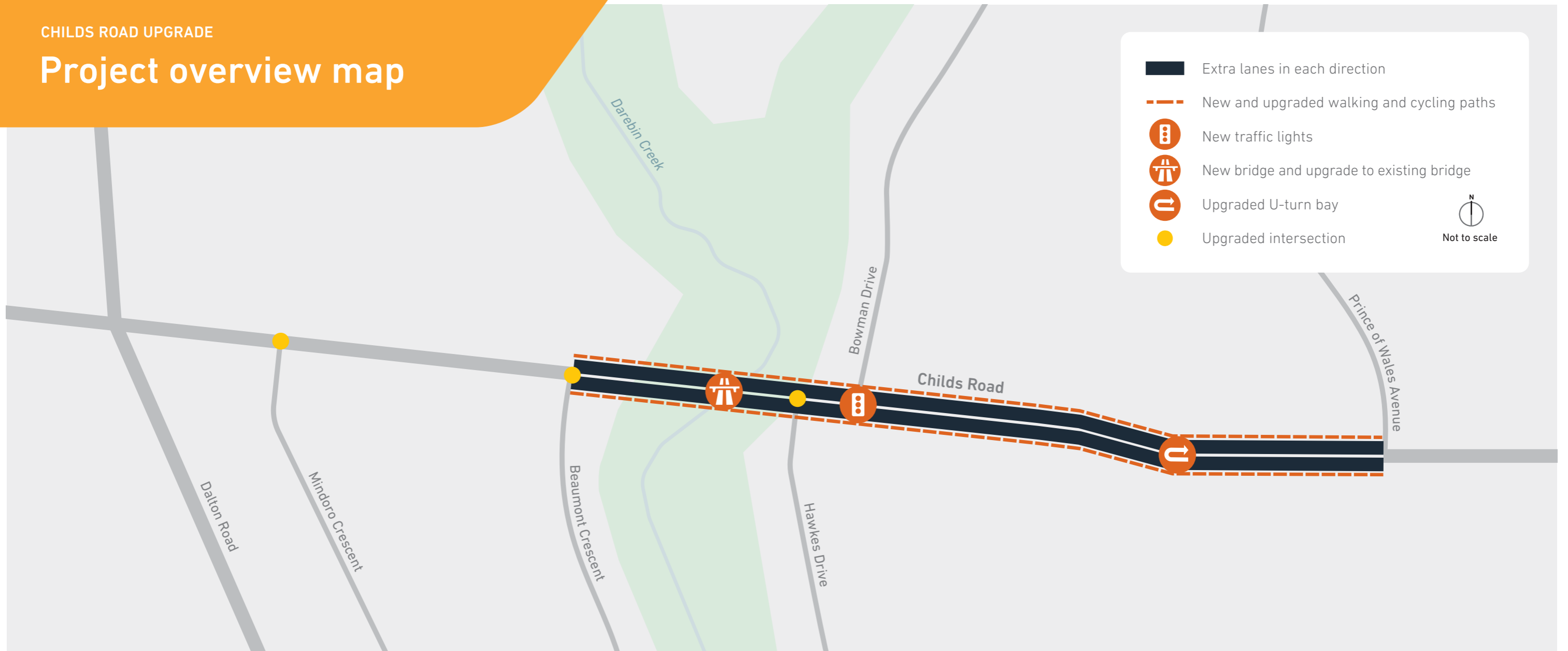


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Project overview map



What can you expect?

We'll carefully plan our work to minimise disruptions and provide you with advance notice of scheduled changes so you can plan your movements.

We'll plan ahead and keep residents, businesses and motorists informed of our works through regular emails, SMS, project updates, electronic message boards, and a 24-hour contact phone line.

Working hours

Most of our works will take place between 9.30 am to 3pm, Monday to Friday to avoid impacting the busy school drop-off and pick-up times. On Saturdays we'll work from 7am to 5pm.

Some works will need to occur overnight. When this is required, we'll provide plenty of notice so you can plan and prepare.

Noise and vibration

There will be some noise and vibration during construction. Noise and vibration may be generated from moving vehicles, machinery, rock breaking, reversing beepers or generators used to power equipment.

Traffic, cyclists and pedestrians

There will be changes to traffic conditions including temporary traffic lights, lane closures, speed limit reductions, permanent local road access changes and overnight bridge closures with detours.

We'll need to move bus stops temporarily whilst we add the extra lane and pedestrians may need to walk a little further to get around.

We'll notify you of these changes before they happen. Detours, signage and traffic controllers will be in place to manage traffic flow and ensure all road users are able to safely navigate around our work areas. Please pay close attention to road signs and traffic controllers' instructions.

Respecting and managing the environment

Vegetation is important to the local community and supports local diversity. Minimising the impact of vegetation removal has been an important consideration in the design and construction staging of the project.

We'll protect trees and other sensitive vegetation with 'no-go zones' and have qualified fauna and flora handlers on call. We also have a dedicated environment manager for the project.

Service relocations

We'll need to relocate services such as gas, electricity, water, sewerage and communications including NBN, Optus and Telstra before we can start the upgrade. Your utility provider will let you know of any planned disruptions ahead of time.

View our interactive map

Visit roadprojects.vic.gov.au/projects/childs-road-upgrade to view the Childs Road Upgrade interactive map and see what's changing in your area.

Project milestones

- Project announcement
- Reference design
- Initial public consultation
- Design refinement
- Site investigations
- Site setup and early works
- Utility protection and relocation
- Major construction
- Project completion

Plan your journey

There will be changes to how you move around the area while we are building the new lanes and bridge.

Access changes

We'll endeavour to maintain access to homes and businesses along Childs Road at all times, but we'll provide advance notice to residents regarding any future short-term impacts.

Most of our works will take place between 9.30am to 3pm, Monday to Friday to avoid impacting the busy school drop-off and pick-up times at Lalor North Secondary College.

There will also be access changes to some side streets including Hawkes Drive, Beaumont and Mindoro crescents.

The changes will provide better east-west connectivity and improve traffic flow and safety for all road users by reducing the likelihood and severity of crashes. The permanent changes will provide safe turning options at nearby intersections.

Walking and riding

We'll ensure you can continue to walk and cycle through the area, however at times you may be detoured to safely move around the work sites.

Bus stops

We'll need to move bus stops temporarily while we build new lanes. Visit ptv.vic.gov.au to subscribe to Public Transport Victoria weekly travel alerts.

Stay informed

Sign up for email or SMS updates at roadprojects.vic.gov.au/subscribe.



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