



LEVEL CROSSING REMOVAL UPDATE

MELTON HIGHWAY
ISSUE #08 – APRIL 2018

Level Crossing Gone For Good!

The Melton Highway project team had a busy start to the year, with the new southern bridge opening in late January and the level crossing removed shortly after.

Motorists, pedestrians and cyclists have been driving on the bridge since February, with trains running smoothly underneath.

The team has now turned its attention to the northern section of the bridge and preparing the connection between Sydenham and Victoria roads under the bridge.



Workers dismantling the Melton Highway boom gates



Melton Hwy closed from
Friday 13 April 2018 (8PM) –
Monday 16 April 2018 (5AM)



Buses replacing trains on
Sunbury Bendigo Line on
Sunday 15 April 2018



Throughout February and March, crews have been establishing the foundations for the northern bridge.

This has involved drilling deep holes into the ground, and constructing reinforced concrete 'piles', to hold the concrete columns that will support the bridge at each end. In the middle of the bridge, at either side of the rail line, are two concrete walls called 'bridge piers'. These piers will support the 18 concrete beams which when placed across the middle of the bridge form the first part of the bridge deck.

April beam lift and Melton Highway closure

In April, one 350 tonne and one 450 tonne crane will take up residence on Melton Highway to lift the 18 beams into place. Six of these beams will be placed directly over the rail line.

To allow this to happen, Melton Highway will be closed at the rail line for the weekend and buses will replace trains on the Sunbury/Bendigo line.

To safely and efficiently install the bridge beams, a section of Melton Highway must be closed due to the cranes and bridge beam trucks taking up the full width of the bridge. There will be detours in place to help drivers get where they need to go. These are outlined in the map pictured.

The bridge will also be closed to pedestrians and cyclists due to the works. The nearest crossing is at Watergardens Station.

Please call our team on **1800 762 667** if you need assistance with your travel while Melton Highway is closed.

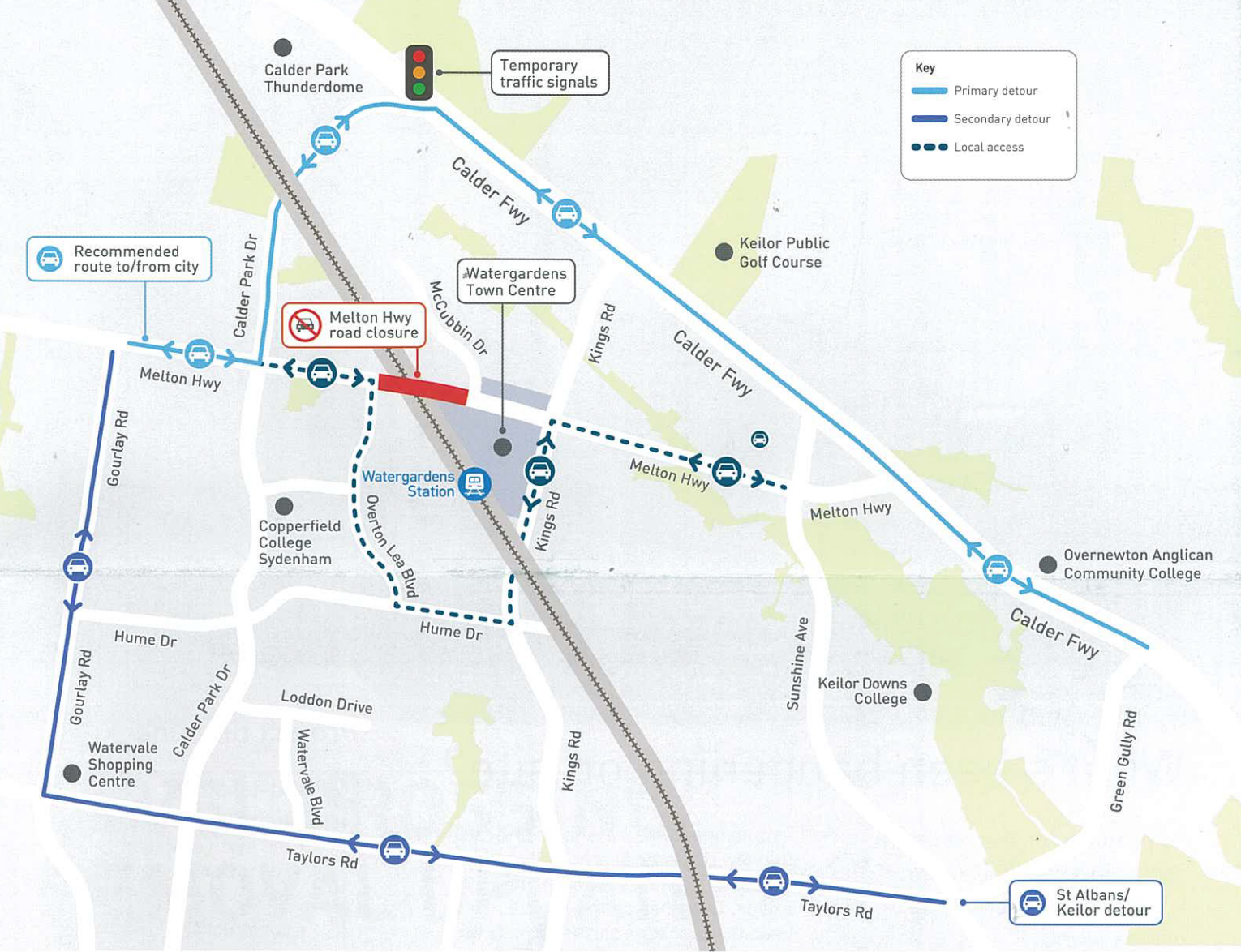
SUPPORT

Shopping local

Shop local

Local businesses, including Watergardens Town Centre will remain open for business as usual, so please come and support your local traders.





The southern bridge beam lift occurred in July 2017





The foundations of the northern bridge

What's been happening on site?

To prepare for the beam lift in April, crews have been working to complete the bridge piling.

The piers and columns are well progressed, with further steel and concrete works still occurring in the lead-up to the bridge beam installation.

Foundation works have started for the new reinforced earth wall approaches either side of the new bridge. Over the coming months, installation of the concrete panels for the new retaining wall will continue.

Works have also been completed for a new water main and improved storm water system, which provide improved drainage around the new bridge.

Beam Facts

- 18 concrete beams will be used to widen the new bridge
- Each beam is approximately 38 metres and weighs 76 tonne
- The beams are made nearby in Melton
- Two cranes will be positioned on the new southern bridge to lift the northern beams into place.



Project timeline

- ✓ **Mid-late 2017**
 - traffic was pushed to the north of Melton Highway over the temporary level crossing
 - construction of the bridge on the south side of Melton Highway commenced (stage one works)
- ✓ **Summer 2017/18**
 - completion of stage one bridge and road works
 - traffic switches over to the new bridge on the south side of Melton Highway
 - removal of the Melton Highway level crossing
- **Mid 2018**

Construction of the bridge on the north side of Melton Highway (stage two works).
- **Late 2018**

Project completion.

**Please note that the timeline above is subject to change.*

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