



MANAGING THE ENVIRONMENT

FEBRUARY 2021

We're upgrading O'Shea Road to relieve congestion and improve connections to the Monash and Princes freeways.

As part of stage 2 of the Monash Freeway Upgrade, we're upgrading O'Shea Road to three lanes in each direction and extending the road to join the Beaconsfield interchange.

Minimising our impact

We're working hard to minimise our impact on the environment, by protecting trees and vegetation where possible and reusing natural resources that have been removed throughout the project.

Assessing trees and vegetation

We've consulted a team of independent ecologists to conduct Biodiversity Assessments to determine areas that may have biodiversity sensitivities and to inform our planning.

We've also consulted an independent arborist to identify trees that can be retained and trees that require protection during construction.

Protecting trees and vegetation during construction

Where trees are being retained, we'll establish a fenced tree protection zone for the duration of construction activities.

This protects the area around a tree, above and below ground, to allow the tree to continue growing. We'll also set up no go zone fences to protect vegetation during construction.

Clearing trees and vegetation

We share the value the community places on the environment, and we're working hard to minimise tree removal where we can during the construction.

We anticipate that we'll need to remove approximately 900 trees from:

- the Beaconsfield Interchange
- O'Shea Road from west of Clyde Road to Soldiers Road
- from Soldiers Road north and south of O'Shea Road.

We'll be appointing vegetation removal contractors who have demonstrated experience working in sensitive areas to carry out these removals. For any native vegetation that we need to remove, we'll either replace them or offset them by acquiring native vegetation with the same ecological value.

Replanting trees and vegetation

We'll also plant new trees and vegetation at the end of the project, replacing what has been removed. We're currently working with landscape designers and the local council to finalise the landscape design along O'Shea Road.



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Managing water quality

We've identified water sources in and around the project area.

Where possible and practical we'll work to minimise impacts on these water sources as well as ground water during construction by:

- monitoring water quality prior to and during construction
- installing silt curtains in waterways to prevent pollution
- capturing and treating any water that is created during construction activities so that it does not leave our work site or enter water sources
- always having spill containment materials available to our workers.

We'll monitor the quality of the water sources within the project area prior to and during construction.

Managing contaminated soil

We've identified locations within the project area with potential low levels of contaminated soil.

We'll manage these locations by:

- developing an Environmental Improvement Plan for the handling, management and disposal of contaminated soils
- minimising the disturbance of contaminated land
- tracking the movement of all contaminated soils
- disposing contaminated soil in line with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) standards.

Managing air quality

Construction activities will at times create dust.

We'll apply a best practice approach to managing air quality. Where possible and practical we'll reduce the impacts by:

- using temporary dust fences as necessary
- reducing traffic speeds in works areas, to minimise dust generation
- covering truck loads when travelling to and from the work site
- hydro-seeding stockpiles of topsoil
- minimising the time between stripping topsoil and commencing excavation
- watering areas or using chemical suppressants where earthworks are occurring
- having additional water carts on standby during hot and windy weather
- regularly servicing and maintaining equipment so to minimise the amount of smoke
- using advanced control systems and filters in diesel engines, to reduce emissions
- using street sweepers to clean local roads if necessary
- installing rumble grids and wash bays at worksite compounds entry and exit points to reduce mud being tracked onto the road.

We'll monitor air quality and wind conditions during construction to ensure we are minimising impacts and complying with EPA guidelines.

Managing waste

We'll maintain our work areas to ensure that they are kept clean and tidy. Where possible and practical we'll reduce waste by:

- providing clearly labelled waste containers
- ensuring all waste is disposed of appropriately
- collecting concrete waste and disposing of it in a concrete washout facility
- covering all vehicles transporting waste
- recycling or reusing waste materials where possible.

Protecting wildlife

Where possible and practical we'll reduce our impact on wildlife in the area during construction.

Prior to removal trees will be inspected for the presence of animals, with a wildlife carer on hand to safely remove and relocate any animals found.

Contact us

We appreciate your understanding while we work to deliver you a safer and more reliable journey. If you have any questions or would like to speak to a member of our project team, please don't hesitate to contact us on **1800 105 105** or send us a message by visiting **roadprojects.vic.gov.au/contact**.

Contact us

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