

Navigating the EES

An Environment Effects Statement (EES) for the West Gate Tunnel Project has been released and is open for public submissions. Information in the EES will help answer your questions about how the project could affect the environment, and what we're doing to manage impacts during construction and when the road opens.

The West Gate Tunnel's design has been two years in development. Over this time, we have worked with communities and stakeholders to understand views, reduce impacts and improve the project. The EES includes details on the environmental effects of the design, how it will be built and operated, and proposed plans for managing effects.

About the EES process

An EES has been required to be prepared for the project by the Minister for Planning. This is a well-established process and the most comprehensive and transparent way for a project's impacts to be considered.

The EES process is managed by the Victorian Government's Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) on behalf of the Minister for Planning, in accordance with the *Environment Effects Act 1978*.

The West Gate Tunnel Project will deliver a vital alternative to the West Gate Bridge by providing a much needed second river crossing. It will widen the West Gate Freeway generally from 8 to 12 lanes, build a new road tunnel and bridges, and provide direct access to the port, CityLink and the north of the city.

Planning approvals

Outcomes of the EES process will inform two key approvals required for the project to proceed:

- Planning Scheme Amendment – decision maker is Minister for Planning
- EPA Works Approval – decision maker is EPA Victoria



Navigating the EES

In the EES you will find information about the project's design, construction and operation, including:

- how the project has been developed and assessed
- an overview of potential effects by location
- proposed measures to avoid, minimise or manage project impacts
- 17 technical reports examining topics such as traffic changes, noise, air quality, health, ecology, heritage, amenity and social impacts
- a map book showing technical drawings of the design.

Also on exhibition is a draft Planning Scheme Amendment, and a Works Approval application for the construction for the tunnel ventilation system. This guide to finding information in the EES shows how the documents are structured, so you can find the information you need.

START HERE FOR AN OVERVIEW OF WHAT'S IN THE EES

EES SUMMARY REPORT

The summary report draws out key information to give you a broad overview of the project, its potential effects and how impacts are proposed to be managed.



FOLLOW THESE STEPS TO FIND MORE INFORMATION IN THE MAIN VOLUMES

STEP 1 CHOOSE YOUR LOCATION/S

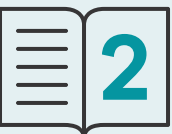


The EES includes four volumes of information and is supported by a number of attachments and maps. Volumes 2, 3 and 4 look at the project's effects by location – making it easier to find and read the information relevant to you.



Volume 1

Information about the project's design and proposed construction approach; explains how the project has been developed including the assessment of design options; the project description, thorough design solutions the project description, urban design solution and a community and stakeholder consultation overview.



Volume 2: West Gate Freeway

Includes the West Gate Freeway widening, upgrades to interchanges at M80, Grieve Parade and Millers Road and Hyde Street ramps.



Volume 3: Tunnels

Includes the underground section of tunnel and the area where the tunnel begins and ends (the southern portal and the northern portal).



Volume 4: Port, CityLink and City access and bypass

Includes the Maribyrnong River Bridge, connections to Port of Melbourne, elevated roadway along Footscray Road, connections to CityLink, Dynon Road, Footscray Road and the extension and widening of Wurundjeri Way.



See attachments, map book and technical reports for more detailed information and data summarised the EES volumes.

STEP 2 CHOOSE YOUR TOPIC/S OF INTEREST



Volumes 2, 3 and 4 bring together information from 17 technical reports and are summarised by type of effect:

Transport



Physical environment



Human health and amenity



Community



Heritage



STEP 3 GET THE DETAILS AND THE DATA



Traffic

Assesses the project's impacts on the transport network, including for traffic, freight, public transport, cyclists and pedestrians, both during the works and once the project opens. Transport modelling is used to predict likely changes across the transport network. Specific information is provided on routes and areas of interest to local communities.

Contaminated soil and spoil management

Describes impacts from the project's interaction with existing contaminated soil and groundwater during tunnelling and removal of excavated materials, and control measures to protect public health.

Groundwater

Focuses on the potential impacts of tunnelling and excavation on groundwater, including interactions with existing contaminated groundwater and how this would be managed.

Ground movement

Assesses ground movement expected to occur due to excavation and tunnelling and its impacts on building and structures including below ground services like sewers, gas lines and other utilities.

Ecology

Considers the project's interaction with the natural environment, including remnant native vegetation, flora and fauna and planted vegetation, and proposes approaches for minimising impacts.

Surface water

Focuses on the project's interactions with waterways including Kororoit Creek, Stony Creek, the Maribyrnong River and Moonee Ponds Creek. The assessment considers potential impacts on water quality, the stability of waterway beds and banks and flooding issues.

Air quality

This assessment uses EPA Victoria data on existing air quality as a baseline for assessing potential changes in air quality from both surface roads and the tunnel, and informs the design of the tunnel ventilation system.

Noise and surface vibration

Predicts likely noise and vibration levels for homes during construction and once the project opens, identifies positive and negative impacts, and applies relevant noise standards to guide the selection and design of noise treatments such as noise walls.

Vibration and regenerated noise

Identifies likely vibration levels from earthworks and construction of the tunnel, and proposes management measures to avoid or minimise impacts on people's homes and other buildings.

Human health

An assessment of how the project may benefit or impact the health and wellbeing of the local community, this report considers changes in traffic, air quality, noise and a range of social aspects.

Social

Identifies and assesses both actual and perceived potential social impacts of the project's construction and operation on neighbourhoods and community and recreational facilities in the vicinity of the project.

Business

An assessment of the business impacts arising from the construction and operation of the West Gate Tunnel Project. Draws on interviews with a range of businesses across the project area and considers land requirements, construction impacts and traffic and access changes.

Land use

Considers the role of the West Gate Tunnel Project in changing land use, including assessment of the project's temporary and permanent impacts on existing land use, and how the project may impact development sites.

Landscape and visual

As assessment of the project's impacts on the existing landscape, including visual impacts from residential and open space areas. In particular the assessment addresses elevated structures and noise walls and impacts from removal of vegetation.

Aboriginal cultural heritage

An assessment of the project's planned construction activities and their impacts on known and previously unregistered Aboriginal cultural heritage. The project includes a Cultural Heritage Management Plan to manage potential impacts.

Historical heritage

Considers the project's physical and visual impact on heritage places, taking account of the residential and industrial heritage of the project area.

Having your say on the EES

The EES process is the opportunity to have your views considered in planning approvals decisions for the West Gate Tunnel Project.

How do I make a submission?

Interested persons and organisations are invited to submit comments on the EES, the draft Planning Scheme Amendment or Works Approval Application.

Review the EES:

- Online: **www.westgatetunnelproject/EES**.
- In hard copy at local council offices in Melbourne, Brimbank, Wyndham, Hobsons Bay and Maribyrnong and libraries along the project corridor. For more details go to the West Gate Tunnel website.
- Request a hard copy or USB from the Western Distributor Authority. Phone 1300 280 939.

Make your submission

Make your submission to Planning Panels Victoria at www.planning.vic.gov.au/west-gate-tunnel-project-hearing by **5:00pm on Monday 10 July 2017**.

Online submissions are preferred. Hard copy submissions must be accompanied by a coversheet. This can be obtained by calling the DELWP Customer Service Centre on 136 186.

Submissions must relate to information and topics covered in the West Gate Tunnel EES, Works Approval application or Planning Scheme Amendment, and include the name and address of the person making the submission.

Who reads my submission?

All submissions will be considered by an Inquiry and Advisory Committee (IAC). The Western Distributor Authority as the project proponent, EPA, and other organisations with an interest will also review the submissions. Submissions are treated as public documents.

The IAC is appointed by the Minister for Planning for their expertise in issues relevant to the project. The IAC is responsible for considering the EES, draft Planning Scheme Amendment, EPA Works Approval application and all public submissions, and making recommendations to the Minister for Planning.

After all submissions have been received, the IAC will conduct public hearings. Requests to be heard by the IAC must be made at the time of making a submission through the online form or submission coversheet.

The IAC hearing is scheduled to begin on Monday 14 August 2017. Details of the program will be published online at www.planning.vic.gov.au/west-gate-tunnel-project-hearing as it becomes available.

What happens after the hearings?

After the public hearings have concluded, the IAC will prepare a report for the Minister for Planning to enable the Minister to make an assessment of the EES. The assessment will be provided to statutory decision makers to inform decisions on the project, including the Planning Scheme Amendment.

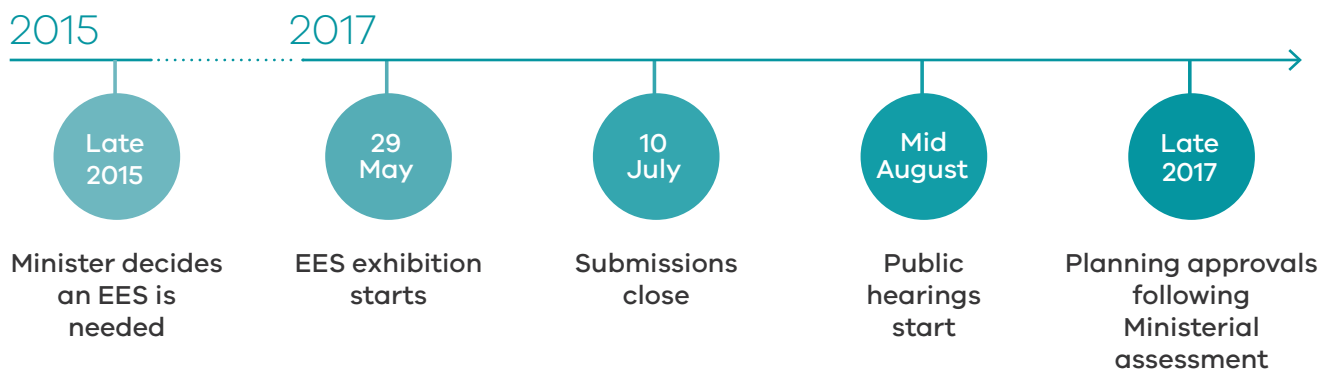




Footscray Road

Artist impression only - does not include detailed design

Key steps in the EES process



Contact us

Do you have a question about the project?
If you need more information or would like to provide feedback, please get in touch.

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If you are deaf, or have a hearing or speech impairment, contact us through the National Relay Service. For more information, visit:
www.relayservice.gov.au.



Bridge over Footscray Road

Artist impression only - does not include detailed design