

In 2018 we'll be designing North East Link and completing the specialist studies required for planning approvals in 2019.

# FACT SHEET COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT 2018-2019



2018

2019

## Community engagement



There are lots of opportunities for communities to get involved in key areas of project design and the planning approvals process.

Early 2018

### Community Liaison Groups (CLGs) established

CLGs will represent their communities and work with us on a range of local issues and opportunities.

The groups will be facilitated by an independent chair and include community members as well as representatives from government and business. The CLGs will meet regularly in 2018 and 2019.\*

Early 2018

### Community workshops start

These will be the first in a series of interactive workshops on topics including *Walking and Cycling, Urban Design, and Your Environment*.

There will also be opportunities to get involved online.

Early-Mid 2018

### Design update #1

Updates on design work.

You'll be able to view maps and concept drawings for key elements and talk to our specialists at drop-in sessions and at a permanent info hub.

We'll also have lots of information and opportunities to get involved on our website.

Mid 2018

### Community workshops continue

These workshops will help us to have in-depth conversations with communities about specific design challenges, options and opportunities so we can keep refining the design.

There will also be opportunities to get involved online.

Mid-Late 2018

### Design update #2

We'll display a more refined project design, including how community feedback has helped shape the project so far.

You'll be able to view the design and give us further feedback at drop-in displays, at our info hub and on our website.

Early 2019

### Environment Effects Statement (EES) display

The EES will be on public display for 30 business days.

The EES will include:

- The proposed project design, including how we've considered the feedback received from communities throughout 2018
- The potential improvements North East Link would deliver, as well as any impacts and the environmental outcomes to be achieved to manage impacts.

You'll be able to get involved in the EES process, including through formal submissions to an independent panel established by the Minister for Planning.

We expect a decision regarding planning and approvals to be received towards the end of 2019.

## Planning studies



Planning approvals will be through an Environment Effects Statement (EES) - Victoria's most stringent planning process.

### Investigating existing conditions

Our planning studies for the EES start with understanding the existing conditions in the project area. Studies include:

- Aboriginal cultural heritage
- Air quality
- Arboriculture
- Business
- Ecology (flora, fauna and aquatic)
- Greenhouse gas
- Ground movement
- Groundwater
- Historic heritage
- Human health
- Land contamination
- Land use planning
- Landscape and visual
- Noise
- Social and community
- Surface water
- Traffic and transport
- Vibration

### Investigating environmental effects

Following the existing conditions investigations, the potential effects of the project will be assessed by comparing the future situation with and without North East Link being built.

Based on the assessments, a set of environmental performance requirements will be developed. These will define the minimum environmental outcomes that must be achieved for design, construction and operation of the project.

Based on similar projects, the performance requirements will be comprehensive. A few examples could include minimising the project footprint, a tree protection plan and tree replacement program, design standards to waterproof tunnels and managing construction noise.

### Finalising the planning studies and writing the EES

The potential improvements North East Link would deliver, as well as any impacts and environmental performance requirements, will be detailed in reports written for the EES.

## Project design



Design work will be ongoing and include community input.

### Developing the design

Our engineers and planners will be working on early ideas for:

- How interchanges could work and connect with existing roads
- Types of construction for different sections of North East Link
- Doncaster Busway, park and ride facilities
- Upgrades to the Eastern Freeway

While we develop the design, we'll also consider how to create high quality urban design outcomes, public space and parklands, and walking and cycling connections.

### Refining the design

We'll keep refining the design. Our work will be informed by community feedback, technical reviews and the findings of environmental assessments.

\*Throughout 2018 we'll also meet regularly with local councils, community groups and organisations like schools and sports clubs, businesses and business groups, Traditional Owners, and government organisations like VicRoads, Melbourne Water and the EPA to discuss issues and opportunities.