

# FACT SHEET



# NORTH EAST LINK

## MORE THAN JUST A ROAD

The Peninsula Link shared use path is the single biggest addition to Melbourne's shared use path network since the EastLink Trail. It demonstrates the commitment of the Victorian Government to improve pedestrian and cycling access as part of major road and rail projects.

North East Link – the missing link in Melbourne's road network – will join the Metropolitan Ring Road at Greensborough with the Eastern Freeway or EastLink. It will provide a connection for 100,000 vehicles a day, take long haul trucks off local roads and reduce pressure across the whole transport network.

But there's much more to it than just the road.

When the government plans for a major project like North East Link, we are thinking about a much bigger picture.

### Understanding local communities

We're already hearing from communities in the north east. We know many people have lived there for a long time, and love the area. Others have moved there because of its natural features, and they want to see these protected.

We also know there are concerns about traffic and growth, and we're listening carefully so we can work through the best ways to improve things for the future.

### Understanding communities further out

People will benefit from North East Link, even if they never use the road. Without this link traffic has been placing pressure on roads way beyond the local area. Our traffic research shows us people are using many other indirect routes because they have to go around. We look forward to hearing from Victorians: from the Latrobe Valley through to those along the Hume Highway and everyone in between, to understand where they travel and what connections they need.

### Cycling and walking

Victorians are increasingly looking for improved walking and cycling paths: for commuting, recreation and health. We'll be looking for ways to improve connections in local neighbourhoods, and will be talking with local bike user groups, schools and anyone who's interested about how best to connect new places and provide better, safer paths.

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[northeastlink.vic.gov.au](http://northeastlink.vic.gov.au)

Authorised and published by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne





EastLink created 60 new wetlands and involved planting more than 3.6m native plants, trees and shrubs.

## Creating better public places

Urban designers will be working with the natural environment in mind, to reflect local character and identity - tying in to local topography, colours and natural habitat. North East Link will be designed to fit in the existing landscape, mindful of the communities around the road, not just people using it. The road must work positively with the local community: its shops, schools, houses, businesses and public open spaces

A guiding principle for North East Link is to minimise impacts on the environment. More than that, we'll be looking for a design that brings opportunities to improve it. We'll be looking at the potential to protect and enhance waterways, create new wetlands, increase native vegetation and canopy trees and provide more habitats for native animals. This means we'll be working with the water authorities, local government, and interested community and environment groups.

## Public transport

Lots of public transport relies on the road network. Our buses provide flexible services for changing and growing communities; we use taxis, share-cars and ride sharing services; and many people drive to train stations. We'll be talking with Public Transport Victoria and service providers so we understand how to best meet their needs.

## Providing economic and employment opportunities

Our research already shows us there are a lot of people who simply can't get to places where they could work - it's too far and takes too long. North East Link will provide better access across town to our main activity centres in Dandenong, Ringwood, Box Hill, Broadmeadows and Epping.

## Share your ideas

The North East Link community survey is one way for you to share your experience with us. You can find it on our website, or call us if you'd like a paper copy.

## How to get involved

North East Link has potential to deliver enormous community benefits, and we'll be working hard to encourage community input.



Here are just some of the ways you can get involved and provide feedback on options for North East Link including:

- Sign up to receive email updates
- Attend our information sessions and forums
- Join the online conversation on our website
- Participate in surveys and research to help us better understand community values
- Keep an eye out for details about our Community Representatives' Forum which will be established later this year to represent community views.

## Contact us

✉ [northeastlink.vic.gov.au](mailto:northeastlink.vic.gov.au)  
☎ 1800 941 191  
@ North East Link Authority  
GPO Box 4509, Melbourne VIC 3001

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