

DELIVERING MELBOURNE'S NEWEST SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES



OUTER METROPOLITAN RING/E6 TRANSPORT CORRIDOR PLANNING ASSESSMENT REPORT

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S FOREWORD

The proposed Outer Metropolitan Ring / E6 (OMR/E6) Transport Corridor which will run from west of Werribee, through to Kalkallo, Epping and Thomastown, is part of an integrated package of planning actions for “Delivering Melbourne’s Newest Sustainable Communities”. This package also includes the revision of Melbourne’s Urban Growth Boundary, the Regional Rail Link, between west of Werribee and Deer Park, and expanded protection measures for rare and endangered grasslands in Melbourne’s west. These integrated planning actions are being put forward for public and stakeholder comment, before decisions about them are made by the Government.

The OMR/E6 is a key long term planning project in the Government’s blueprint for improving transport services, the \$38 billion Victorian Transport Plan.

The aim of the OMR/E6 planning project is to reserve land for a possible future transport corridor. Planning ahead for these connections and coordinating them with other land use plans is crucial to ensuring that these areas develop in the best way possible for the benefit of all residents.

The OMR/E6 has been identified as a possible 93km long transport link – both road and rail – that would connect residential and employment growth areas in Melbourne’s north and west; enhance connections between international transport hubs such as our airports, the Port of Geelong and the proposed Donnybrook/Beveridge Interstate Rail Freight Terminal; and serve as an important route to interstate and major regional destinations.

Included with this proposal is provision for a 7km long east-west link between the Deer Park Bypass and the OMR/E6. VicRoads has also defined a study area for a possible high standard connection between the OMR/E6 and Melbourne Airport. Investigations for this corridor will be undertaken in the future.

The OMR/E6 will provide the backbone for future transport network planning in Melbourne’s growing northern and western suburbs in coming years. Construction of the OMR/E6 is not envisaged before 2020, but it is crucial we plan ahead – and that our planning is closely coordinated with a number of other significant initiatives underway in these areas.



This Planning Assessment Report (PAR) sets out the strategic background, defines objectives for the corridor and develops and assesses a number of alternative route alignment options identified by VicRoads and the Department of Transport, and recommends a right of way for the corridor. The recommended right of way has been planned to provide for a freeway standard road, and for a high standard railway in the OMR section.

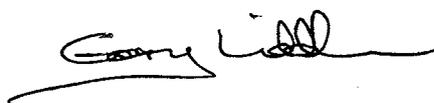
The proposal for this new reservation includes treatments to provide replacement or better managed habitat to replace the vegetation cleared as part of the construction process. These treatments are within the framework provided by the habitat management approach associated with the review of Melbourne's Urban Growth Boundary. VicRoads will ensure that noise reduction measures are provided in line with its noise policies and undertake measures to protect the water quality of rivers and creeks. The proposal will also incorporate extensive landscaping measures. Detailed proposals for these measures will be developed in close consultation with the community nearer to the time of construction.

The public display of this PAR provides the opportunity for the community and other stakeholders to provide comment on the proposed alignment and on the measures to protect the environment, before a decision is made by the Government.

After the Government has made a decision on the alignment, it is expected that a Public Acquisition Overlay will be put into the relevant planning schemes to enable VicRoads to acquire the land in the future.

This PAR has been developed as part of an integrated planning process. The OMR/E6 Transport Corridor has been planned by officers of VicRoads, in consultation with officers of the Departments of Transport, Planning and Community Development, and Sustainability and Environment, together with the Growth Areas Authority and Councils. A Technical Reference Group has worked closely with VicRoads and the Department of Transport and provided advice during the planning process. I wish to sincerely thank all those who have contributed.

We look forward to hearing Victorians' views on our plans for these key transport links for the future.



Gary Liddle

Chief Executive, VicRoads

HOW YOU CAN COMMENT

COMMENT AND FEEDBACK IS SOUGHT ON THE:

- > Proposed changes to Melbourne's Urban Growth Boundary;
- > Proposed alignment of the Outer Metropolitan Ring / E6 Transport Corridor;
- > Proposed alignment of the Regional Rail Link (west of Werribee to Deer Park); and
- > Proposed western grassland reserves.

Submissions may be made to the Growth Areas Authority and must be received by 17 July 2009.

Submissions may be **electronic** or **written** and will be published once the display period ends, unless marked 'in confidence'.

ELECTRONIC SUBMISSIONS MAY BE MADE AT:

www.vic.gov.au/planningmelbourne

WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS MAY BE SENT TO:

*Growth Areas Authority
PO Box 1166
CARLTON VIC 3053*

WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS MAY BE HAND DELIVERED TO:

*Growth Areas Authority
Level 6, 35 Spring Street
Melbourne Victoria 3000*

QUESTIONS

If you have a question regarding the consultation process or the content of this report, then please either:

Visit: www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/omr

Or

Call 1800 090 789 (toll free)

Or

Visit a public information session. Details of the information sessions are as follows:

Wednesday 24 June 2009 4pm - 8pm

*Jack McKenzie Community Centre
Green St, Bulla
Melway Ref. 177 B7*

Thursday 25 June 2009 4pm - 8pm

*Craigieburn Functions Lounge
59 Craigieburn Rd West, Craigieburn
Melway Ref. 387 A9*

Saturday 27 June 2009 10am - 4pm

*Melton Senior Citizens Centre
McKenzie St, Melton
Melway Ref. 337 B9*

Monday 29 June 2009 4pm – 8pm

Victoria University Events Centre
Gate 1, 460 Ballarat Rd, Sunshine
Melway Ref. 26 J10

Tuesday 30 June 2009 4pm – 8pm

Wyndham Leisure & Events Centre
80-82 Derrimut Rd, Hoppers Crossing
Melway Ref. 206 D3

Wednesday 1 July 2009 4pm – 8 pm

Beveridge Community Centre
Lithgow St, Beveridge
Melway Ref. 665 G9

Thursday 2 July 2009 4pm – 8pm

Balla Balla Community Centre
65 Berwick-Cranbourne Rd, Cranbourne
Melway Ref. 134 B6

Saturday 4 July 10am – 4pm

Plenty Ranges Arts & Convention Centre
35 Ferres Blvd, South Morang
Melway Ref. 183 A10

DISPLAYS IN VICROADS OFFICES:

Displays with information and maps relating to all four projects can be seen at:

Caroline Springs:

9am - 5pm

Mondays to Fridays until 17th July

VicRoads Western Projects Office

2 – 8 Lake Street

Caroline Springs 3023

Somerton:

9am - 5pm

Mondays to Fridays until 17th July

VicRoads Northern City Projects Office

814 Cooper Street

Somerton 3062

Sunshine:

8.30am – 4.30pm Mondays to Thursdays

8.30am – 5pm Fridays until 17th July

VicRoads Metropolitan

North West Region Office

499 Ballarat Road

Sunshine 3020