The Level Crossing Removal Project is removing 18 level crossings and building 12 new stations as part of a $3 billion upgrade of the Frankston line that will improve safety, reduce congestion and allow more trains to run more often.

Three dangerous and congested crossings in Chelsea are being fast-tracked for removal at Swanpool Avenue, Chelsea Road and Argyle Avenue.

A new direct connection will also be created between Thames Promenade in Chelsea and the Nepean Highway.

Work starts next year, meaning all the level crossings from Edithvale to Bonbeach will be gone by 2022.

The Frankston line will be lowered into a trench under Edithvale Road in Edithvale, Thames Promenade and Argyle Avenue in Chelsea, and Bondi Road in Bonbeach. By upgrading key intersections and creating a more direct road network, we’re able to close level crossings at Swanpool Avenue and Chelsea Road in Chelsea and Lochiel Avenue in Edithvale.

Three new modern stations will be built at Edithvale, Chelsea and Bonbeach.

New walking and cycling paths will also be built, making it safer and easier to access the things you love in your local area.

Fast-tracking Chelsea and getting the job done sooner means much less disruption and inconvenience, and fewer rail line closures, as works will occur concurrently on all these level crossings.

Key features

- Three new modern stations
- Bigger intersections with more green time
- Better access to major arterials
- Better local connections
- New bike and pedestrian paths

Sign up for project updates
levelcrossings.vic.gov.au

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

Mid-late 2019
- Early works start
- Community engagement
- Design concepts shared

Early 2020
- Community engagement
- Contract award

Mid 2020
- Designs finalised
- Construction starts

2022
- Edithvale, Chelsea and Bonbeach level crossings gone and works complete

*Please note that the timeline above is subject to change.

Come and talk to the team

We want to hear about what is important to your community, how you prefer to move around the area, and how best we can work with you.

Your input will help inform the Planning Scheme Amendment process and design for Chelsea.

Get involved

Online

Head to our online hub to share your views and make a written submission for the formal Chelsea Planning Scheme Amendment process, at your.levelcrossings.vic.gov.au/Chelsea

Feedback opens on Monday 29 July and closes 5pm Monday 26 August 2019.

Community drop-in sessions

Come along to our drop-in sessions later this month to find out more about these projects.

When
- Saturday 3 August, 10am to 1pm
- Thursday 8 August, 5pm to 8pm
- Thursday 15 August, 5pm to 8pm

Where
- Chelsea Town Hall, 312 Station St, Chelsea
  - Drop in anytime, no need to RSVP
Traffic improvements

Major improvements to key intersections at Edithvale Road in Edithvale, Thames Promenade and Argyle Avenue in Chelsea, and Bondi Road in Bonbeach will improve the local road network.

This will enable better access to major arterials, local shopping precincts, stations and the beach, as well as making local streets safer and quieter for drivers, bicycle riders and residents.

There’ll be bigger intersections with dedicated turning lanes, and traffic signals programmed to keep people moving.

Removing these boom gates means no more traffic banking up in peak hours waiting to cross the Frankston line, improving traffic flow along Nepean Highway and Station Street. These changes will take through-traffic off local roads, reducing rat-running, also making them quieter and safer.

Why these level crossings need to go

- 40,000 commuters use Frankston line daily
- 200 passenger trains daily on the Frankston line
- Boom gates down over 35% of morning peak
- Over 50 freight trains weekly
What's happening in your area?

**Edithvale**
- A new modern station at Edithvale closer to Denman Avenue, with more access points, better lighting and facilities
- Direct connections on Edithvale Road between Nepean Highway and the Mornington Peninsula Freeway and the future Mordialloc Freeway
- Easier and safer pedestrian and cyclist access at Lochiel Avenue
- Closure of Lochiel Avenue crossing to reduce rat-running and remove congestion hot-spot

**Chelsea**
- A new modern station at Chelsea closer to The Strand, beach access and parking, with more access points, better lighting and bus facilities
- Thames Promenade extended to Nepean Highway
- Chelsea Road level crossing and Swanpool Avenue level crossing closed
- Upgraded intersection with dedicated turning lanes at Argyle Avenue, with the level crossing removed and road extended over the rail line

**Bonbeach**
- A new modern station at Bonbeach closer to Monica Avenue, and beach access, with more access points, better lighting and facilities
- Easier and safer pedestrian and cyclist access through the station precinct
- Upgraded intersection with dedicated turning lanes at Bondi Road, with the level crossing removed and Bondi Road extended to Nepean Highway over the rail line
Better pedestrian connections

There will be pedestrian and cyclist connections across the rail line at each of the new stations and at Thames Promenade and Lochiel Avenue, Edithvale.

We will keep pedestrian crossings at ground level where possible. We will provide some new accessible crossings and upgrade others to modern standards with safety gates. New walking and cycling paths will also be built, making it safer and easier to access shops, important community facilities and the beach.

More detailed plans will be released as designs progress.

Brand new stations

We will be building three new stations as part of the Edithvale, Chelsea and Bonbeach level crossing removals.

Each of the new stations will be upgraded to modern design and accessibility standards, each offering multiple convenient entry points to get you to your platform faster. The new stations will each have new locations to seamlessly connect commuters, pedestrians and cyclists to local activity hubs, important community facilities and beaches.

Station platforms will be in the rail trench close to ground level, with easy access via ramps and stairs. Modern ground level station buildings with more entrances will provide safer access from all directions, with commuters no longer having to walk across the rail tracks when using the stations.

The new station precincts will have dedicated drop-off zones for commuters, new bike facilities including Parkiteer cages, as well as creating better access from walking and cycling paths to improve safety.
Early works underway

There is a lot of detailed planning and technical work to be done before we can start removing the level crossings.

You may have already seen a drilling rig and truck being used to investigate geotechnical conditions and locate existing services near the level crossing removal sites.

This work will be continuing over the coming months.

What we’re doing:
- Geotechnical investigations to understand ground conditions, including soil and groundwater
- Traffic studies
- Determining where the existing service utilities are located, such as gas, water, electricity, telecommunications and sewerage

We have also undertaken extensive environmental assessments as part of the initial planning works, including the Environment Effects Statement at Edithvale and Bonbeach, due to the proximity of the proposed works to the Edithvale–Seaford Wetlands.

This rigorous process found that lowering the rail into a trench at these crossings would not negatively impact the wetlands.

Planning and environment

To begin construction in Chelsea, we need to seek appropriate planning approvals.

The Planning Scheme Amendment process gives the community the opportunity to share what is important to them, with feedback going to the Minister for Planning to assist with decision making.

This process is commonly used for infrastructure projects including most level crossing removal projects in Melbourne.

You can participate in this process by submitting your feedback at your.levelcrossings.vic.gov.au/Chelsea or come to a community drop-in session (see under Get involved).