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November 2020

Dear Owner/Occupier

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT SUBURBAN RAIL LOOP STAGE ONE: CHELTENHAM TO BOX HILL**

Suburban Rail Loop will transform Victoria's public transport system, connecting our suburbs and making travel easier and more convenient. Connecting every major train line from the Frankston line to the Werribee line, the new rail link will improve access to housing, jobs, schools, universities and hospitals in Melbourne's middle suburbs.

Suburban Rail Loop Authority (SRLA) is responsible for the planning and delivery of Suburban Rail Loop on behalf of the Victorian Government.

In March 2020, we wrote to residents and businesses between Cheltenham and Box Hill to advise that the broad alignment for Stage One had been confirmed. Stage One will be built as a twin-tunnel, standalone line that will fully integrate into our existing public transport network. New underground stations will be built at Cheltenham, Clayton, Monash, Glen Waverley, Burwood and Box Hill.

Planning and design work, along with stakeholder consultation, has helped us identify proposed areas of interest for the locations of these stations.

Further investigations and other work are now underway in these areas of interest to assess and narrow down options for the project. As a result, you may notice increased local activity. This work is being conducted under strict health controls due to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

### **What this means for you**

Stage One (Cheltenham to Box Hill) will be tunnelled underground to minimise potential land impacts. However, for any project the scale and complexity of Suburban Rail Loop, there will be some unavoidable land impacts and disruptions during construction.

It's our priority to communicate and share more detailed information with the community and stakeholders about these impacts as early as possible.

It is important to note that the exact station locations have not yet been confirmed. We are now undertaking engineering and geotechnical investigations, and engagement to refine and confirm the exact station locations for Stage One.

Geotechnical investigations involve drilling boreholes to collect data and information about the ground conditions to support the detailed design and planning required. These investigations and other assessments will be concentrated around the areas of interest for the proposed station locations, so you will notice increased activity in the coming months.

The investigations will be undertaken on public and private land. We will be maintaining engagement with the community and stakeholders about these works, including to gain necessary approvals, if access to private property is required, and communicating information about the work to be undertaken at each investigation site.

### **Planning approvals process**

The Victorian Government has allocated \$300 million to Suburban Rail Loop for planning and pre-construction activities and preparation of a full Investment Case. The project will be completed in stages over several decades, with construction on Stage One expected to begin in 2022, subject to obtaining statutory approvals.

Like other major infrastructure projects, Suburban Rail Loop will be subject to a planning and environmental assessment process in order to be considered for statutory approval. SRLA will ensure that potential impacts on the environment and community are considered during decision making.

In addition to SRLA's ongoing engagement with community and stakeholders, there will be an opportunity for you to participate as part of the formal statutory approvals process.

### **Find out more**

Over coming months, we will be engaging with the community to provide more information about Stage One of Suburban Rail Loop and to seek your views and ideas about this transformational project.

I encourage you to register for regular project updates and to provide your feedback on the project by visiting our website at [suburbanrailloop.vic.gov.au](http://suburbanrailloop.vic.gov.au). You can also follow our Suburban Rail Loop Facebook page for regular updates as the project progresses.

Should you have any questions please contact the Suburban Rail Loop information help line on 1800 105 105 or via the Contact page on our website.

Yours sincerely



**Tom Considine**  
Acting CEO  
Suburban Rail Loop Authority

