



REGIONAL
RAIL REVIVAL
BALLARAT



COMMUNITY UPDATE

WINTER 2018

Major construction is well underway on the Ballarat Line Upgrade.

The project will deliver more services and improved reliability for Melbourne's outer-western suburbs, Bacchus Marsh, Ballan and Ballarat. In recent months we've made some major progress.

In early May, while coaches replaced trains, the largest program of works yet took place on the Ballarat Line Upgrade.

Over the course of four days 200 of our team worked night and day at sites stretching from Caroline Springs to Millbrook.

More than 15 kilometres of safety fencing has now been installed, meaning we can get on with adding a second track between Caroline Springs and Melton.

Also underway is construction on the Rockbank Station rebuild, a new rail bridge over Toolern Creek, new stabling at Maddingley and a passing loop at Millbrook.

All of which gets us closer to more frequent and reliable services.



Australian Government

BUILDING OUR FUTURE

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What's happening along the line



Even more improvements for the Ballarat line

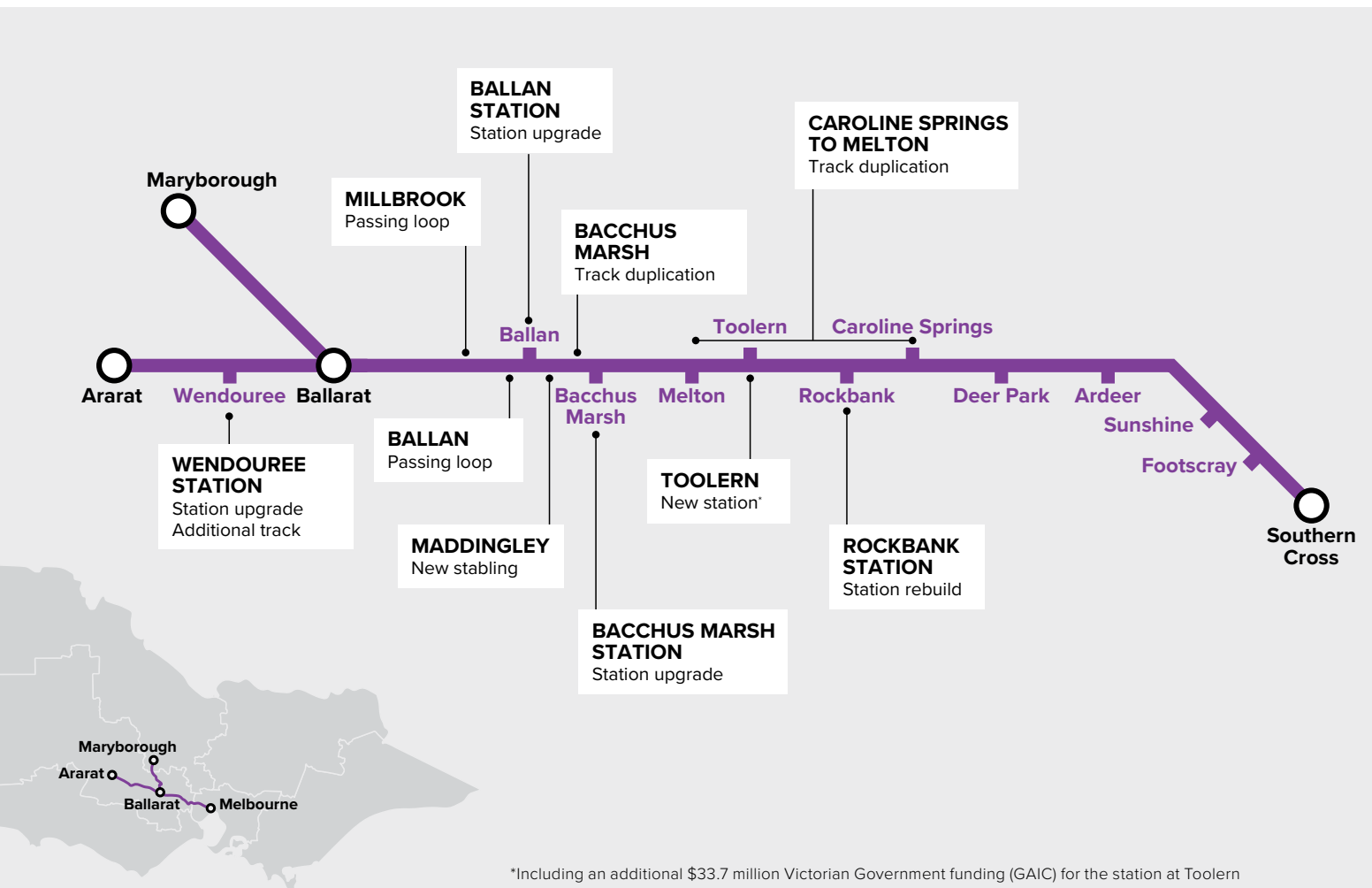
The Ballarat Line Upgrade will enable much-needed extra services in the morning and afternoon peak, plus a train every 40 minutes off-peak for growing communities between Melbourne's outer western suburbs and Ballarat.

Recently new works were announced as part of the Ballarat Line Upgrade, including:

- adding a **second platform at Wendouree** to create enough space for trains to pass each other in this section for the first time and make services more reliable between Ballarat, Wendouree and beyond
- building a **new station at Toolern**, between Rockbank and Melton, funded by the Victorian Government's Growth Area Infrastructure Contribution, to help service Melbourne's booming outer-western suburbs
- laying **an extra three kilometres of track between Bacchus Marsh Station and Rowsley Station Road** in Maddingley, so trains can move in and out of the nearby stabling facilities more quickly.

Due to these changes, we no longer need to duplicate track at Warrenheip, which means less excavation is needed and fewer trees will be removed.

The project is being delivered by Lendlease, Coleman Rail and SMEC Australia, appointed as contractors in December 2017.



*Including an additional \$33.7 million Victorian Government funding (GAIC) for the station at Toolern

Major construction



2017	Early 2018	Mid to late 2018	2019
Preferred contractor appointed	Start track duplication between Caroline Springs and Melton	Start works at Wendouree Station (pending planning approval) and Ballan Station	Major track and station works continue
Planning and environmental approvals	Start works at Rockbank Station	Start Maddingley stabling Start Bacchus Marsh crossing loop (pending planning approval)	Target completion date late 2019
Station design consultation		Start works at Bacchus Marsh Station Start works at new station at Toolern (pending planning approval)	
Site preparation between Caroline Springs and Melton		Start Ballan and Millbrook passing loops construction	

Latest news

The Ballarat Line Upgrade isn't just building train stations and tracks – it's also helping make new homes for some of the region's most vulnerable animals.

We've teamed up with Western Water and Pinkerton Landcare and Environment Group (PLEG) to reuse trees removed for construction work on the Ballarat line as habitat for native birds and other wildlife.

The trees have been placed in the area between Pinkerton Forest and Bush's Paddock, where PLEG and Western Water have been working to regenerate the forest and create a wildlife corridor.

Wherever possible we're changing construction methods to reduce the need for tree or vegetation removal. The trees that were removed were in the direct line of new tracks or station infrastructure being built.

Native birds, including the Sacred Kingfisher and the vulnerable Zebra Finch, have already taken to the area, with parrots, cockatoos and owls expected to nest in the trees as they mature and hollow out.





New station design for Rockbank

Designs for the new Rockbank Station have been unveiled, showing how the station will be transformed as part of the Ballarat Line Upgrade.

The two existing platforms will be demolished and rebuilt, to accommodate six-carriage VLocity trains.

Following community feedback, the designs of the station feature an overpass to connect the two platforms, providing a safe, sheltered crossing for passengers.

The station will also include drop-off zones, taxi bays and a secure bicycle cage, as well as a bus interchange, security and improved lighting. A sealed car park with more than 350 spaces will be constructed.

A modern station is essential for the developing suburb of Rockbank and its surrounds, with the population in the suburb alone estimated to grow from around 1,500 to around 39,000 by 2041. Passenger trips from Rockbank Station have almost doubled in the past year.

Construction on the station started in May, with a target completion date of late 2019.

What we heard from you – new station at Toolern

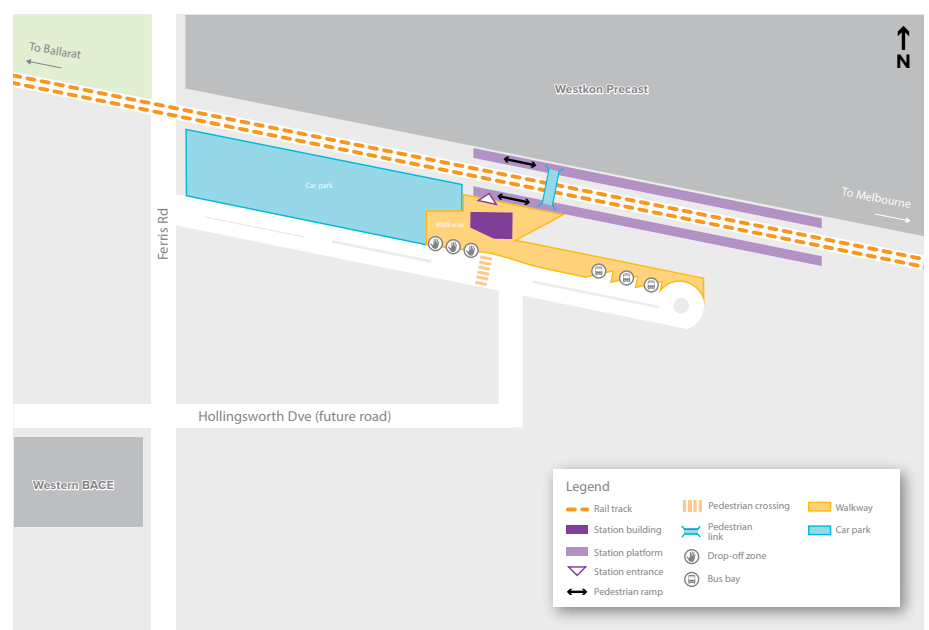
We're building a new station on the Ballarat line at Toolern, between Melton and Rockbank.

The station will be vital to supporting the suburb's growth to an estimated population of 55,000 over the coming decades.

We spoke to more than 450 commuters at Melton Station and around 600 community members at the Djerriwarrah Festival and the City of Melton Toolern Summit about the proposed station layout.

The community told us that the most important issues were traffic and transport links, as well as safety and security at the station.

This feedback supported our submission for planning approval and will be considered in the station design, which will be released over the coming months.



BALLARAT LINE UPGRADE LEADS REGIONAL RAIL REVIVAL



The Australian and Victorian governments are reviving Victoria's regional rail network, delivering major upgrades to every passenger line and creating more than 1,000 jobs.

The \$1.75 billion program includes station upgrades, as well as improvements to signalling and track across Victoria. The Ballarat Line Upgrade is the first to get underway.

Rail Projects Victoria (RPV) is responsible for the planning and implementation of the program on behalf of the State Government of Victoria, including:

- Ballarat Line Upgrade – \$557 million

**Separately funded by the Victorian Government

- Bendigo and Echuca Line Upgrade – \$91 million
- Geelong Line Upgrade – \$160 million
- Gippsland Line Upgrade – \$530 million
- North East Corridor Upgrade – \$275 million
- Shepparton Line Upgrade – \$356 million**
- Warrnambool Line Upgrade – \$114 million

There will be opportunities for private sector involvement in Regional Rail Revival, with options for a range of contractors, designers and suppliers.

For more information visit regionalrailrevival.vic.gov.au

Building fences, minimising disruption

An innovative approach to construction and safety is helping us minimise disruption to passengers during construction on the Ballarat Line Upgrade.

Ballan-based business Premier Fencing has now installed more than 15 kilometres of safety fencing between Caroline Springs and Melton.

Standing 1.6 metres from the edge of the track, it protects our workers from trains traveling at up to 160 km/h.

The installation method for the fencing is extremely efficient. A machine that acts like a giant mallet rolls along the train track tapping sleeves into place. Poles are added, then the fence - all without concreting - which means we can roll out a kilometre of fencing each day.

Once the fencing is in place, work can take place while trains are still running, helping to reduce the number of times train services are disrupted.

We have also installed blue indicator lights onto our machinery. This allows train drivers to clearly identify construction machinery and travel confidently past work zones.

All of this allows us to get on with major construction with minimum disruption to passengers.



Ballarat line service changes

There will be some unavoidable service changes during the year with coaches replacing trains to allow for construction work along the line. Passengers will be provided with plenty of notice about service changes ahead of these works taking place.

CONTACT US

For more information about the Ballarat Line Upgrade:

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	Italian	Italiano	Spanish	Español
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Project partners:



Member of the Surbana Jurong Group