



REGIONAL  
RAIL REVIVAL  
**BENDIGO  
ECHUCA**



# COMMUNITY UPDATE

WINTER 2018

## Bendigo and Echuca Line Upgrade

Work is now underway on the \$91 million Bendigo and Echuca Line Upgrade to enable faster services to Echuca and more frequent services between Epsom, Eaglehawk and Bendigo.

We're upgrading sleepers and track to increase the maximum speed of Echuca trains from 80 km/h to 130 km/h, and design and planning is already well underway.

In the next few months we'll start site investigations, including environmental assessments and soil testing, which means you'll see increased activity near the line.

The Bendigo to Echuca track upgrade has a target completion date of early 2020.

Signalling upgrades between Bendigo, Eaglehawk and Epsom will deliver Bendigo Metro Stage 2, giving passengers a metro-style service. Planning and design will start later this year, and the project has a target completion date of early 2021.

### Benefits

- ✓ more frequent and reliable services beyond Bendigo
- ✓ a metro-style train service for Bendigo
- ✓ a faster trip to Echuca
- ✓ improved safety for motorists and train passengers
- ✓ a second weekday return service to Echuca



### Regional Rail Revival

The \$1.75 billion Regional Rail Revival program is a joint initiative of the Australian and Victorian governments. It will upgrade stations, signalling and tracks across Victoria to give passengers more frequent and reliable services.

Regional Rail Revival will create more than 1,000 jobs across the state, develop industry skills and help grow local economies by employing local workers and contractors.

Follow us at  
[facebook.com/regionalrailrevival](https://facebook.com/regionalrailrevival)

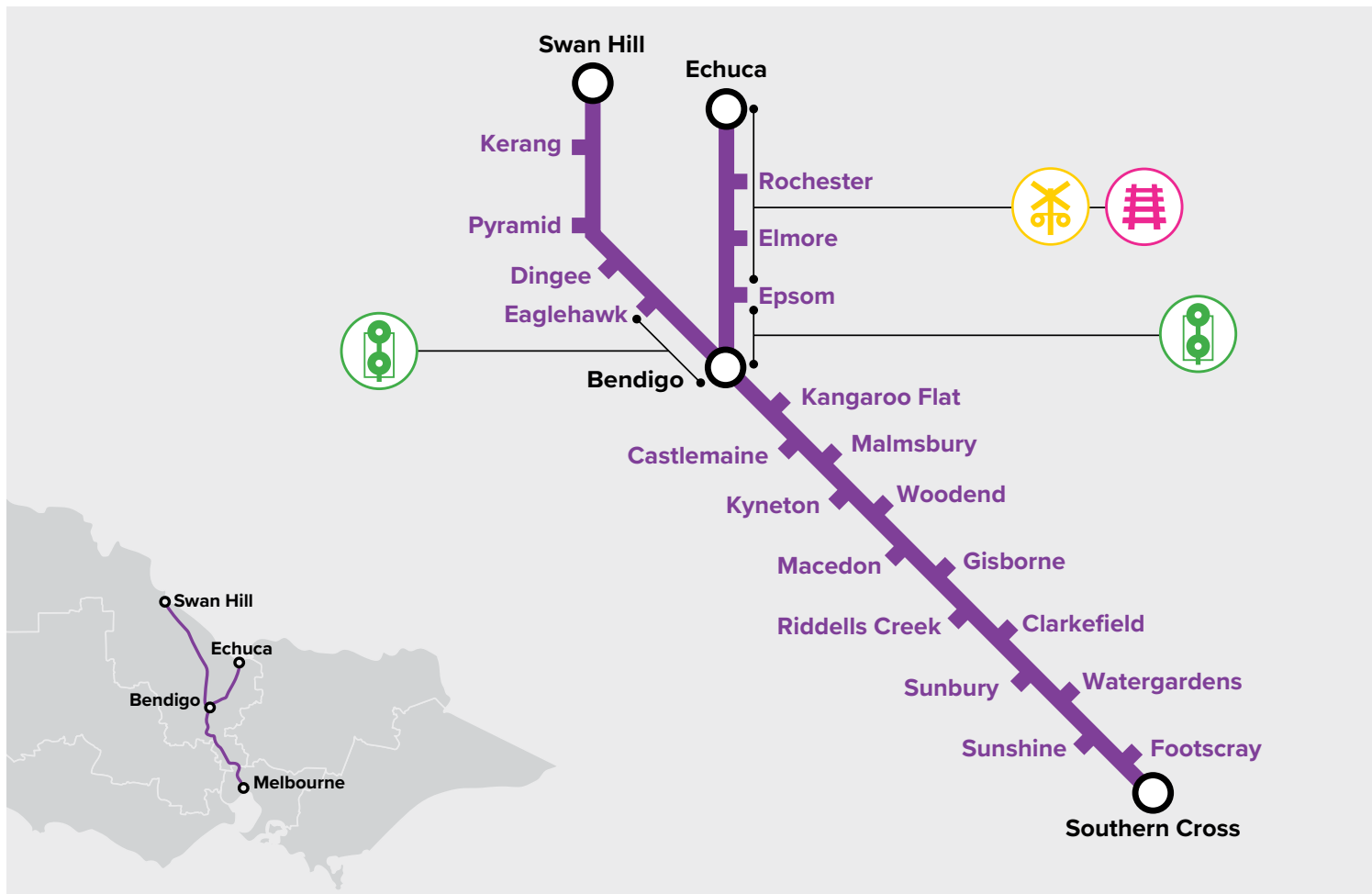


Australian Government

**BUILDING OUR FUTURE**



## What we are delivering



## Local jobs first

### The Bendigo and Echuca Line Upgrade will:

- ✓ create opportunities for local jobs and suppliers through the Victorian Government's *Local Jobs First – Victorian Industry Participation Policy (VIPP)*
- ✓ develop industry skills
- ✓ grow local economies
- ✓ employ apprentices, trainees or engineering cadets for at least 10 per cent of the project's total labour hours.

### Register your interest

There will be opportunities for a range of contractors, designers and suppliers to be involved in the delivery of the Bendigo and Echuca Line Upgrade.

If you are interested in working on the project, register your interest at: [regionalrailrevival.vic.gov.au/about/jobs](http://regionalrailrevival.vic.gov.au/about/jobs)



**Signalling upgrades**  
from Bendigo to Epsom  
and Eaglehawk



**Track and sleeper upgrades**  
to increase the maximum  
track speed of Echuca trains  
from 80km/h up to 130 km/h



**Level crossing upgrades**  
between Epsom  
and Echuca

## Project update

Work is now underway on the Bendigo and Echuca Line Upgrade – although you may not see much happening on the ground at first.

There are several stages for the project, including:

2018

### Site investigations

We will undertake a range of assessments including geotechnical, ecological, hydrology and heritage to identify potential constraints and impacts.

2018  
to  
2019

### Design and procurement

Preparing detailed designs for upgrades. Planning approvals will be required for some elements of the work.

Appointing contractors to start major construction with an emphasis on getting the best value for money and boosting employment for locals and young people in the region.

2019  
to  
2021

### Construction\*

Construction will start by early 2019. Target completion date for Echuca upgrades is early 2020. Target completion date for signalling upgrades is early 2021.

\*subject to planning and environmental approvals



## Greater Bendigo booming

The City of Greater Bendigo is one of Victoria's fastest-growing cities, with the population expected to grow by more than 40,000 people in the next 20 years.

This means rail patronage is rising, as more people in the Bendigo region choose to take the train.

Patronage on the Bendigo line went up by around four per cent in the 2016-17 financial year and is expected to continue to rise.

The Bendigo and Echuca Line Upgrade will deliver better public transport for Bendigo's growing community.





## Stay connected

As the Bendigo Line Upgrade gets underway, we'll be keeping the community informed and providing opportunities for input on the project.

Some of the ways we'll communicate with you will include information sessions, letterbox drops, emails, advertising, website updates, social media and station pop-ups. Also keep an eye out for future *Community Updates*.

To receive updates on the Bendigo Line Upgrade subscribe to the eNews at [regionalrailrevival.vic.gov.au/Bendigo](http://regionalrailrevival.vic.gov.au/Bendigo)

## Better transport for Bendigo

Other improvements are being made for better public transport services for Bendigo line passengers.

The Bendigo line has had 38 new services added since January 2015.

Stage 1 of Bendigo Metro has been rolled out, with 10 new weekday services to Epsom Station, an extra evening service to Eaglehawk and more services to Kangaroo Flat during the week.

Car parking spaces have been added at Woodend, Castlemaine, Gisborne

and Kyneton, with plans underway for upgrades at Bendigo, Eaglehawk and Macedon stations.

Under the Regional Rail Connectivity project, \$18 million is being invested to improve mobile phone coverage for regional passengers through new mobile towers and in-train technology.

### CONTACT US

For more information about the Bendigo Line Upgrade:

-  [regionalrailrevival.vic.gov.au](http://regionalrailrevival.vic.gov.au)
-  [regionalrailrevival@railprojects.vic.gov.au](mailto:regionalrailrevival@railprojects.vic.gov.au)
-  **1800 105 105** (24 hours a day, 7 days a week)
-  [facebook.com/regionalrailrevival](https://facebook.com/regionalrailrevival)



Interpreter Service  
**(03) 9280 0700**

Arabic	العربية	Russian	Русский
Cantonese	廣東話	Serbian	Српски
Greek	Ελληνικά	Sinhalese	සිංහල
Italian	Italiano	Spanish	Español
Korean	한국어	Turkish	Türkçe
Macedonian	Македонски	Vietnamese	Tiếng Việt
Mandarin	普通话		