

# The Victorian Minister for Planning invites public comment – Yan Yean Road Upgrade – Stage 2

## ENVIRONMENT EFFECTS STATEMENT (EES) AND DRAFT PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT (DRAFT PSA) GC92

Written submissions on the exhibited documents are invited starting Monday 31 August and closing at 5pm Friday 9 October 2020.

The Environment Effects Statement (EES) and draft Planning Scheme Amendment (draft PSA) GC92 will be on public exhibition for 30 business days from 31 August to 9 October 2020. During this time, members of the public are welcome to make written submissions about the EES and draft PSA.

### The Project

The Yan Yean Road Upgrade – Stage 2 will add a lane in each direction between Kurrak Road and Bridge Inn Road, completing the upgrade of Yan Yean Road from Plenty to Doreen. The project includes:

- Installing new traffic lights to replace the roundabouts at Orchard and Bridge Inn roads
- installing new traffic lights at North Oatlands Road, Jorgensen Avenue and Bannons Lane
- installing new roundabouts at Heard Avenue and Youngs Road
- upgrading the Ironbark Road intersection with traffic lights
- building new walking and cycling paths along the full length of the road
- adding centre median and kerb side safety barriers along the road.

Major Road Projects Victoria (MRPV) is a dedicated government body charged with planning and delivering major road projects for Victoria and is managing the Project on behalf of the Victorian Government.

### EES Process

The Victorian Minister for Planning declared on 14 October 2018 that an EES is required for the Project under the *Environment Effects Act 1978*.

The EES process will inform decision-making on the Project under Victorian legislation. Further information about the EES process can be found on the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) website at [www.planning.vic.gov.au/environment-assessment/browse-projects/projects/yan-yeen-road-upgrade-stage-2](http://www.planning.vic.gov.au/environment-assessment/browse-projects/projects/yan-yeen-road-upgrade-stage-2)

### Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (EPBC) Process

On 2 April 2019, the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment determined that the Project is a 'controlled action' as it is likely to have a significant impact on Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES), which are protected under the EPBC Act.

The relevant provisions for the controlled action (EPBC 2018/8371) are listed threatened species & communities (section 18 & section 18A).

The EES process is an accredited assessment process under the EPBC Act through a Bilateral Assessment Agreement that exists between the Commonwealth and State of Victoria. Therefore, this EES also considers MNES for the purposes of assessment of the controlled actions under the EPBC Act.

You can make a submission on the matters assessed for the purposes of the relevant provisions under the EPBC Act, by making a submission on the EES.

After considering the Victorian Minister for Planning's assessment under the EE Act, the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment will then make a decision as to whether to approve the controlled action application for the Project under the EPBC Act.

### Planning Scheme Amendment

A draft Planning Scheme Amendment (draft PSA) GC92 affecting the Nillumbik and Whittlesea Planning Schemes has been prepared and is included in the exhibited documents (EES Attachment I).

The draft PSA will enable the project to be implemented in accordance with conditions contained within an incorporated document without the need for further planning permission. The PSA also includes Public Acquisition Overlay (PAO) to reserve land for road purposes and enable that land to then be acquired for the project.

### Response to COVID-19 restrictions

Given the current restrictions in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic in Victoria, conventional exhibition of the EES is not possible. In absence of the physical display of printed copies in public places, alternative arrangements are available to ensure appropriate access to copies of the EES documents for any interested person or parties.

Any community information sessions will also be held online at select times during the public exhibition period. For times and more information, please visit [roadprojects.vic.gov.au/yyr-ees](http://roadprojects.vic.gov.au/yyr-ees)

### How to access the EES and draft Planning Scheme Amendment online

The EES Document, Attachments, Technical Reports, Map Book, Summary Report and the draft PSA are on public exhibition from Monday 31 August to 5pm Friday 9 October 2020. The EES documents will be available online only via [roadprojects.vic.gov.au/yyr-ees](http://roadprojects.vic.gov.au/yyr-ees), or you can request a free EES information pack.

The EES information pack will contain:

- A USB loaded with the complete EES, technical reports and key approval documents
- A printed copy of the EES Summary Report
- A printed copy of the EES Map Book that will include the current design drawings, plans showing land required and no go zones for protected vegetation along the road
- A printed guide to 'Navigating the EES'.

If you have accessibility issues, or electronic options are impractical, you can request a hard copy of the complete EES, by calling **1800 105 105**. Please note the EES is a long document and we encourage

the use of electronic versions. The electronic versions of these documents can be accessed by people with vision impairments.

### How to make a submission

Interested persons and organisations are invited to submit comments on the EES and the draft PSA from Monday 31 August to Friday 5pm 9 October 2020. As this is a joint advertisement, comments on the draft PSA are to be made as a submission on the EES, even if comments only relate to the draft PSA.

The submission process is independently managed by Planning Panels Victoria. All submissions must state the name and address of the person making the submission. Online submissions are preferred and can be lodged via an online form at [engage.vic.gov.au/yan-yeen-road-IAC](http://engage.vic.gov.au/yan-yeen-road-IAC)

Hard copy submissions must be accompanied by a coversheet. This can be obtained by calling the DELWP Customer Service Centre on **136 186**. Submissions will be treated as public documents.

### Inquiry hearing process

The Minister for Planning will appoint a joint Inquiry and Advisory Committee under the Environment Effects Act 1978 and Planning and Environment Act 1987. The Inquiry and Advisory Committee will review the EES, draft PSA and public submissions, and will investigate and consider the environmental effects of the Project in accordance with Terms of Reference approved by the Minister for Planning.

A Directions Hearing will be held by video conference. At this hearing, the Inquiry and Advisory Committee will establish the necessary arrangements and a timetable for public hearings. The Public Hearings will commence by video conference on 30 November and run for a period of approximately 2 weeks.

Requests to be heard by the Inquiry and Advisory Committee must be made at the time of making a submission through the online form or hard copy submission coversheet. All submitters wishing to be heard before the Inquiry and Advisory Committee are asked to note these arrangements and commence preparations in advance.

Committee process and the timetable for the hearings will be published as it becomes available at [engage.vic.gov.au/yan-yeen-road-IAC](http://engage.vic.gov.au/yan-yeen-road-IAC)

### Questions

Questions relating to the Yan Yean Road – Stage 2 Upgrade, EES documentation and the draft PSA should be directed to MRPV at [contact@roadprojects.vic.gov.au](mailto:contact@roadprojects.vic.gov.au) or by calling **1800 105 105**.

Questions relating to the EES process should be directed to the Impact Assessment Unit at DELWP at [environment.assessment@delwp.vic.gov.au](mailto:environment.assessment@delwp.vic.gov.au) or by calling **(03) 8392 5503**. For questions about the Inquiry and Advisory Committee process (including questions about submissions), please contact Planning Panels Victoria at **136 186** or [planning.panels@delwp.vic.gov.au](mailto:planning.panels@delwp.vic.gov.au)

More detail about the Yan Yean Road – Stage 2 Upgrade is available at [roadprojects.vic.gov.au/yyr-ees](http://roadprojects.vic.gov.au/yyr-ees)