

Ferguson Street Precinct Plan: Frequently Asked Questions

What is the draft Ferguson Street Level Crossing Removal Precinct Plan?

Council has developed this draft Plan to show what improvements could be undertaken in the areas surrounding the North Williamstown Train Station to address some of the issues that the community has expressed to Council.

With a big project like the level crossing removal, it is an ideal opportunity to do some other work in and around the station to make the area safer, enhance what it has to offer our community and compliment the Level Crossing Removal Project's (LXRP) work.

What is Council seeking feedback on?

Council is seeking feedback on this draft Plan. What do you like about it? What is it missing? Lodge your feedback on the draft Plan through our survey under the 'Tell us' tab on this project page. Council is also seeking feedback on your experience and observations of the precinct. We want to hear about traffic/safety issues and opportunities for better use of the land surrounding the North Williamstown Train Station. Lodge your observations on our 'Show us' tab on this project page.

How will community feedback be used?

Your feedback will assist Council to finalise the Precinct Plan which will be used to assist conversation in the coming months with the LXRP and other Victorian Government agencies that have a direct interest in the precinct and the project, specifically the Department of Transport (DoT) and the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Will this precinct plan be implemented?

Council hopes the Plan will be implemented but that is yet to be determined. Once community feedback has been finalised, the draft Plan will be updated and the finalised Plan will be used to advocate to the state government to seek funding and partnership support to implement the works recommended in the Plan. Any updates on this project will be shared with our community.

When is the Ferguson St crossing being removed?

The Ferguson Street level crossing will be removed by 2022. This level crossing has been identified by the Victorian Government as one of the 75 level crossings across Melbourne that will be removed by 2025. For information on the Ferguson Street Level Crossing Removal Project, visit <https://levelcrossings.vic.gov.au/projects/ferguson-street-williamstown>

Has the LXRP decided on their design?

No, the LXRP has not yet decided on the design for this project, but they are considering a rail over or a rail under option. Further community consultation and the LXRP's decision about design will occur later in the year.

Does Council have a preferred option for the rail level crossing removal?

No, Council does not have a preferred option.

Can the draft Plan be applied to both designs being considered for the precinct?

Yes the draft Plan recommends features that can be implemented regardless of the LXRP design.

What does the draft Plan propose?

The draft Plan proposes;

- Removal of the existing roundabouts and establish two signalised intersections.
- Development of off-road pedestrian and cycle pathways connecting in both north-south and east-west directions.
- Development of a bus stop on the west side of the railway corridor that also includes a kiss and ride stop and a larger secure bike storage.
- Retention of the public open space on both sides of the railway corridor with improved park furniture, play equipment and space for a kick-about.
- Retention of a car park on the east side of the railway corridor.
- Retention and repurposing of the railway houses for a café and shelter.
- Development of a plaza type area for residents to meet.

Have any detailed designs been developed yet?

Council has not developed any detailed designs at this stage. The purpose of the draft Plan is to establish an overall plan of the area to gain input from the community before any further designs are undertaken.

What information has been used to develop the draft Precinct Plan?

Council has received comments from the community through various forums over several years, particularly with regard to;

- Pedestrian and cyclists safety
- Traffic flow and congestion concerns particularly at Victoria Street, Champion, and Kororoit Creek Roads, Power and Ferguson Streets.
- The heritage values of the railway station houses and specific nearby buildings.

What else has guided the draft Plan?

Council has developed the plan with reference to its Grade Separation Principles, the LXRPs proposed design guidelines for the project, and the Community Interest Group input, which was acknowledged by Council on 10 September 2019.

Who owns and manages the infrastructure in and around the North Williamstown Train Station?

The station, level crossing, surrounding public areas and arterial roads in and around the North Williamstown Station fall under the jurisdiction of the Victorian Government.

What are the streets that define this precinct?

The precinct is defined by the North Williamstown Train Station, the two intersection roundabouts, and immediately surrounding areas of Kororoit Creek Road, Champion Road, Victoria Street, Railway Place, Ferguson Street, Station Road and Power Street.

How much traffic flows through this area each day?

The Ferguson Street level crossing is used by about 25,000 vehicles and more than 110 passenger trains, with about 1,350 passengers travelling through each weekday.

Is Council talking to the Level Crossing Removal Project and VicRoads?

Yes, Council is engaging with the Level Crossing Removal Project and VicRoads on this draft Precinct Plan. Council meets regularly with the Level Crossing Removal Project to discuss the Level Crossing Removal Project to advocate on behalf of the community.