

# Ringwood Station and Interchange Upgrade project

The past 15 months have seen Ringwood Station and the bus interchange transform into a vibrant public transport precinct.

The new Ringwood Station and bus interchange is now complete with all new features fully operational. The \$66 million upgrade of the station precinct has been designed to integrate with the \$575 million expansion of Eastland Shopping Centre and provide connectivity to nearby residential and retail precincts in Ringwood. The vibrant new station precinct provides a seamless modal interchange and is safe, attractive, and fully accessible.

Approximately 5000 customers use Ringwood Station on an average weekday and approximately 1322 people use buses to access the station, making it the eleventh busiest bus interchange in Melbourne. Train and bus customers can now enjoy exciting improved features including:

- > a new pedestrian concourse providing 24-hour access over the rail line
- > new ramps, lifts and escalators providing access to the station platforms

- > a new, expanded bus interchange
- > upgraded station buildings with more comfortable passenger facilities
- > new toilet facilities and waiting areas
- > a new landscaped station forecourt
- > new bicycle storage areas
- > new lighting and CCTV
- > a new, upgraded station carpark with improved lighting, CCTV and landscaping
- > Maroondah Boulevard treatment on street bus bay landscape.

A new café will soon be established in the heritage listed Signal Box building, adding to the village like atmosphere of the new precinct.

In addition, the project includes a new, safer raised signalised pedestrian crossing of Maroondah Highway to connect the station forecourt with Eastland. The pedestrian crossing provides more frequent crossing opportunities, and improved pedestrian and cycling facilities along the Maroondah Highway, including green bicycle lanes and a wider footpath on the south side. New street lighting, new taxi and other special purpose parking bays and improvements to the road environment create a visually beautiful 'boulevard' between Ringwood Street and Warrandyte Road.



Ringwood Station from Eastland, over Maroondah Highway.



The station forecourt looking towards the station.



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### Integrating the old with the new

Ringwood Station plays an important role in local community history. The Ringwood Station precinct is recognised by the Victorian Heritage Register as being of "architectural and historical significance to the State of Victoria". The upgraded station and interchange achieves an excellent balance of new modern amenities while still respecting and preserving the historical significance of the station.

The existing brick and timber heritage buildings have been upgraded internally to meet modern comfort expectations and the Signal Box has been relocated to the station forecourt.

Heritage Victoria has installed signage to recognise the importance of notable railway infrastructure to the Ringwood community.

The external form of the Signal Box has been maintained, including the steps to the upper level, and the upper level walkway, windows and doors. The majority of the levers, associated mechanism and supporting structure have been retained and incorporated into the interior design of the building. The retention of the levers within the building is a positive heritage outcome and provides an understanding of how the building operated when it was used as a Signal Box.

In the coming months the Signal Box will be transformed into a café where it can be enjoyed by everyone. The café will be operated by Red Engine who operated the kiosk at Ringwood Station prior to the upgrade works. The new café will open for business later in the year.



The Signal Box is a heritage listed timber building previously used to accommodate a seventy-lever mechanical interlocking machine which controlled all the signals and points at Ringwood Station.



The new station and forecourt with the old Signal Box in the background.



## Supporting the local community

While completing the upgrade of the station and interchange, the project team organised a number of fundraising activities to raise money for local community groups. Money was donated to EACH Social and Community Health to purchase a BBQ and some park bench seating.

EACH provides an integrated range of health, disability, counselling and community mental health services across Australia. Money was also donated to the Ringwood RSL, Ringwood Rotary Club, and Wesley Eastern Homeless Crisis Service.

## Wall art

The Ringwood Station Community Art Wall project was developed through a collaborative partnership between Public Transport Victoria, Maroondah City Council, VicRoads and EACH as a way to reinforce the significance of Ringwood Station to the local community.

Located on the car park ramp off Station Street on the south side of the station, the final art mural was a collaboration between artist, Carla Gottgens, and participants of the ArtScape program provided by EACH, which supports young people dealing with a range of mental health issues.

Titled 'Out of the Wood', the mural is a transition from country to city and incorporates a range of mythical creatures designed by the ArtScape group. Each creature is a reflection of an animal each participant admires, and combines characteristics they identify with, or aspire to, such as courage, grace, cunning, beauty or intrigue.

The finished artwork uses the colour palette of Ringwood Station in its background patterns and foliage, tying this community project into the overall station upgrade project.

For more information about this community art project visit [www.artsinmaroondah.com.au](http://www.artsinmaroondah.com.au).





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Fun activities at the community event.

### Station opening event

Parliamentary Secretary for Transport, and local MP, Mr Shaun Leane officially marked the completion of the Ringwood Station and Interchange Upgrade project on 29 January 2016. The official proceedings also included the public unveiling of the Community Art Wall.

The project team, consisting of PTV, Metro Trains Melbourne, John Holland and VicRoads, hosted an event on 29 January to thank station users and the local community for their patience, while work to upgrade the station took place. The event included fun activities for the community to enjoy, as well as providing an opportunity to take a closer look at the newly upgraded station.



Left - right: Chris Harper (John Holland), Brendan Pauwels (VicRoads), Cr Natalie Thomas (Mayor of Maroondah City Council), Shaun Leane (Local MP and Parliamentary Secretary for Transport), Catherine Clarke (VicRoads), Troy O'Sullivan (Public Transport Victoria) and Stephen Fitch (DEDJTR).



For more information about the project or to receive updates via email, visit [ptv.vic.gov.au/ringwoodupgrade](http://ptv.vic.gov.au/ringwoodupgrade), call 1800 800 007, or email [ringwoodupgrade@roads.vic.gov.au](mailto:ringwoodupgrade@roads.vic.gov.au)

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