

Project Information

February 2017

Midland Highway Road Safety Improvements

Stanhope to Shepparton

In response to a high number of casualty crashes, VicRoads is delivering significant infrastructure solutions to reduce collisions and road trauma.

Background

The Midland Highway between Stanhope and Shepparton has been identified under the *Towards Zero 2016/2020 Road Safety Strategy and Action Plan* as one of Victoria's highest risk road segments.

Between January 2010 and February 2017, this section of road recorded 79 casualty crashes which sadly included three fatalities and, and a further 126 people suffering injuries requiring hospitalisation.

Listening to the Community

In October and December 2016, we asked the community to provide their thoughts and suggestions on what could be implemented to address the serious crash history and improve safety on the Midland Highway.

Common suggestions included more overtaking lanes, widening the road, safety barriers, speed reductions, tactile line marking and intersection upgrades.

We would like to thank the community for their valued input.

This feedback will be included wherever possible into the design of the project.

The Project

The project comprises of 37km of road safety infrastructure on the Midland Highway between Stanhope and Shepparton.

Construction will start from 20 February 2017 and will include the following:

- Installation of a single lane roundabout at the intersection of Tatura-Undera Road
- Widening of the road to cater for a centreline flexible safety barrier



- Installation left hand side flexible safety barrier
- Six overtaking lanes
- Audio tactile line marking (rumble strips)
- Minor intersection upgrades and property access improvements
- Upgrades to traffic lights at Echuca-Mooroopna Road intersection
- Installation of traffic lights at the entrance to KidsTown
- Centreline safety barrier on Peter Ross Edwards Causeway.

Please turn over for more information

The Victorian Government through the TAC are providing \$22.5 million to fund safety infrastructure solutions to reduce collisions and road trauma on this road.

Our Objectives

This project is an investment in a holistic innovative approach to safety infrastructure on the most dangerous areas in the road network, supports people who are much more at risk to be casualties and builds in second chances for when the community inevitably makes a mistake.

One of the key objectives of this project is to deliver a road safety improvement to this section of road that embraces the 'Safe System' principles, focusing primarily on safer roads to reduce crash likelihood and the severity of crashes if they do occur.



What we are doing

Intersection upgrades

We will construct a new roundabout at the Tatura-Undera Road intersection.

Traffic signals will be installed at the entrance to KidsTown in Mooroopna to allow safe entry and exit.

We have also selected other intersections along the section of highway to receive minor upgrades.

Additional Overtaking Lanes

There are currently no overtaking lanes between Mooroopna and Stanhope.

We will construct six new overtaking lanes, three in each direction which will provide safer overtaking opportunities.

Road Widening & Safety Barriers

The use of safety barriers in conjunction with other treatments has been identified as an effective safety measure to prevent vehicles crossing the centreline and running off the road.

We will be installing left-hand side flexible safety barriers in high-risk locations.

The widened road will cater for the installation of a flexible centreline safety barrier.

Similar safety barriers have been installed on the Melba Highway near Yea. We are currently installing centreline barriers on the Goulburn Valley Highway between Molesworth and Yea.

We will also install back-to-back flexible guard fence on the Peter Ross Edwards Causeway in Shepparton.

Access Modifications

The centre-line flexible safety barrier will have breaks and openings to cater for property access and emergency services. These openings are typically 40 metres wide or greater to allow for turning trucks into properties.

Engagement with landowners and emergency services will continue to ensure safe access to properties and sections of the highway.

Speed Limits

An interim safer speed of 80 km/h will be introduced at the intersection of Midland Highway and Tatura-Undera Road from the commencement works.

Speed limit reductions from 50 km/h to 40 km/h are also being considered for the township of Mooroopna for pedestrian safety.

Environmental and Cultural Heritage

Environmental assessments have been undertaken in partnership with the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) and will continue as the project progresses. The

project has been designed to minimise environmental impacts and avoid culturally sensitive sites.

Construction

Works will start on 27 February 2017 and will include road widening works for overtaking lanes and centreline safety barrier.

Every effort will be made to minimise impacts on local residents, motorists and the environment during the project. There may be an increase in travel time associated with traffic management including the implementation of work zone speed limits. We encourage people to plan their journeys accordingly.

Keeping the community updated

The project team will continue to engage with the community on different aspects of the design as it evolves.

We will distribute regular project updates. We will also work closely with local media informing them on project progress, changes to road arrangements and conditions, and other important details.

If you would like to know more about the project, you can contact us on:

Phone: 03 5761 1845

Email: ner.enquiries@roads.vic.gov.au

Mail: VicRoads
North Eastern Region
PO Box 135
Benalla VIC 3671

If you need an interpreter please phone 131 450

