## **Media Release**

The Hon Ben Carroll MP

Minister for Public Transport
Minister for Roads and Road Safety



Thursday, 4 March 2021

## FREE PUBLIC TRANSPORT FOR MOOMBA

The Andrews Labor Government is making public transport free for everyone attending Moomba this weekend, as part of the iconic Melbourne festival's revised COVIDSafe event.

Minister for Public Transport Ben Carroll and Lord Mayor of Melbourne Sally Capp today announced the free travel scheme, which will encourage Victorians to get back into the city by public transport.

Anyone heading to Moomba will be able to travel for free into the CBD on all public transport – including V/Line services – by downloading a voucher from the PTV website, which can be printed out or shown on a smart device instead of a myki.

This year's reimagined, family-friendly Moomba festival will run from 5pm on Friday, 5 March until 10pm on Monday, 8 March and will see Alexandra Gardens, Sidney Myer Music Bowl and city streets and buildings transformed into unique spaces filled with live music, the ever-popular carnival, food trucks and light installations.

A maximum of 4,000 people will be able to enter the Alexandra Gardens for three hours at a time so enhanced cleaning can be delivered, with many Moomba events across the weekend ticketed to keep everyone COVIDSafe.

Public transport will operate all night Friday and Saturday nights, and all trains, trams and buses, stations and stops will continue to be regularly deep cleaned across the weekend.

Everyone travelling on public transport, including to Moomba, must wear a face mask – and there are more than 300 hand sanitiser stations across the network to keep everyone safe.

Passengers heading to and from Moomba can use the new RideSpace tool to see how busy or quiet their Metro train, station or platform will be before they travel, with data updated in real time across the weekend.

Those planning to travel on the Sunbury and Pakenham lines are advised to plan ahead when heading to Moomba, with buses replacing trains as major upgrades are delivered on both lines. Public transport will run to a Saturday timetable on Monday, 8 March for the Labour Day public holiday.

To plan your journey and download a free travel voucher, please visit ptv.vic.gov.au/moomba.

## **Quotes attributable to Minister for Public Transport Ben Carroll**

"We're getting behind one of Melbourne's most iconic events – helping everyone get back out and enjoy our city with free public transport for everyone heading to Moomba this weekend."

"We've done the work to make sure Victoria's public transport network is safe, clean and ready for everyone to use – giving Victorians the confidence they need to get back on the network."

## **Quote attributable to Lord Mayor of Melbourne Sally Capp**

"Free public transport makes it even easier for Victorians to come into the city for Moomba, which helps to bring back the buzz to Melbourne and provides a boost to local businesses."

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