

Media Release

Gabrielle Williams MP

Minister for Government Services

Minister for Consumer Affairs

Minister for Public and Active Transport



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WORKS BEGIN ON BAIRNSDALE STABLING YARD UPGRADE

The Allan Labor Government is one step closer to having modern VLocity trains operate on all V/Line services, with work underway on upgrading the stabling yard at Bairnsdale Station.

Minister for Public and Active Transport Gabrielle Williams today announced that the existing stabling yard is being expanded to house two three-carriage VLocity trains overnight, allowing the first train and last train to Bairnsdale to be a VLocity.

Currently the first and last daily train services to and from Bairnsdale operate with locomotive-hauled classic fleet trains. Replacing these services with modern VLocity trains will give passengers a more consistent and reliable service.

Major construction is also underway to provide Bairnsdale Station with new cleaning facilities, as well as improved lighting, fencing, gates, CCTV and pathways.

The Labor Government is improving journeys for growing communities in the state's east through the Gippsland Line Upgrade, and this month marks the 20th anniversary of services returning to Bairnsdale after the line was closed by the Kennett Liberal-National Government.

Work is also underway on the latest order of 23 VLocity trains, supporting the growing popularity of regional rail travel and safeguarding local jobs.

The Allan Labor Government's level crossing upgrades between Sale and Bairnsdale have enabled more VLocity trains to run to and from Bairnsdale, while our regional fare cap is allowing passengers to travel between Bairnsdale and Melbourne for only \$10.60 – down from \$39.40 for a one-way full-fare journey before the fare cap.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Public and Active Transport Gabrielle Williams

"These works to upgrade the Bairnsdale stabling yard mean we will soon be able to operate all services to and from Bairnsdale with modern, reliable VLocity trains."

"Our significant investment in the Gippsland Line Upgrade is future-proofing the line for further growth in communities along the network."

Quote attributable to Member for Eastern Victoria Tom McIntosh

"We are upgrading ageing public transport infrastructure across Gippsland so that passengers can experience safer and more reliable services, more often."