

Media Release

Gabrielle Williams MP

Minister for Government Services

Minister for Consumer Affairs

Minister for Public and Active Transport



Friday, 23 August 2024

DELAYS EXPECTED AS CBD INTERSECTION GETS A BOOST

Motorists are warned of significant delays at the north end of Melbourne's CBD, as tram track and overhead power upgrades take place over the next two weeks – with crews working around the clock to reconfigure Victoria Street which will allow modern trams to run along the key corridor.

The upgrades will also deliver safety improvements for cyclists and pedestrians with the works to create dedicated cycling and walking paths.

The intersection of Victoria and Swanston streets will close in all directions from 10:00pm on Friday, 30 August until 5:00am Monday, 16 September.

Motorists are urged to avoid non-essential travel in the area or to allow for extra time, as delays of up to 40 minutes are expected in peak periods.

Electronic message boards will provide early warning, encouraging motorists to take a wide detour to the north through Parkville, south through the CBD or Southbank, and via Nicholson or Peel streets.

Victoria Street will close between Elizabeth and Cardigan streets, while Swanston Street closes between Queensberry and A'Beckett streets.

Local detours include La Trobe, Lonsdale, Queensberry, Lygon, Elizabeth, Peel, William and King streets.

Impacts for tram passengers will start prior to the road closures, with services along Swanston Street disrupted from the first tram on Monday, 26 August until the last tram on Sunday, 15 September.

Trams on routes 1, 3, 5, 6, 16, 64, 67 and 72 will run a shortened service or will operate in sections, with Route 67 trams diverting via William Street.

City Loop trains and Route 19 trams along Elizabeth Street provide good alternative transport options in the area.

Access to businesses and homes will remain available throughout the works, and city goers are encouraged to support local businesses during these works, with detours in place to help pedestrians cross the road safely.

Passengers and motorists are encouraged to plan ahead during these disruptions – to learn more, visit ptv.vic.gov.au/disruptions.

Quote attributable to Minister for Public and Active Transport Gabrielle Williams

"It's important both motorists and tram passengers plan ahead and allow extra time if they need to travel in the area while we carry out these important works.

"We thank people for their patience as crews work around the clock to replace and upgrade the tram tracks at this busy intersection, while also making it safer for cyclists and pedestrians."

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