

Victorian Freight and Logistics Industry COVID-19 update

3 September 2021

Updates to Victorian Border Crossing Directions

The [Victorian Border Crossing Permit Directions \(No.30\)](#) come into effect at 6pm on Friday 3 September 2021. Updates included in these Directions are:

- the Specified worker (low workplace interaction) permit for travel to Victoria is renamed the Specified worker (multiple entry) permit.
- permit holders travelling from orange zones must align to the same requirements of those travelling from red/extreme zones which add to minimise time in this zone, not carry passengers, keep records of travel and stops, wear a face mask, minimise contact with others, and limit time in indoor spaces.
- permit holders travelling from orange zones must get tested within 72 hours of entering Victoria.

Testing requirements for entry to South Australia

Effective 3:05pm on Thursday 2 September 2021, South Australia modified its requirement for Commercial Transport and Freight Workers travelling from Victoria to either provide evidence of a COVID-19 test within the last 72 hours or they will be directed to undertake a test within 12 hours of entering South Australia.

Freight workers travelling to South Australia are reminded that a freight-friendly testing site is currently operating at:

- Nhill trailer exchange, Western Highway - 12pm-12am (testing for 5 days from 1 Sep, to be reviewed)

Resources for warehousing and distribution to meet additional obligations

The update to the Workplace (Additional Industry Obligations) Directions (No. 40) come into effect at 6pm on Friday 3 September 2021 with added requirements for COVID-19 controls in warehousing and distribution workplaces.

A guide to these requirements is available following the numbered steps on the Coronavirus [Warehousing, wholesaling, postal and distribution sector guidance](#) webpage.

Priority Vaccinations for Specified Worker Permit Holders (Freight workers)

The Victorian Government is also supporting access to vaccinations for freight workers who hold Specified Worker Permits under the Victorian Travel Permit System who have been in an extreme/red zone in the last 14 days.

Those with a valid Specified Worker Permit are able to get a priority booking. All Specified Worker Permit holders can now access Pfizer regardless of age. Specified Worker Permit holders who do not have a Victorian residential address can get vaccinated in Victoria.

Where to access vaccinations

Specified Worker Permit holders who have **not** been in a red/extreme zone in the previous 14 days can go to :

- Any of the 50 state vaccination centres – bookings are required
- A GP clinic, community pharmacy and Aboriginal community controlled organisations

Specified Worker Permit holders who have been in a red/extreme zone in the previous 14 days can only go to a red zone clinic. These are located at:

- Melbourne Showgrounds
- Sunshine
- Sandown Racecourse
- Ford Campbellfield
- Wangaratta

Information for individuals



Department
of Transport

Workers must declare if they have been in a high risk area and only attend a red zone clinic to ensure that bookings are made at the appropriate site.

Priority bookings are only available via the Coronavirus hotline 1800 675 398.

Learn more about [Booking your vaccination](#). A signed [COVID-19 Vaccination Eligibility declaration](#) is required when presenting to a vaccination clinic or other proof of employment.

Truck curfews have been removed

With the extension of the lockdown, the Victorian Government has lifted truck curfews across the state until 11.59pm 23 September 2021.

The Ministerial Order can be revoked before 23 September 2021 if the lockdown restrictions are lifted.

This supports deliveries to Victorian pharmacies and supermarkets during the current COVID-19 restrictions.

Heavy vehicles can pass time-based curfew "no trucks" signs when making grocery deliveries to supermarkets or personal hygiene products to retail outlets.

Heavy vehicles can also remain in loading zones for the time required to make these deliveries.

The National Heavy Vehicle Regulator is monitoring and enforcing compliance in curfew areas.

The Department of Transport continues to work with local government, communities and industry to ensure truck curfews are not enforced on Victorian roads during the exemption period.

A Reminder about the Victorian Commercial Ports Strategy

The Minister for Ports and Freight Hon. Melissa Horne MP has released the Full Government response and final report to the Independent Review of the Victorian Ports System in 2020.

The Independent Review of the Victorian Ports System is the first holistic review into the Ports System since 2001. Overall, the Review made 63 recommendations to Government.

The Government Response supports all the Review recommendations and long-term reforms that support open market access to ensure the sustainable economic future of Victoria's ports. Find out more information at transport.vic.gov.au/ports-and-freight/commercial-ports

A key area of action for the Victorian Government is commencing work to develop a new Victorian Ports Strategy, actioning the industry desire for a State-wide vision for the sector.

With a 30-year vision, the Strategy will provide clear direction on the establishment of Bay West, explore trade and industry trends and network capacity impacting the sector, Port of Geelong channel optimisation, commercial port land-use protection and other themes identified in the Review.

We are seeking input from the commercial ports sector and industry to shape the development of the new Victorian Commercial Ports Strategy for the next 30 years.

We're inviting industry to complete a survey to tell us what key issues and strategy themes are important to you. For more information, please visit the [Victorian Commercial Ports Strategy Engage Victoria webpage](#).

Changes today, better transport tomorrow – plan your travel this spring

During spring, we're keeping you moving while we make major upgrades to the roads and public transport to improve the way you travel. Critical infrastructure projects will continue during current COVID restrictions.

We will be safely carrying out works on major projects as part of Victoria's Big Build and upgrading our train, tram and road infrastructure as part of our maintenance program. The key disruptions include:

West Gate Tunnel Project: September and in October

The West Gate Tunnel Project continues works to deliver us a second freeway link between the west and the city:

- The Princes Freeway inbound exit ramp to Geelong Road will be closed for four weeks.
- The Grieve Parade inbound entry ramp to the West Gate Freeway will also be closed for four weeks.
- Left turns will be banned at the Williamstown Road outbound exit ramp (from the West Gate Freeway).

North East Link Project: September to November

The North East Link Project will fix the missing link in our freeway network, linking the M80 Ring Road to an upgraded Eastern Freeway.

Over the next few months, there will be intermittent lane closures and changed traffic conditions on Greensborough Road, Bulleen Road, Thompsons Road, Chandler Highway, Burke Road, Doncaster Road and Lower Plenty Road.

There will also be changed traffic conditions on the Eastern Freeway (outbound) and the Tram Road outbound entry ramp including speed restrictions and overnight ramp closures.

Major Road Projects Victoria works: September to November

M80 Upgrade (Sydney Rd to Edgars Rd)

Works continue on the M80 Upgrade to add new lanes to the M80 Ring Road between Sydney Road and Edgars Road and improve access to the Hume Freeway. The major disruptions include:

- A weekend closure of the Edgars Road (Greensborough-bound) exit ramp
- No direct access from the Hume Freeway (southbound) to Edgars Road
- Weekend lane closures on the M80 Ring Road (Greensborough-bound) underneath Edgars Road
- A six-week closure of the Edgars Road (Altona-bound) entry ramp and added slow lane
 - There will be no disruption to through traffic on the M80 Ring Road.
- A weekend closure of the Sydney Road (Greensborough-bound) entry ramp

Fitzsimons Lane Upgrade (Porter Street closure)

Proposed closure of Porter Street, Templestowe for three weeks to progress road works. The road would be closed in both directions between Fitzsimons Lane and Edwin Road.

Monash Freeway Upgrade

Works continue on the Monash Freeway Upgrade:

- A full closure of the O'Shea Road and Soldiers Road intersection.
- Various weekend closures of freeway access ramps in September and October, including:
 - Wellington Road inbound entry and exit ramps
 - Huntingdale Road outbound entry ramp
 - Ferntree Gully Road inbound entry ramp
 - Police Road inbound exit ramp
- Weekend closures of the Jacksons Road outbound exit and entry ramps.
- Overnight closures of sections of the Monash Freeway (between Warrigal and Stud roads).
- Daytime lane closures on the Monash Freeway (between EastLink and Warrigal Road).
- Overnight closures of the Princes Freeway (between Princes Link Highway and Princes Highway).
- A weekend closure of the Monash Freeway.
- Overnight closure of sections of the Monash Freeway (inbound between EastLink and Warrigal Road).

Mordialloc Freeway

Works to build the new Mordialloc Freeway will include overnight road closures for signage installation and final pavement works:

- Lower Dandenong Road between Howard Road and Bell Grove
- Dingley Bypass between Boundary Road and Tootal Road
- Springvale Road between Wells Road and Pillars Road
- Mornington Peninsula Freeway between Springvale Road and Thames Boulevard.

There will also be a weekend closure of the Mornington Peninsula Freeway (between Springvale Road and Thames Boulevard) for final tie in works.

Golf Links Road, Baxter Upgrade

MRPV is proposing to close Golf Links Road, Baxter to start works on the Golf Links Road Upgrade.

The road would be closed between the Mornington Peninsula Freeway and McClelland Drive (including the roundabout).

Level Crossing Removal works: September to November

Ferguson Street, Williamstown - 1 to 16 September

Works on the Ferguson street level crossing will result in lane closures on Ferguson Street, Railway Place and Victoria Street.

Manchester Road, Mooroolbark and Maroondah Highway, Lilydale – September and October

The Manchester Road and Maroondah Highway level crossings are being removed by building a road bridge over the rail line

Level crossing removal works in October on the Bairnsdale, Pakenham and Cranbourne lines will disrupt road and freight operations.

Dandenong South level crossing - 26 to 28 October

Works are progressing on the Cranbourne Line Upgrade and level crossing removals in Dandenong South.

There will be no paths available to freight trains during the occupation.

Berwick level crossing - 11 to 16 November

Works are progressing on the Cranbourne Line Upgrade and level crossing removals in Berwick.

There will be no paths available to freight trains during the occupation.

For more information visit:

- [Victoria's Big Build](#) – for major projects information and updates
- [PTV](#) – for public transport service changes and journey planning tools
- [VicRoads](#) – for updates on major road network changes and travel advice