# Cardinia Shire Council visioning

# Pakenham Level Crossing Removal Project

Under the LXRP (Level Crossing Removal Project) the Victorian Government plans to remove three level crossings in Pakenham (McGregor Road, Main Street and Racecourse Road) and build a new Pakenham railway station. The new station will include better bus connections and improved car parking, with a third platform and dedicated V/Line track to ensure an easier interchange with regional services.

Cardinia Shire Council will work with the LXRP and advocate to the Victorian Government for the project to:

* improve support and enhance opportunities for existing and future businesses
* integrate train station, bus interchange and car parking with the town centre and surrounding communities, including improved pedestrian connections
* provide safe, functional, and maintainable community spaces
* improve amenity, including landscaping throughout the precinct
* provide improved traffic flow, including integrating new pedestrian and bicycle connections with existing paths
* minimise disruption to local businesses and our wider community during construction.

Example images in this document are reproduced with permission of LXRP, State of Victoria, Australia.

# Context

The LXRP provides significant opportunities to create a new public open space corridor through the heart of Pakenham; potentially delivering increased public space and connectivity.

This corridor, following the rail line from McGregor Road to Racecourse Road, runs through a range of built environments; residential, commercial, station and boulevard. Development of this corridor would ideally be responsive to these different land uses, be appropriate to the surrounding areas and support their current function.

This project will remove what has been a significant barrier for north–south movement and create new opportunities for connection across the suburb. New crossing points, will also provide potential for new public spaces, promoting a range of activities and uses previously not possible.

# Precinct principles

Council has explored the areas along the LXRP corridor and developed a vision for the built environment which we will advocate for on behalf of the Cardinia Shire community. We have been guided by a desire to fully integrate the project with the urban spaces it passes through, to maximise opportunities to benefit those locations and our community.

The project comprises an extensive area through the very centre of Pakenham and impacts multiple urban environment types. Council believes each of these environments has the potential to influence the design of the project; the corridor should be seen as a collection of precincts not a single entity and have a range of primary identities and functions responding to these different neighbourhoods.

Each of the four neighbourhoods (Residential, Commercial, Station and Boulevard) has a separate group of users and interfaces, each with distinct requirements. By separating the corridor into precincts, the unique requirements of each space can be prioritised to create distinct places, responsive to community needs, and a unique identity – bringing choice and diversity to the overall space.

## Residential

***Council will advocate to include exercise equipment, playgrounds, multi-use courts, seating and community gardens.***

**Amenity** – create a high amenity public realm orientated towards the needs of a residential community.

**Safety** – maximise passive surveillance of the space.

**Accessibility** – create a linear park offering recreation elements connected by a universally accessible and safe path network.

**Connectivity** – maximise physical and visual linkages to surrounding neighbourhood to integrate the public realm into the wider surrounding neighbourhood.

## Commercial

***Council will advocate for ‘gathering’ spaces, such as formal gardens and landscaping, seating, and outdoor dining.***

**Vibrancy** – design inclusive and welcoming spaces facilitating community connection, engagement and interaction; a space that responds to and enhances future development and actively supports revitalisation and growth.

**Identity** – create memorable spaces with distinct local identity and opportunities to stay and enjoy the space in comfort.

**Safety** – create spaces that feel safe and engender positive use and care for the environment.

**Connectivity** – design spaces that interact with the surrounding town centre and create opportunities for the public realm to engage and integrate with commercial spaces, to support each other and enhance enjoyment of using the space.

## Station

***Council will advocate to include a civic space and station entrance, transport interchange, public art, car park, and retail buildings.***

**Connectivity** – provide transport options that are integrated and complementary; create a system that enhances walking, cycling and public transport use and design a clear hierarchy of paths and spaces that effectively support intuitive wayfinding.

**Accessibility** – design for universal accessibility and equality in the public realm by minimising obstacles and elements that may impair access and movement through the space.

**Identity** – provide an integrated design that responds to community aspirations as documented through local policies and create spaces that signify the gateway nature of the locality and the connection between the local area and the wider metropolitan environment.

**Vibrancy** – create a space that integrates with, is a catalyst for, and supports future urban renewal.

**Sustainability** – design and integrate infrastructure to respond and contribute to unique and valued social, cultural and built aspects of the locality and achieve sensitive interface treatments with the surrounding built environment.

## Boulevard

***Council will advocate for flood mitigation, car parking, interpretative signage, and visual screens to the industrial area.***

**Sustainability** – design and construct environmentally sustainable places that consider biodiversity and precinct-wide impacts and include opportunities to design for climate resilience by incorporating mitigation for extreme weather events.

**Connectivity** – identify opportunities to create unique experiences in an urban context that connect to the wider environment.

**Vibrancy** – provide opportunities for educational experiences and interactions.

**Access** – plan and design to enable and encourage active transport movement through and beyond the precinct.

**Amenity** – design spaces that respond appropriately to improve visual amenity and enhance the experience of travelling through the space.

If you want more information, are interested to be part of this project development, or would simply like to follow progress, check online at: <https://levelcrossings.vic.gov.au/projects/mcgregor-road-pakenham>

*Unless otherwise noted, images in this document are printed courtesy of the LXRP, State of Victorian, Australia.*



**Cardinia Shire Council**

Civic Centre

20 Siding Avenue, Officer

PO Box 7

Pakenham 3810 (DX 81006 Pakenham)

Phone: 1300 787 624

Email: mail@cardinia.vic.gov.au

Web: [www.cardinia.vic.gov.au](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au)

**National Relay Service (NRS)**

TTY: 133 677 (ask for 1300 787 624)

Speak and Listen (speech-to-speech relay): 1300 555 727 (ask for 1300 787 624)

**Translator Interpretation Service**

131 450 (ask for 1300 787 624)

   