Melbourne Airport Rail Link – Sunshine Route

Introduction

Melbourne Airport is a key part of Victoria's economic growth, and essential to the state's reputation for liveability.

It connects Victorians with the wider world and brings people to the state, allowing businesses and individuals to capitalise on growing domestic and international travel markets.

In 2016-17, Melbourne Airport handled more than 35 million passenger movements, and by 2038, this figure will almost double to more than 67 million.

Based on historical projections, Melbourne is expected to be home to almost 8 million people by 2051 and the overall population of Victoria will rise to 10 million.

The Victorian Government is planning for this growth by investing in new and existing public transport infrastructure to maintain Victoria's liveability and economic prosperity.

The Victorian Government has given the green light to progress the detailed Business Case for the Melbourne Airport Rail Link (MARL), having selected the Sunshine Route as its preferred route.

This decision is consistent with the recommendation of the 2012 Public Transport Victoria study.

Sunshine Route

The Strategic Appraisal found that Sunshine Route performs better than the Maribyrnong, Flemington and Craigieburn options.

Compared to the other options, the Sunshine Route provides:

- Superior connections to more areas of Melbourne through its integration with the Metro Tunnel
- Superior connections to regional Victoria through an upgraded Sunshine interchange
- Earlier deliverability at a lower cost

Combined Relative Benefit and Deliverability Ranking			
Sunshine	Maribyrnong	Flemington	Craigieburn
4.3	3.5	3.6	4.1

Next steps

The selection of the Sunshine Route enables the following next steps:

- Progress the development of the detailed Business Case for the Sunshine Route
- Start stakeholder engagement to help inform the Business Case
- Commence detailed planning and development including investigation of economic, social and environmental impacts
- Determine the required statutory approval processes to enable the delivery of the MARL.

It is expected the full Business Case will be completed in 2019/20. Construction is set to begin by the end of 2022.

For more information visit **www.bigbuild.vic.gov.au**



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