

Highlights 2021-22

In 2021-22 VicTrack continued to play an important role in Victoria's major public transport infrastructure projects from supporting the Big Build to managing projects to deliver new train stations, car parks and new homes close to transport. Our vital telecommunications services continue to underpin safe and reliable public transport. While delivering the new, we worked to protect the old, working to support historic railway operators and rejuvenating buildings for the benefit of communities.



Historic railway buildings restored for community use

Restoration work started on five historic railway buildings under the Victorian Government's Community Use of Vacant Rail Buildings Program. They are the first of 10 vacant rail buildings to be restored following a \$9 million Victorian Government funding injection. This program transforms vacant rail buildings into valuable community assets for local residents and visitors. More buildings will be restored under the program in 2023.

Vintage Rolling Stock Strategy recommendations implemented

Working groups established by the Tourist and Heritage Sector Coordinating Board have been getting on with implementing the recommendations of the Vintage Rolling Stock Strategy (VRSS), *Preserving our rail history – A blueprint for the future*. Among the highlights of the last year, approximately \$15,000 was provided from VRSS funding to disperse around 3,200 sleepers removed from the Murray Basin Upgrade across the sector. A project to catalogue assets and parts also got underway.

New train station for Goornong delivered

The first train service pulled into the new Goornong Station in December 2021 after this growing Bendigo community had been without a train service for decades. The station was one of three being delivered by VicTrack on behalf of Rail Projects Victoria as part of the Bendigo Metro 3 project.

Major milestone reached in TGSN rollout

A significant milestone in VicTrack's \$69 million Transport and Government Secure Network (TGSN), with completion of the Optical Transport Network (OTN) base infrastructure rollout. The OTN provides connectivity across Victorian sites. Work to migrate customers' telecommunications services to the new network is underway. When complete, TGSN will enhance the capacity, performance and reliability required for Victoria's transport, government and wholesale customers. The TGSN rollout started in July 2019 and is due for completion by the end of 2023.

VicTrack and Aussie Broadband reach fibre swap agreement

In September 2021, VicTrack and Aussie Broadband Ltd entered a Fibre Build and Lease Agreement to provide each other with access to our respective fibre networks throughout Victoria. This will create several new revenue opportunities around NBN and NBN backhaul and allows VicTrack to expand our telecommunications network far beyond the rail corridor.

Jewell Station development complete

VicTrack's development partner Neometro completed 120 new apartments and five new shops next to Jewell Station in Brunswick. The development is providing new homes close to multiple public transport options and is a catalyst for a broader regeneration of the surrounding precinct. The heritage station building underwent extensive restoration works that were finished in late 2021.

VicTrack supporting level crossing removals

VicTrack has continued to be an important partner in the Level Crossing Removal Project. In the past financial year, our team has supported decommissioning stations at Bell, Lilydale, Mooroolbark and Hallam with new stations commissioned on these sites as well as at North Williamstown, Hampton Park, Bonbeach, Chelsea and Edithvale.

Work kicks off on Belgrave multi-deck car park

Construction started in March 2022 on a 640-space multi-deck car park at Belgrave Station VicTrack is delivering on behalf of DoT. Considerable progress has been made with demolition and all in-ground piling works finished. The car park will open in mid-2023. To offset the closure of the original Belgrave Station car park, a temporary car park was installed next to Upwey High School with 170 spaces.

