

Media Release

The Hon Jacinta Allan MP
Minister for Transport Infrastructure



**DELIVERING
FOR ALL VICTORIANS**

Friday, 18 October 2019

BETTER RAIL SIGNALLING AND IMPROVED FACILITIES FOR BENDIGO

The Andrews Labor Government is getting on and upgrading vital rail infrastructure in Bendigo, which will allow for faster and more frequent services to Echuca and more services between Epsom, Eaglehawk and Bendigo.

Minister for Transport Infrastructure Jacinta Allan today visited Bendigo Station to announce a shortlist of contractors to deliver signalling works as part of the Bendigo and Echuca Line Upgrade.

The project will deliver a modernised signalling system between Epsom, Eaglehawk and Bendigo, to deliver Bendigo Metro 2, which provides for more frequent services within Greater Bendigo.

Two consortia have been shortlisted to deliver the critical upgrades: VicConnect, comprising UGL Limited, Decmil and Arup, and another comprising CPB Contractors, John Holland, WSP and SMEC.

Construction is expected to begin in late 2020, with a target completion in 2021, subject to planning and environmental approvals.

To improve accessibility and comfort at Bendigo Station, a contractor will be appointed later this year to deliver works to improve accessibility and comfort in the station's waiting room.

Using designs put together by Bendigo company e+ Architecture, the upgrades include lowering ticket counters to improve access for people with disability, improving the waiting and customer service areas, upgrading the toilets, and installing a new Changing Places facility.

To make it easier for people to access public transport in the growing suburbs north of Bendigo and use the more frequent services in the future, works are underway to upgrade the car park and forecourt at Eaglehawk Station.

The works include building 60 new car parking spaces and new accessible parking, as well as a new taxi rank, bus bays and a drop off zone.

The improvements to Bendigo and Eaglehawk stations are part of the Labor Government's \$15.8 million project to upgrade the stations to improve accessibility and comfort.

It is part of the \$1.75 billion Regional Rail Revival, which is upgrading every regional line in Victoria and creating more than 1,000 jobs as well as support local businesses.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Transport Infrastructure and Member for Bendigo East Jacinta Allan

"We're getting on and delivering the infrastructure needed to run more trains more often between Epsom, Eaglehawk and Bendigo."

"The upgrades to the waiting room and car parks will make it easier for all passengers to access services, particularly those with reduced mobility."