

Frequently Asked Questions

Victoria's retired trams – Expression of Interest

General

1. How do I apply for one of Victoria's retired trams?

Victoria's retired trams are important assets to the community and we want to preserve them for future generations to enjoy. VicTrack will be asking interested parties to express their interest in obtaining a retired tram for community or commercial purposes that can be enjoyed by the public.

Applicants can apply for the Expression of Interest (EOI) process through the online form on the VicTrack website (victrack.com.au/trams).

2. How long will the EOI process go for?

The EOI process will commence at 9am on Monday 28 May 2018 and close at 4pm on Friday 6 July 2018.

3. How many Trams are available under the Expression of Interest?

There are 134 retired trams available under this EOI, broken down in the following classes.

Z1	2
Z2	1
W2	1
W5	6
SW5	48
W6	18
SW6	39
W7	19

4. What is the Size of a W Class Tram?

Length 14.17m. Height (*not including pole*) 3.15m. Width (*Including running board*) 2.74m.

5. What is the weight of a W Class Tram?

With wheels and bogies (*chassis*): 17.07 Metric Tonnes (*Tare*).

Without wheels and bogies (*chassis*): 10.00 Metric Tonnes (*Tare*).

Please note these weight estimates are approximate.

6. What is the size of a Z Class Tram?

Length 16.00m. Height (*not including pole*) 3.55m. Width 2.67m.

7. What is the weight of a Z Class Tram?

With wheels and bogies (*chassis*): 19.03 Metric Tonnes (*Tare*). *Please note this weight estimate is approximate.*

8. What is a bogie?

A bogie is the tram's chassis and wheel set, serving as the vehicle's subassembly of wheels and axles.

9. What is the seating arrangement in the tram?

Seating arrangements may vary between classes of tram. In some trams, seats may have been removed. Depending on the intended use put forward by the applicant, seating will be factored in to the allocation of the tram.

10. How much does it cost to acquire a tram?

Commercial, private and interstate applicants are expected to offer payment for the tram. The cost will be a flat fee of \$1000 (ex GST). Successful applicants from community, museum and public organisations situated in Victoria will be gifted the tram and relevant transport costs will be covered.

11. Will there be an opportunity to visit the trams stored at Newport prior to application?

Due to safety requirements it will not be possible to allow general public access to the depot. Once a tram has been allocated to an applicant, all available information of the particular tram, including photographs, will be made available. Successful applicants will be given the opportunity to view the tram at an appropriate time.

Allocation of retired trams

12. Who can apply for retired trams?

Applications from any person or organisation in the world will be considered. Selection criteria have been developed to guide the process of selecting applicants for retired trams. Commercial, private and interstate applicants are expected to pay for a tram. Successful applicants from community, museum, public and not-for-profit organisations in Victoria will be gifted the tram.

13. Are schools considered as a community organisation?

Primary and secondary schools (both public or private) are considered community organisations.

14. Will I have the opportunity to view the allocated tram before accepting it?

Once the trams have been allocated, successful applicants will be given the opportunity to view the tram at an appropriate time.

15. How will the tram be allocated?

The decision to allocate a particular tram will be conducted by an expert panel appointed by VicTrack. The tram to be allocated will be based on its intended use and requested delivery time frame against the current operational status and condition.

16. Will I have the opportunity to swap the allocated tram for another?

Any request to swap the allocated tram for another will not be considered.

17. What if I don't want the tram that was allocated?

The tram will be withdrawn and placed back into the tram pool. It will then be offered to other applicants. No other tram will be offered and your application will be withdrawn.

18. If I apply for a specific part, am I guaranteed to get it?

Requests for parts may not be able to be fulfilled. A particular part may not be available or may be needed for museum tram restorations. Bells and destination scrolls are not available.

19. Am I guaranteed to receive the specific tram I want?

Individual requests for a particular tram may not be able to be fulfilled. Your request will be considered through an EOI process where applications will be scored against a selection criteria. However, the tram to be allocated will be based on the intended use of the tram and requested delivery time frame against the current operational status and condition of the tram.

20. I want to obtain a tram for my own private use, will I stand a good chance in receiving one?

Applicants providing accessibility to the general public will be preferred and weighted accordingly.

21. If I have previously expressed interest in acquiring a tram, do I have to reapply?

All parties who have previously expressed interest in acquiring one of Victoria's retired trams will need to apply to the current EOI process.

22. Are art trams included in the EOI?

Art trams – trams designed by prominent local artists – are not available in the EOI. These trams will be offered to the artist, the artist's estate or an organisation endorsed by the artist or artist's estate.

23. Am I guaranteed to receive the Tram in the timeframe I requested?

The allocation panel will strive to select a tram that best suits your intended use and the requested delivery timeframe. However, the allocation panel will attempt to accommodate your requested timeframe which will be broken into four 6-month increments over a two year period.

24. What are the current conditions of the trams to be allocated?

A comprehensive audit of each tram was completed in 2017. This audit graded each tram by operational status and general condition. The trams to be allocated are:

- Non-operational, mostly complete, original equipment, with wheels and chassis;
- Non-operational, incomplete, modern equipment, with wheels and chassis;
- Non-operational, incomplete, original equipment, with wheels and chassis;
- Non-operational, incomplete, modern equipment, without wheels and chassis; and
- Non-operational, incomplete, original equipment, without wheels and chassis.

25. Can I put forward an application for more than one tram?

The number of trams assigned to any one applicant may be capped at the discretion of the allocation panel.

26. How will the selection panel determine if I am to receive a tram?

The independent selection panel will make recommendations of preferred applicants based on selection criteria, with oversight by an independent probity advisor.

All scoring anonymous to ensure that each member of the panel has no way of knowing the identity of the applicant.

Repurposing retired trams

27. Do I have to have the tram professionally restored?

The tram does not have to be professionally restored or repurposed. Trams could be restored or repurposed by a team of volunteers or tradespeople.

28. If I don't want to do the restoration and/or repurposing work myself, where can I get it done?

VicTrack cannot recommend one company over another. The applicant must do their own due diligence in deciding how they would like to restore or repurpose their tram and the works required. Applicants could contact the various tramway museums or professional restorers.

29. How much would it cost to restore the tram's internal fittings?

Indicative pricing provided to VicTrack to professionally restore the tram's internal fittings is estimated to be in the range of \$35,000 – \$80,000 depending on the condition of the tram. The applicant should conduct their own due diligence to obtain indicative costs.

30. How much would it cost to repurpose the tram as a shelter similar to the one located at Wattle Park in the Eastern Suburbs of Melbourne?

Indicative pricing provided to VicTrack to professionally repurpose the tram to become a shelter is estimated to be in the range of \$20,000 – \$80,000 depending on the condition of the tram and the works required. The applicant should conduct their own due diligence to obtain indicative costs.

31. How much would it cost to repurpose the tram as a bar?

Indicative pricing provided to VicTrack to professionally repurpose the tram to become a dry bar is estimated to be in the range of \$80,000 – \$100,000 depending on the condition of the tram and the works required. The applicant should conduct their own due diligence to obtain indicative costs.

32. How much would it cost to repurpose the tram as a cafe?

Indicative pricing provided to VicTrack to professionally repurpose the tram to become a cafe is estimated to be in the range of \$80,000 – \$280,000 depending on the condition of the tram and the works required. The applicant should conduct their own due diligence to obtain indicative costs and any permits required to operate as a café.

33. How much would it cost to restore the tram to be fully operational to original condition? (Not to Class W8)

Indicative pricing provided to VicTrack to totally professionally restore the tram to operational condition is estimated to be in the order of \$588,000 – \$650,000 depending on the condition of the tram and the works required. The applicant should conduct their own due diligence to obtain indicative costs.

34. I want to restore my tram to be fully operational. Will have I have access to operate tram on the Melbourne metropolitan network.

Under no circumstance will retired trams be able to operate on the Melbourne metropolitan tram network due to operational, safety and accessibility reasons.

Logistics

35. How much can I expect to pay for transport?

Depending on access and distance from the Newport Workshops to the final destination, successful commercial or private applicants can expect to pay between \$2000 and \$10,000 for transportation (based on indicative cost estimates provided to VicTrack). The applicant is also required to hire one or more cranes to assist with transportation: one at the Newport Depot to load the tram and another at the final destination to unload the tram, placing the tram into its final position. The applicant is encouraged to do their own due diligence in obtaining a quote for these services.

36. Which companies can transport the tram?

VicTrack cannot recommend one company over another. The applicant must complete their own due diligence in choosing a transport company. Transport companies must be approved before tram handover and have the required insurances to be allowed access to the depot. Successful applicants will also have to organise the hire of the crane and qualified operator.

37. Do community groups have to pay for transporting of the tram?

VicTrack will cover transport costs for successful community group applicants from within Victoria.

38. Are cranes included in the transport costs covered by VicTrack for community organisations?

Cranes or other equipment that is required to transport a tram will be covered by VicTrack for successful community organisation applicants from Victoria.

39. Do I have to remove the asbestos?

The W and Z Class trams will be gifted or sold in an “as is where is” manner. The W and Z class trams have been audited under ‘*Victorian legislation OHS Regulations 2017, Division 5 – Asbestos in the workplace*’.

Asbestos has been identified in the flooring and electrical control systems. Each tram has an appropriate asbestos register which will be made available to every recipient of a W or Z Class tram once allocated.

If the recipient of the tram is required to transport the tram or plans to re-purpose the tram, it will be incumbent on them to conduct their own assessment in accordance with the “*Victorian OHS Regulations 2017, Division 6 – Asbestos Demolition & refurbishment where asbestos is present*” (Regulations).

You can see an [example of an asbestos register](#) for a W-Class tram. This register has been provided as an **indicative sample only** and it is not being provided to absolve the recipient of conducting their own assessment in accordance with the regulations.

40. How much could it cost to remove the asbestos?

Indicative costs provided to VicTrack to remove the controller containing the asbestos is estimated to be in the range of \$500 - \$800. Indicative costs provided to VicTrack to remove the flooring containing the asbestos is estimated to be in the range of \$1600 - \$8000 depending on the condition and the works required. The applicant should conduct their own due diligence to obtain indicative costs and must ensure that the appropriate OHS requirements are met.

41. Are the tram windows made of safety glass?

Depending on their age and condition, some of the trams may contain safety glass but many do not. We recommend you investigate the cost and method of ensuring the glass is safe and meets necessary regulations for your desired use.

Expectations of care

42. How will I be expected to look after the tram?

The following requirements must be demonstrated in the application and will be expected in looking after the tram:

- Be placed on an appropriate foundation;
- Appropriately covered to protect the tram from the environment;
- Restore the tram as appropriate for the applicant’s purpose; and
- Continuously maintain the tram to limit deterioration.

43. Is there a time frame I am expected to restore/repurpose the tram?

There is no specific timeframe require to restore or repurpose the tram. However, to avoid deterioration it would be advisable to store the tram suitably to ensure it is out of the elements until restoration can be performed.

44. If I no longer want the tram, can I return it?

Once the ownership of the tram has been transferred the tram cannot be returned.

45. Do I need a council permit to house the tram?

Permit requirements vary across each local government. The applicant must check the relevant local regulations and are encouraged to consult with the relevant council.

46. As a community group based and located in Victoria, we do not have the capacity to pay for transport, building foundations or to build a roof over the tram. What assistance is available?

For community organisations located in Melbourne and regional Victoria, the cost of transporting the tram and establishing appropriate footings will be covered by VicTrack, based on the strength of the application.