

# Media Release

Thursday 27 August 2009

## **SPRINGVALE ROAD CLOSURE TO FAST-TRACK RAIL CROSSING REMOVAL AT NUNAWADING**

Works to fast-track the removal of the Springvale Road level crossing will take place in the September school holidays, requiring the road to be closed to through traffic at Nunawading for 11 days from Friday 18 September.

Project Director of Eastern Projects for VicRoads, Frank De Santis, said closing Springvale Road during the quieter school holiday period will help fast-track construction of the new six-lane bridge over the rail line.

“It avoids the need for ongoing major closures affecting Springvale Road traffic over many months,” he said.

“Bridgeworks will continue around the clock until the end of September and involve major excavation, placement of steel reinforcement and concrete for the new Springvale Road bridge that will span the rail line.

“While short-term inconvenience will be experienced in September, Springvale Road users and rail customers will benefit with fewer impacts overall as vital works on the \$140 million project are completed safely and away from traffic,” he said.

During these major works:

- Springvale Road will be closed to through traffic at the Nunawading level crossing from 8pm Friday 18 September to 6am Wednesday 30 September.
- Local access will be available for traders, residents and pedestrians up to and including Station Street and Laughlin Ave (south side) and up to Walkers Rd and Silver Grove (north).
- Train services on the Belgrave-Lilydale lines will operate as normal.

Drivers should avoid Springvale Road through Nunawading over this period. Alternative routes include Middleborough Road, Mitcham Road, Heatherdale Road, Eastern Freeway and EastLink.

The Springvale and Whitehorse roads intersection consistently was number one in the RACV Redspot survey of the most frustrating roads to travel on in Melbourne.

Mr De Santis said when completed, the Springvale Road rail separation project will make travel quicker, safer and smoother for drivers and train passengers.

“Currently the boom gates close around 200 times each day bringing thousands of drivers to a standstill, so their removal in January will make life easier for everyone,” he said.

So far the project has installed 40 per cent of the piles needed to complete the project which includes all of the piles needed for the bridge structure at the current level crossing.

The project to remove the level crossing at Springvale Road has been funded by the Australian and Victorian Governments. It is the first to be removed as part of a \$440 million program identified in the State Government’s \$38 billion Victorian Transport Plan.

For information about the Springvale Road closure and works call 8873 5100 during business hours Monday to Friday or visit the project website at [www.srra.com.au](http://www.srra.com.au)

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