

East West Link

Summary of Impacts on Community Facilities, Assets and Key Infrastructure

Introduction

This summary provides information about community facilities and assets that Council considers will be impacted by the proposed East West Link. The summary includes information about:

- Use of these community facilities as well as key features
- The impacts likely to be experienced during and post construction.

The summary is made available to the community for their use.

Further information about the East West Link and how to make a submission is available on [Council's website](http://mvcc.vic.gov.au). mvcc.vic.gov.au

Information about the project is also available on the [Linking Melbourne Authority website](http://www.linkingmelbourne.vic.gov.au). www.linkingmelbourne.vic.gov.au

Key summary of impacts

How will this project impact Moonee Valley?

- Destroy the Debneys Park play space through the construction of an imposing overhead freeway structure immediately next to the existing CityLink structure
- Severely impact the running of and future viability of Flemington Community Centre in its current location
- Substantially reduce open space in Debneys Park for active or passive recreation
- Impact and reduce the size of Travancore Park as well as impact on Council's plans to build a new separate bike path
- Impact facilities and reduce the size of our sports fields within Ormond Park and Fenton Reserve
- Severely impact the Debneys Park and Essendon Community Gardens
- Substantially impact the Moonee Ponds Creek Linear Park environment and shared path including planned improvements to the Dean Street underpass link
- Overshadow and impact the natural environment surrounding Moonee Ponds Creek
- Increase traffic and congestion in our local streets during construction and after the freeway is built

Key summary of impacts (continued...)

- Increased traffic, congestion, shading and air pollution to the areas close to the new 'on and off' ramps at Brisbane Street Reserve and Ormond Road, which have been a late addition to the project plan
- Eliminate open space in Brisbane Street Reserve to build the new off ramp at Ormond Road
- Result in the compulsory acquisition of at least 3 residential properties in Moonee Valley
- Increase noise and air pollution for people living in, and visiting, areas around the new freeway
- Significantly impact operations at the Essendon Hockey Centre during and after construction due to increased air pollution, noise and dust
- Increase public transport travel times due to increased congestion on local roads, in particular for Tram Route 57 which already experiences long commute times

These are just a snapshot of the potential impacts. Council is continuing to determine likely intended and unintended impacts on Moonee Valley.

Further information about some of the key community facilities and assets impacted is provided in this document.

Debneys Park open space

Who uses this park?

Debneys Park - Recreation:

- Local school use Debneys Park for school sport.
- Personal trainers currently have a permit for group fitness in the park for 3 hours per week.
- Open space used frequently for community events and informal community gatherings (including the use of BBQ facilities).

Debneys Park - Sports clubs:

- **Flemington Eagles Soccer Club:** 150 members (includes players, parents and social members). Use Debneys Park 25 hrs per week, April-September..
- **North Lions Soccer Club:** 50 members (includes players, parents and social members). Use Debneys Park 21 hours per week, April-September.
- **Moonee Valley Cricket Club:** 300 members (includes players, parents and social members). Use Debneys Park 7 hours per week, October- March.
- **Debneys Park Tennis Courts:** Commonly used by public for informal use and by the Flemington Community Centre for community programs.

Debneys Park open space (continued...)

Key impacts on the community:

- There would be a temporary loss of approximately 1.35 hectares during construction (note: total temporary loss of open space in the City of Moonee Valley is approximately 1.92 ha, the approximate size of the MCG's playing surface).
- Major disruptions to access points during construction.
- Safety and health impacts with heavy construction equipment and dust and debris during construction.
- Loss of open space amenity during construction and once completed with a larger freeway overshadowing more of the park.
- Linking Melbourne Authority identifies a permanent loss of open space as 0.02ha. However, loss of open space would be much greater as the park would be overshadowed by more roads with additional noise and pollution. There is also the possibility of anti-social behaviour under the roads.
- Vitamin D deficiency is already an issue on the Flemington Estate. Any loss of open space would further exacerbate the incidence of Vitamin D deficiency.

Debneys Park Playspace

Who uses the Debneys Park Playspace?

- The Playspace is used by children from Flemington Estate and beyond. It is a large Regional Playspace providing for local and broader community, also accessible via shared path network for those without vehicle use.
- Developed as part of the Heart Foundation's Space for Active Play project, involved extensive community engagement and consultation, including with children from the estate.
- The Playspace was designed as a key mitigation measure to offset the enormous impact of the Citylink infrastructure, particularly through the delivery of open space and building of community trust in government, previously lost through the development of CityLink. The Playspace also provides an important interface by removing barriers and rehabilitating the creek corridor.

Debneys Park Playspace (continued...)

Key impacts on the community:

- Temporary loss of approximately 1.35 hectares of Debneys Park during construction.
- Permanent loss of Debneys Park Playspace.
- The Playspace design process, developed with the community, was an extensive community neighbourhood building exercise designed to build trust through resident involvement. The opening of the Playspace was a milestone as it signified a tangible outcome and delivered on promises. The loss of this Playspace will be significant as it will erode trust and destroy an important community asset that the community helped design.

Flemington Community Garden

Who uses this facility?

- There are currently 120 garden plots for gardening use by Flemington Estate residents.(with approximately 15 people on the waiting list)
- Managed by Cultivating Communities
- Provides access to fresh and healthy food.
- Provides an important opportunity for social activity and interaction with others.
- Allows residents to access Vitamin D.

Key impacts on the community:

- Major disruptions to the community garden during construction with dust, debris, safety and noise impacts.
- The proposed East West Link would also impact the continued use of the community garden due to overshadowing, increased pollution, increased noise from truck use and safety impacts.

Flemington Community Centre

Who uses this facility?

- Over 76,000 attendees annually (for formal activities, not including drop-ins or immunisation)
- Attendees at the community centre are from the Flemington Estate along with community members from surrounding areas.
- It is used for English classes, childcare, low-cost programs and family fun activities as well as community gatherings, celebrations and events as well as a space for immunisation.
- The centre promotes social cohesion and community networks – provides a neutral space that is not culturally specific, undertakes needs-based planning and creates a welcoming environment.

Key impacts on the community:

- Relocation of the Flemington Community Centre during construction and loss of familiar and welcoming place for community members.
- Post-construction, the freeway will overshadow the centre and reduce the friendly and welcoming feel of the centre.
- Increased noise, pollution and safety issues post construction threaten the ability of the centre to provide programs in a safe environment.

Dehli Reserve and Travancore Park

Who uses Dehli Reserve and Travancore Park?

- Delhi Reserve and Travancore Park provide important pockets of open space for the Travancore/Moonee Ponds area.
- The parks are very popular for dog walkers and passive open space use.
- Children use the play equipment at Travancore Park.
- Walkers and cyclists use the Moonee Ponds Creek Shared Trail.

Key impacts on the community:

- Direct impacts through loss of open space during construction (temporary loss of 0.17 ha, although the Comprehensive Impact Statement also indicates the potential greater loss of open space).
- Significant visual impact and loss of amenity once constructed as the road, sound attenuation will be larger and dominate the parks.
- Limited open space in this area and any loss will place further pressure on existing open space.
- Potential permanent loss of this section of Moonee Ponds Creek Shared Trail and immediate disruption to Council's plans to build a new separate section of path to address key safety issues raised by the community.

Moonee Ponds Creek Linear Park

Key features:

- The Moonee Ponds Creek Linear Park is an important waterway widely recognised by the community and other agencies as public open space:
- See the [Moonee Valley Open Space Strategy](#) and [Moonee Valley Planning Scheme](#) (zoned PPRZ) for further information.
- Other important documents include the [Melbourne Water Healthy Waterways Strategy](#) and the [Moonee Ponds Creek Strategic Plan](#).
- Whilst channelised in some sections, the potential for full rehabilitation is key to future masterplanning of the corridor.
- The corridor acts as a buffer to open space and supports bird life.

Key impacts on the community:

- Overshadowing of the creek will decrease plant life and opportunities for naturalisation.
- The section of the creek under City Link (near Debneys Park) is the only remaining natural section in the municipality. Overshadowing has significant impacts on vegetation and minimal vegetation grows in this section. Further overshadowing will decrease plant growth and future rehabilitation opportunities. This also impacts on how people perceive and use the creek.

Moonee Ponds Creek Trail

Who uses the trail?

- The Moonee Ponds Trail runs alongside the Moonee Ponds Creek and is a heavily utilised shared path, utilised for both commuting and recreational use.
- The trail forms part of Melbourne's Principal Bike Network and supports over 200 cyclists alone at peak hour per day each way.
- Informal and formal use is high as the trail is used for recreational walking and exercising both people and dogs and by commuters who walk or cycle to work or school.

Key impacts on the community:

- Loss of the Moonee Ponds Creek Trail used by cyclists and walkers. This will also impact Council's planned improvements to the Dean Street shared path – which is a concern for cyclists and is a high incident area of the path.
- There is a potential to lose the only path for cyclist who are less confident to use other on road bike paths or for children.
- Increased noise, pollution and overshadowing will cause significant impacts to users of Moonee Ponds Creek Trail, particularly those who use the trail for passive activities such as walking and cycling.

Essendon Hockey Centre / Fenton Street Reserve



Who uses the Essendon Hockey Centre and Fenton Street Reserve?

- The Essendon Hockey Centre is an active club with 550 members.
- The facilities used up to 80 hours per week.
- Local schools use this facility during terms 3 & 4 up to 4 times a day (4 sessions) and the local community use the facilities throughout the week for informal sporting activities (e.g. soccer).
- Children use the play equipment at Fenton Street Reserve

Key impacts on the community:

- The Essendon Hockey Centre is Moonee Valleys only hockey facility any loss or disruption to use will impact on a broad range of users.
- The Centre was impacted negatively during the construction of CityLink (dust and mud damaged the field). Construction of East West Link would pose the same risks.
- Access would be disrupted by heavy construction vehicle access during construction.
- Reduced amenity including noise and pollution impacts with freeway larger and closer (there would no longer be a buffer zone).

Who uses the community garden and Brisbane Reserve?

- The Essendon Community Garden is one of the oldest community gardens in Victoria, operating since 1978.
- Includes 75 plots used by community members surrounding the gardens and has a waiting list to access the gardens.
- Brisbane Reserve is a small local reserve highly valued by the community

Key impacts on the community:

- A small triangular area of Crown land at the Essendon Community Garden would be permanently acquired for the provision of an off-ramp to Ormond Road.
- Impacts would cause significant reduction in use and enjoyment of the community gardens. This includes increased noise, pollution, overshadowing resulting in loss of direct sunlight and safety impacts.
- Loss of public open space and amenity if the off-ramp is constructed at Ormond Road as the road and sound attenuation will dominate Brisbane Reserve.

Ormond Park

Who uses Ormond Park?

Ormond Park is a popular open space for passive and active recreation. It includes one AFL oval, two soccer pitches, one mini soccer pitch, two lawn bowls greens, a small playground and car parking. The three sports pavilions provide for the Soccer, Cricket, Football, Bowls and Bridge Club. Formal users of the park include:

- **Moonee Valley Bridge Club:** 350 members (including players, parents, social members) 700 Users which includes visitors. Use facilities 30-40 hours per week. Community Groups – this facility is used frequently for unstructured community use (e.g. carpet bowls).
- **Moonee Valley Cricket Club:** 300 members (including players, parents, social members). Use Ormond Park 30 hours a week, October-March.
- **Moonee Valley Football Club:** 600 members (including players, parents, social members). Use Ormond Park 31 hours a week, April-September.
- **Essendon Royals Soccer Club:** 900 members (including players, parents, social members) – use Ormond Park 31 hours per week, April to September.
- **Moonee Valley Bowls Club:** 100 members (including players, parents, social members). Use Bowls facilities 30-40 hours per week.

Ormond Park (continued...)

Key impacts on the community:

- Loss of open space at Ormond Park, including the permanent loss of 0.15 hectares at Ormond Park, will have significant impacts on this well used public open space.
- Potential additional loss of open space and driveway access during construction.
- Clubs cannot operate without direct road access.
- Significant impacts on both formal (active) and informal (passive) users of Ormond Park.
- The sporting reserve is at capacity. Any loss or disruption of open space will impact on participation levels and any relocation would cut ties with surrounding clubs.
- Construction impacts include environmental, noise, vibration and safety impacts. This includes for outdoor areas as well as key facilities including the two sports pavilion and a bowls pavilion.
- Post construction impacts include noise, amenity, safety and pollution.

Key Council assets to be impacted by the proposed East West Link

Land and Open Space:

- Debneys Park, Flemington
- Delhi Reserve, Travancore
- Travancore Park, Travancore
- Fenton Street Reserve, Ascot Vale
- Brisbane Street Reserve, Ascot Vale
- Ormond Park, Moonee Ponds
- Bent Street Reserve, Ascot Vale

Playground Equipment:

- Debneys Park Play Space, Flemington
- Travancore Park Playground, Travancore
- Fenton Street Reserve Playground, Ascot Vale

Key Council assets to be impacted by the proposed East West Link (continued...)

Buildings and Facilities:

- Flemington Community Centre
- Flemington Community Gardens
- Debneys Park Sports Pavilion, Flemington
- Debneys Park Tennis Courts, Flemington
- Essendon Hockey Centre, Ascot Vale
- Fenton Street Community Gardens, Ascot Vale
- Essendon Royal Soccer Club Pavilion, Moonee Ponds
- Moonee Valley Bowls Club Pavilion, Moonee Ponds
- Moonee Valley Sports Club Pavilion, Moonee Ponds

Footpaths/Shared Paths/Bridges:

- Moonee Ponds Creek Trail - Wilson Street to Racecourse Road

Key Council assets to be impacted by the proposed East West Link (continued...)

Roads:

- Brisbane Street, Ascot Vale
- Dean Street, Moonee Ponds
- Delhi Court, Travancore
- Fenton Street, Ascot Vale
- Hockey Lane, Ascot vale
- Johnson Street, Moonee Ponds
- Mooltan Street, Travancore
- Myrnong Crescent, Ascot Vale
- Pattison Street, Moonee Ponds
- Turner Street, Moonee Ponds
- Wilson Street Moonee Ponds

Right Of Ways

- Baroda - Mooltan Street, Travancore

Other Structures - Car park:

- Debneys Park, Flemington
- Victoria Street , Flemington
- Ormond Park, Moonee Ponds

Other sites or infrastructure to be impacted by the proposed East West Link



Other sites or infrastructure in the City of Moonee Valley that Council considers will be impacted by the proposed East West Link include:

- Mount Alexander Road
- Racecourse Road
- Tram routes 57 and 59
- Bridges including Dean St – Road Bridge; Wilson St - Road Bridge; Evan St – Pedestrian Bridge; Near Brunswick Rd – Pedestrian Bridge
- Bus routes 504, 505, 506 and 508
- Flemington Road business and Moonee Ponds Activity Centre.

For a full list of impacts, view our [slideshow presentation \(pdf 3.8MB\)](#), which contains information which may assist you in preparing a submission on the Comprehensive Impact Statement.

Further information on the East West Link is available on [Council's website](#).

Information about the project is also available on the [Linking Melbourne Authority website](#).

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