

# Public meeting questions and answers

## Brunswick Level Crossing Removals



**Merri-bek**  
City Council

Question	Upvotes	Response
Can we prioritise active transport along the shared path instead of cars? Eg, lights on all cross streets with 'default' green on the path instead of default red (ie red for cars as 'default')	41	The prioritisation of active transport was one of the most common themes through the engagement process. Council will consider a draft position paper called Reshaping Brunswick which includes various strategies to prioritise active transport, at the April Council meeting.
How will impacts and the interests of residents living in apartments next door to the train line be managed. Both during construction and in planning,	37	Residents who live next to the rail line were represented in the engagement program and shared their concerns and aspirations for the project, especially around infrastructure design and construction impacts. The feedback received has informed Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick, the position paper that will be considered at the April Council meeting and what Council will ask of the Level Crossing Removal Project as it delivers the project. The impacts on individual residents will be managed by the Level Crossing Removal Project, and there are suggestions in Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick about how these impacts could be mitigated.
What is the plan for bicycles during the building works when upfield bike path will close? Sydney road is very dangerous! Tonight, on our way here we saw a young person being loaded into an ambulance	37	We understand that there will be disruption to the Upfield shared user path during construction of the project and the State Government will define alternative routes during closures. While we don't know what these will look like yet, the safety of any alternative route, including Sydney Road, is a community concern we have heard repeatedly through the engagement process and has informed the draft position paper, Reshaping Brunswick, that will be considered at the April Council meeting.
Will the Government be given permission to undertake works 24/7 as was the case throughout the Moreland to Bell St project? This is concerning for the high density residents living nearby	32	No information is known at this stage regarding how construction will occur, including the length of the construction period and whether works will occur 24/7. At the April Council meeting, Council will consider a draft position paper, Reshaping Brunswick, which includes suggestions for how the Level Crossing Removal Project could minimise the disruption to residents living nearby.

How will people living directly next to the line (including renters) be supported?	32	Residents who live next to the rail line were represented in the engagement program and shared their concerns and aspirations for the project, especially around infrastructure design and construction impacts. The feedback received has informed the position paper that will be considered at the April Council meeting. The impacts on individual residents will be managed by the Level Crossing Removal Project, and there are suggestions in Council's draft position paper Reshaping Brunswick about how these impacts could be mitigated.
Would there be permanent closure or additional speed bumps on side roads to deter drivers from using them as thoroughfare, noting that the overall car traffic in the area will no doubt increase?	31	The Council report that will be considered at the April meeting proposes that Council undertake further work to consider the issue of local traffic changes brought about by the project in the form a localised Traffic Impact Assessment and determine what changes could be made to the surrounding transport network, including local streets.
How will bikes still have priority on the Upfield path once the boom gates are gone?	30	The prioritisation of active transport, including bikes, emerged strongly as a theme throughout the engagement process. Council will consider a draft position paper called Reshaping Brunswick on 12 April which includes various suggested strategies to prioritise active transport.
Will Council ensure that nightworks do not occur? Sleep deprivation for long periods can have serious negative health impacts.	29	All construction works will be managed by the Level Crossing Removal Project, who will make the decisions about how and when to deliver the work program, including the hours of operation. The draft position paper includes strategies for mitigating those impacts, such as noise quarantines at night. Feedback from the community during the Bell to Moreland project indicated that night works had a negative health impact on some residents so it will be an important issue to consider on the Brunswick project.
What can Merri Bek and the community do to actually influence the project, given that the state is already designing it?	28	From what we understand, the Level Crossing Removal Project is still at an early stage and is carrying out site investigations and other essential early works needed to feed in to their design process. Council has engaged with the community to hear what is important to them, and is forming a position paper at this early stage, to maximise opportunities to influence the design process.
I have heard that Jewel Station and Brunswick station will be merged into one and sited near Dawson St. Is this so? (I really hope NOT)	25	Council has no knowledge at this stage about where stations will be sited or whether any will be merged. This decision will be made by the Level Crossing Removal Project. The number and sites of stations is a complicated one because of the potential impact on people's homes and of their journeys to the train. Council will consider its position on this at its 12 April meeting.

How long is the project expected to take. Will the locals be able to cross the site by road, bike or foot during the construction period	24	We don't yet know how long the construction phase of this project will take, exactly how it will be delivered or what roads or paths will be inaccessible for what periods, other than the Level Crossing Removal Project has publicly announced that it will be completed by 2027. The draft position paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests advocacy strategies such as staging works so that the entire site is not closed down for one long period.
what are the plans to conserve the trees ?	24	The value of mature trees was expressed often through the engagement program. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests the Level Crossing Removal Project create a Tree Study to assess each tree and understand its health, maturity, biodiversity value, aesthetic value, canopy coverage and value to the community and that where these values are high, trees should be retained if at all possible.
Will there be a specific consultation with apartment and flat dwellers who will be directly affected by the elevated rail in terms of the direct impact on amenity as well as managing construction	21	<p>Council understands the level of disruption on this project will be substantial, with more people directly affected than on similar projects such as the Bell to Moreland level crossing removals project that has recently been completed due to the high number of apartments directly next to the rail line. We understand that, as with similar projects, the Level Crossing Removal Project will consult directly with those impacted.</p> <p>The draft position paper suggests that Council consider advocating that the Level Crossing Removal Project assesses the needs of all those who will be impacted, and tailor support packages to each household, along with clear communication about disruptions well ahead of time, and proactive engagement with residents about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- When they can be relocated</li> <li>- How long they can be relocated for</li> <li>- Their choices in the relocation venue and</li> <li>- Other forms of support during construction</li> </ul>
Will trams services on Sydney road be improved during construction when trains aren't running	21	Improvements to tram services on Sydney Road, both frequency and accessibility of services, are included as possible strategies within the draft position paper Reshaping Brunswick, that Council will consider at its April meeting.
Can we ask the State Gov to merge the Brunswick Tram Depot upgrade with the Level Crossings so that people are not disrupted twice? This can also ensure other benefits are realised via the two projects	20	These are separate projects being delivered by separate state government bodies (Yarra Trams and the Department of Transport; and the Level Crossing Removal Project). Council encourages these state government bodies to consider delivering the separate projects with the least possible disruption to the local community and network users.

Will Council advocate for and support safe convenient detours for cyclists and pedestrians who will be shut out of the Upfield path for an extended periods?	20	Detour routes during the construction of the project are not yet known. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests that pedestrian, cycling, public transport and vehicle diversion routes during the construction phase of the project should be safe, practical, convenient and universally accessible.
What level of consideration will be given to the visual and overshadowing impact of the skyrail? A large big grey bridge over the whole of Brunswick will not look nice	20	The visual bulk of the new infrastructure and its impact on sunlight, trees, heritage elements and the amenity of local apartments was a common theme throughout engagement. These final design aspects of the state government's Level Crossing Removal Project are not yet known. Suggested strategies to minimise negative impacts are included within the Reshaping Brunswick that Council will consider at its April meeting.
Will certain little streets be closed in order to stop them continuing to be rat runs.	19	The Council Report that will be considered at the April meeting proposes that Council undertake further work to consider the issue of local traffic changes brought about by the project in the form of a localised Traffic Impact Assessment and determine what changes could be made to the surrounding transport network, including local streets to mitigate any negative impacts.
80% of people visiting Sydney rd in Brunswick get there on foot, PT or by bike. Many of them using the Upfield corridor. What plans will be made so that these people can still get to Sydney Rd	19	Continued access to Sydney Road during works is important for local businesses and local residents. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests that pedestrian routes during the construction phase of the project should be safe, practical, convenient and universally accessible.
Will there be compulsory acquisition of property next to the train line?	18	All decisions and actions relating to property acquisition will be made by the Level Crossing Removal Project. Council has no knowledge about any potential acquisitions for this project. The draft position paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests the Level Crossing Removal Project should ensure early and regular communication with anyone directly impacted by the works.
How will the removal of the Brunswick Road crossing improve traffic? Will it not increase traffic (including industrial trucks etc)? How is council considering this impact on all roads?	18	The Council Report that will be considered at the April meeting proposes that Council undertake further work to consider the issue of local traffic changes brought about by the project in the form a localised Traffic Impact Assessment and determine what changes could be made to the surrounding transport network, including local streets.
How will council contribute to preventing Albion and Hope Sts becoming rat runs?	18	The Council Report that will be considered at the April meeting proposes that Council undertake further work to consider the issue of local traffic changes brought about by the project in the form a localised Traffic Impact Assessment and determine what changes could be made to the surrounding transport network, including local streets.

Will council advocate for separated protected cycle lanes so people can travel about safely during the duration of the project which is expected to be completed by 2027?	18	Detour routes during the construction of the project are not yet known and will be determined by the State Government. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests that cycling diversion routes during the construction phase of the project should be safe, practical and convenient.
What will be the noise level of trains when Skyrail is completed for those in apartments right on the line, what are residents rights, how will Council advocate about this?	18	The level of disruption, including noise, caused by the Level crossing Removal Project to local residents is not yet known. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests that the Level Crossing Removal Project assess the needs of all those who will be impacted by noise before during and after construction, and tailors support packages to each household.
Will the council hold regular town halls like this during construction to understand people's experiences and concerns as they unfold?	18	It is intended that further engagement is carried out once key details are known, so that positions can be strengthened or clarified as these are tested with the community. The form of that engagement will be developed as part of an ongoing Communications and Engagement Plan, which will be developed as more becomes known about the timing and approach of the Level Crossing Removal Project's engagement program.
How do we ensure that the trees beside the railway line before and after it crosses Park St are protected?	18	The value of mature trees was expressed often through the engagement program, including those around Park Street. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick recommends the Level Crossing Removal Project create a Tree Study to assess each tree and understand its health, maturity, biodiversity value, aesthetic value, canopy coverage and value to the community and that where these values are high, trees should be retained if at all possible.
Will council advocate to have the existing railway buildings available for use as public spaces? Eg cafes, meeting rooms, artists' studios. The old building at Moreland station looks so lifeless.	17	The draft position paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests that a Creative Strategy should be developed for the project, which would include the adaptive reuse of existing railway buildings like gate keepers' huts into community spaces that provide activation, like local artists' studios or other active uses where possible.
What consideration is being given to road traffic levels on crossing streets once skyrail is built? Will quiet streets turn into heavily trafficked major roads?	17	The Council Report that will be considered at the April meeting proposes that Council undertake further work to consider the issue of local traffic changes brought about by the project in the form a localised Traffic Impact Assessment and determine what changes could be made to the surrounding transport network, including local streets.
Will the line be duplicated all the way to upfield. What will be the frequency of the trains as a result of all this expenditure	17	Council has an existing advocacy position that the Upfield Line should be duplicated in order to ensure that train users north of the project are not disadvantaged. Duplicating the Upfield rail line north of Gowrie Station is needed to help provide a safe and efficient public transport network. The draft position paper suggests

		that Council ask the Victorian Government to simultaneously duplicate the Upfield line north of Gowrie Station while carrying out the Level Crossing Removal Project.
Will Council be strongly advocating to Govn for increased tram during construction	17	Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests the State Government should provide increased frequencies on nearby public transport routes during construction of the project.
For your record: Can we please advocate for toilets at each station. Can we also advocate, with priority, for pedestrian paths that are a safe width, as the Bell to Moreland paths are not. Thank you.	16	Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests the Level Crossing Removal Project provide accessible toilets at all new stations as well as a width of separated paths to be designed to allow for future projected volumes, ideally at least 2.5m wide for pedestrians and 4m for bicycles.
Is there any desire to reopen streets that were closed off when boom gates were installed. Wfh; Barkley st, Tinning st, Phoenix st. Etc.	16	These final design aspects of the state government's Level Crossing Removal Project are not yet known. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests that existing closed east-west roads in the rail corridor should not be reopened to vehicle traffic.
Will we be able to have a harmonious and nature themed stations and concourse leading to station. No garish "liquorice" themed designs please	15	These final design aspects of the state government's Level Crossing Removal Project are not yet known. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests that the Level Crossing Removal Project should be designed to strengthen the existing character of the area, incorporating art and landscape that is true to Brunswick.
Realistically how will bike path and pedestrian path be improved if the users still need to stop at Brunswick road and stop for cars?	15	These final design aspects of the state government's Level Crossing Removal Project are not yet known. To improve pedestrian and cyclist safety, the draft position paper asks the Level Crossing Removal Project to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resolve the existing conflicts between cars, cyclists, and pedestrians by isolating and giving priority to cycling and pedestrian routes</li> <li>• Signalising pedestrian crossings on every street where boom gates are removed where appropriate.</li> <li>• Installing a smart-signal 'green wave' which is timed so bicycles travelling at a casual pace get a green light as they approach each intersection.</li> <li>• Ensure the width of the separated paths to be designed to allow for future projected volumes, ideally at least 2.5m wide for pedestrians and 4m for bicycles.</li> <li>• Install traffic calming infrastructure at east-west connections, such as speed humps, kerb outstands and chicanes.</li> <li>• Differentiate bike paths pavement around train station to prioritise pedestrians and highlight conflict points to prioritise accessibility</li> </ul>

Are you advocating for retention of all existing trees?	15	The value of mature trees was expressed often through the engagement program. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests the Level Crossing Removal Project create a Tree Study to assess each tree and understand its health, maturity, biodiversity value, aesthetic value, canopy coverage and value to the community and that where these values are high, trees should be retained if at all possible.
Will homes be acquired? If so, when will residents know more about this?	13	All decisions and actions relating to property acquisition will be made by the Level Crossing Removal Project. Council has no knowledge about any acquisitions for this project. The draft position paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests the Level Crossing Removal Project should ensure early and regular communication with anyone affected by the works.
Will the proposed bike path be wide enough to handle the increased bike traffic from all the new apartment buildings?	13	It is not yet known how wide the state government Level Crossing Removal Project will build bike paths in the final design. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests the width of the separated paths should be designed to allow for future projected volumes, ideally at least 2.5m wide for pedestrians and 4m for bicycles.
How many stations on the line will be retained?	13	Council has no knowledge at this stage about where stations will be sited or whether any will be merged. This decision will be made by the Level Crossing Removal Project. The number and sites of stations is part of what Council will take into account, alongside the impact of the bulk of the new infrastructure, in its consideration of its advocacy position set out in Reshaping Brunswick.
I appreciate that there will be multiple 'MCGs worth of space', however how much will actually be given over to much needed green spaces/planting given shading issues in a narrow rail corridor?	13	It is not yet known how much of the new space made available will be turned into green space by the Level Crossing Removal Project. The state government project announcement stated that elevating the rail line from Albion Street to Park Street will create four MCGs worth of new open space. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick proposes that we look broader than the immediate corridor, and consider state government-owned and Council-owned spaces either side of the project area to create a broader linear park capable of meeting the needs of the area into the future.
What will happen to the trees at park st?	13	The value of mature trees was expressed often through the engagement program, including at Park Street. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests the Level Crossing Removal Project create a Tree Study to assess each tree and understand its health, maturity, biodiversity value, aesthetic value, canopy coverage and value to the community and that where these values are high, trees should be retained if at all possible.



Will duplication of the line between Gowrie and Upfield stations happen concurrently or soon after to take full benefit of the whole project?	13	Council has an existing advocacy position that the Upfield Line should be duplicated in order to ensure that train users north of the project are not disadvantaged. Duplicating the Upfield rail line north of Gowrie Station is needed to help provide a safe and efficient public transport network. The draft position paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests that Council ask the Victorian Government to simultaneously duplicate the Upfield line north of Gowrie Station while carrying out the Level Crossing Removal Project.
How will the sky rail merge with royal park?	12	The Level Crossing Removal Project's final design is not yet known. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests that the final design should minimise impacts to Royal Park.
What bodies (local council, state government, VicRail) will be responsible for servicing and maintaining landscaping and other facilities under the raised railway?	12	It is not yet decided which bodies will be responsible for servicing and maintaining landscaping and other facilities. Typically, local Councils take over the management and maintenance of some open space assets such as playgrounds, sports and recreation areas, landscaping areas, etc. after a large infrastructure project is delivered, but this decision has not yet been formally considered for Brunswick.
Will the bike path, pedestrians and e-scooters/bike be separated?	12	It is not yet known if the state government Level Crossing Removal Project will deliver separated bike and pedestrian paths. The Level Crossing Removal Project's project announcement stated that "a new bike and pedestrian path from Bell Street to Park Street will be delivered as part of the project." Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick advocates for separated, accessible and safe cycling and pedestrian paths.
Paint is not a safe bike lane. How will the detour routes be safe without making it a maze to get around construction. Will Sydney Rd be SAFE!	12	Detour routes during the construction of the project are not yet known. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick asks the Level Crossing Removal Project to consult with users of the diversion routes before decisions are made to ensure they are design to be safe, practical, convenient and universally accessible.
Will the Victorian government complete tram platforms on Sydney Road to increase accessibility before the main disruption begins on the rail line?	12	Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests the state government install strategically located accessible tram stops on Sydney Road, and increased frequency of nearby public transport services while the Upfield Line is closed for construction.
Will there be any consideration given to saving medium/bigger trees along the rail corridor?	12	The value of mature trees was expressed often through the engagement program. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick recommends the Level Crossing Removal Project create a Tree Study to assess each tree and understand its health, maturity, biodiversity value, aesthetic value, canopy coverage and value to the community and that where these values are high, trees should be retained if at all possible.



Can Hope St be closed please?	11	The Council Report that will be considered at the April meeting proposes that Council undertake further work to consider the issue of local traffic changes brought about by the project in the form a localised Traffic Impact Assessment and determine what changes could be made to the surrounding transport network, including local streets such as Hope Street.
Can Breese Street be made one-way towards the south? This would help with congestion problems and reduce risk.	11	The Council Report that will be considered at the April meeting proposes that Council undertake further work to consider the issue of local traffic changes brought about by the project in the form a localised Traffic Impact Assessment and determine what changes could be made to the surrounding transport network, including local streets like Breese Street.
Are plans for a *safe* alternative bike path currently underway for during the construction, given this will likely go on for quite a while? It's a daily commute for many people. Thanks!	11	Detour routes during the construction of the project are not yet known. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests that the Level Crossing Removal Project should ensure pedestrian, cycling, public transport and vehicle diversion routes during the construction phase of the project are safe, practical, convenient and universally accessible.
The easiest way to remove a level crossing is to close the road. Park, Union, Albert & Hope Streets don't connect to Citylink. Would Council consider closing some of them to create more open space?	11	The Council Report that will be considered at the April meeting proposes that Council undertake further work to consider the issue of local traffic changes brought about by the project in the form a localised Traffic Impact Assessment and determine what changes could be made to the surrounding transport network, including local streets.
How will project ensure safety is paramount in design of usable spaces (under and around sky rail) and stations? To minimise dark/hidden spaces. Particularly at night for residents directly on line	11	Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests the Level Crossing Removal Project embeds Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design principles in all aspects of project design. This would include adequate lighting, clear sightlines, and creating gender-sensitive and children-friendly public space design
Will consideration be given to ensuring green space near breese st is a priority given density of housing and current lack of it	11	The location and design of open space has not yet been determined by the Level Crossing Removal Project. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests creating usable open space, and proposes the Level Crossing Removal Project should consider State Government-owned and Council-owned spaces either side of the project area to create a broader linear park capable of meeting the needs of the area into the future.
Will the community have an opportunity to give feedback on designs?	11	It is not yet known whether or when the state government Level Crossing Removal Project will release design concepts. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests the Level Crossing Removal Project should release design concepts at a point in the process where the community can provide meaningful feedback.

Who should we contact in the state government to make sure our concerns are heard?	11	The Level Crossing Removal Project can be contacted directly on 1800 105 105 or at <a href="mailto:contact@levelcrossings.vic.gov.au">contact@levelcrossings.vic.gov.au</a> .
Can a multistorey carpark be built to support businesses on Sydney rd but get rid of roadside parking which creates hazards for cars, trams, pedestrians and bikes	10	Building a multi storey carpark in the Sydney Road precinct is not currently proposed. To resolve the complex issues facing Sydney Road, including issues around car parking and safe cycling, Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick proposes working together with the State Government, local businesses and local community to develop a shared vision to revitalise Sydney Road.
If nothing is planned, what are residents to expect then in terms of disruptions to our lives	10	<p>The level of disruption caused by the Level crossing Removal Project to local residents is not yet known. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests that the Level Crossing Removal Project assesses the needs of all those who will be impacted, and tailors support packages to each household.</p> <p>Reshaping Brunswick suggests the Level Crossing Removal Project should provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clear communication about disruptions well ahead of time</li> <li>• Clear communication around the level of noise and what support that triggers</li> <li>• Early and regular communication with affected people, including a hotline to respond to issues as they arise</li> <li>• Consider the relocation eligibility zone and understand that need for relocation is not based on radius alone but on individual circumstances</li> <li>• Carry out needs assessments for households within a wide radius to understand their individual circumstances and how they might be affected</li> </ul>
Can eastern Albion Street be redeveloped to support safer active transport? Creek to creek	10	The Council Report that will be considered at the April meeting proposes that Council undertake further work to consider the issue of local traffic changes brought about by the project in the form a localised Traffic Impact Assessment and determine what changes could be made to the surrounding transport network, including local streets.
Will there be coordination between MTM, the level crossing a and Yarra Trams to ensure there are additional trams to compensate during occupations and trains not running	10	Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests the State Government should provide increased frequencies on nearby public transport routes during construction of the project.

How will existing community gardens be protected?	10	The design details of the state government's Level Crossing Removal Project, such as what existing landscaping will be affected, are not yet known. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests the Level Crossing Removal Project should retain as many existing trees as possible and relocate community plantings to suitable and connected locations where trees are not able to be retained, and give over some areas of new open space to community planting groups such as the Upfield Urban Forest group, to design and tend
How will the heritage stations/buildings be retained and those buildings be repurposed/used	9	It is not yet known how the state government's Level Crossing Removal Project will conserve heritage elements in the project zone. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests that the Level Crossing Removal Project should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preserve all railway buildings and structures listed in the Victorian Heritage Register</li> <li>• Preserve or repurpose assets that have meaning and value to local people, particularly our local history groups, that are not listed on the heritage register</li> <li>• Consult with Council, local history groups and community on heritage interpretation</li> <li>• Represent local social history through the identification and acknowledgement of places, people and elements along the line and incorporate narrative and storytelling which includes First Peoples and the waves of multiculturalism of Brunswick</li> </ul>
What consideration is being given to protecting heritage aspects of the line?	9	It is not yet known how the state government's Level Crossing Removal Project will conserve heritage elements in the project zone. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests that the Level Crossing Removal Project should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preserve all railway buildings and structures listed in the Victorian Heritage Register</li> <li>• Preserve or repurpose assets that have meaning and value to local people, particularly our local history groups, that are not listed on the heritage register</li> <li>• Consult with Council, local history groups and community on heritage interpretation</li> <li>• Represent local social history through the identification and acknowledgement of places, people and elements along the line and incorporate narrative and storytelling which includes First Peoples and the waves of multiculturalism of Brunswick</li> </ul>
Will council push for pick up and set down zones close to the rail line to improve access safety, noting the density of the area and inability to access critical services (e.g taxis, Uber etc)?	9	This detail of the final design is not yet known. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests the Level Crossing Removal Project should work with Council to ensure pick up and set down zones are located where they will cause the least disruption to the Brunswick community.

How much light is expected to get through the elevated rail to the spaces below?	9	The final design aspects of the state government's Level Crossing Removal Project are not yet known. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests strategies to minimise negative impacts, like sunlight loss, should be considered by the Level Crossing Removal Project.
Sydney Rd will need to cope with people bike traffic how wheres the public transport like buses etc.,	9	Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests the State Government should provide increased frequencies on nearby public transport routes during construction of the project.
Will council advocate with LXR for retention of habitats and mature trees? Hundreds were unnecessarily destroyed in Coburg by LXR.	9	The value of mature trees was expressed often through the engagement program. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick recommends the Level Crossing Removal Project create a Tree Study to assess each tree and understand its health, maturity, biodiversity value, aesthetic value, canopy coverage and value to the community and that where these values are high, trees should be retained if at all possible.
How will community around Jewell Station be affected/supported/engaged? Apartment buildings and community are being developed right now with this station at their heart	8	<p>The level of disruption caused by the Level crossing Removal Project to local residents is not yet known.</p> <p>Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests that the Level Crossing Removal Project assesses the needs of all those who will be impacted, and tailors support packages to each household. Existing community relationships such as those being developed around Jewell are an important factor in this.</p> <p>Reshaping Brunswick suggests the Level Crossing Removal Project should provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clear communication about disruptions well ahead of time</li> <li>• Clear communication around the level of noise and what support that triggers</li> <li>• Early and regular communication with affected people, including a hotline to respond to issues as they arise</li> <li>• Consider the relocation eligibility zone and understand that need for relocation is not based on radius alone but on individual circumstances</li> <li>• Carry out needs assessments for households within a wide radius to understand their individual circumstances and how they might be affected</li> </ul>
Is there any evidence that traffic volumes have increased at the northern level crossing removals we have now?	8	Council does not collect traffic volume data. VicRoads is the state government department that oversees these sorts of traffic movements, and so may have this kind of data.

Any chance loading zones might be added at the current Anstey Station location on Albion St to help service Uber/taxi pick up/drop off & parcel delivery to area & station?	8	This detail of the Level Crossing Removal Project's final project design is not yet known. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests the Level Crossing removal Project should ensure a detailed understanding of different forms of access including ride share, emergency services, deliveries, and waste collection to identify designated access for these services
Will all trees and open green space at the Jewell station park be retained and expanded on?	8	The value of mature trees was expressed often through the engagement program, including the mature gum trees at Jewell Station. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick recommends the Level Crossing Removal Project create a Tree Study to assess each tree and understand its health, maturity, biodiversity value, aesthetic value, canopy coverage and value to the community and that where these values are high, trees should be retained if at all possible.
The tone of the meeting comes across as the Council versus the State. Wouldn't it be better in a future meeting for a representative of the State government to be attendance to share what they know	8	The Level Crossing Removal Project will undertake their own community consultation in the coming months. The purpose of the Public Meeting organised by Council was to hear from the community to inform the draft position paper Reshaping Brunswick, that will then form the basis of Council's advocacy as it works with the State Government to deliver the best possible outcome for Brunswick.
Bureau of statistics have stated in 2021 that far more people travel to Sydney Rd by CAR and not bikes so is consideration given to the people who support the economy of Sydney rd?	8	Car parking on Sydney Road is seen as important for local traders to run their businesses, however Sydney Road is a complex environment with many factors to consider. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick proposes working together with the State Government, local businesses and local community to develop a shared vision to revitalise Sydney Road.
Our flat's 3m east of Anstey Stn. During construction we'll need relocation. Coburg-Moreland residents had to negotiate that secretly & individually w/John Holland. Can Council advocate for us with State Govt?	7	<p>The level of disruption caused by the Level crossing Removal Project to local residents is not yet known. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests that the Level Crossing Removal Project assess the needs of all those who will be impacted, and tailor support packages to each household. Residents who will be impacted by the project shared their aspirations and concerns through the engagement program and this has informed Council's draft advocacy paper Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick.</p> <p>Reshaping Brunswick suggests the Level Crossing Removal Project should provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clear communication about disruptions well ahead of time</li> <li>• Clear communication around the level of noise and what support that triggers</li> <li>• Early and regular communication with affected people,</li> </ul>

		<p>including a hotline to respond to issues as they arise</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider the relocation eligibility zone and understand that need for relocation is not based on radius alone but on individual circumstances</li> <li>• Carry out needs assessments for households within a wide radius to understand their individual circumstances and how they might be affected</li> </ul>
How does the sky rail improve car traffic flow at Brunswick road given the upfield bike path/pedestrian crossing lights and the traffic lights at Sydney rd/Brunswick rd are not coordinated?	7	The Council Report that will be considered at the April meeting proposes that Council undertake further work to consider the issue of local traffic changes brought about by the project in the form a localised Traffic Impact Assessment and determine what changes could be made to the surrounding transport network, including local streets.
Can council remind the State Govt that we want the 508 and other cross town routes are used and are important -PLEASE??	7	Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick proposes the State Government should provide increased frequencies on nearby public transport routes during construction of the project.
If alleys streets roads are closed off how will people with disabilities be supported to get to their appointments or to Sydney Rd, to do their shopping, and everyday tasks, ramps need to be installed	7	Detour routes during the construction of the project are not yet known. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests that the state government's diversion routes during the construction phase of the project should be safe, practical, convenient and universally accessible, with upgraded pram crossings and tactile ground surface indicators at intersections to comply with DDA requirements.
Will council/state governments consider making car parking along Breese street limited to just one side of the street to reduce congestion and increase public safety especially during construction?	7	The Council Report that will be considered at the April meeting proposes that Council undertake further work to consider the issue of local traffic changes brought about by the project in the form a localised Traffic Impact Assessment and determine what changes could be made to the surrounding transport network, including local streets.
Will the latest census stats be respected regarding car travel to Sydney Rd businesses (97.2%) as opposed to spurious figures being thrown about that say 80% come by bike.	7	Car parking on Sydney Road is seen as important for local traders to run their businesses, however Sydney Road is a complex environment with many factors to consider. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick proposes working together with the State Government, local businesses and local community to develop a shared vision to revitalise Sydney Road.
Has there been any discussion/advocacy on the impact of this project specifically on the health of individuals/community both during construction and after. Health impacts are multiple	6	The construction impacts on residents' health from the state government's Level Crossing Removal Project are not yet known. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests that the Level Crossing Removal Project identify and treat each affected home and business on an as-needs based basis which factors in health impacts. An initial health impact assessment was completed to analyse what the impacts might be and what sorts of strategies would be needed to

		mitigate this. This assessment forms part of Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick.
Will consideration be given to the side rail barriers in relation to light? The moreland railings are almost solid...	6	The visual bulk of the new infrastructure and its impact on sunlight, trees, heritage elements and the amenity of local apartments was a common theme throughout engagement. Strategies that the Level Crossing Removal Project could use to minimise negative impacts are included within the draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick that Council will consider at its April meeting.
Is the construction of tram stops along Sydney road going to be coordinated, in terms of design and construction) with the sky rail?	6	Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests the state government should install strategically located accessible tram stops on Sydney Road, and increase frequency of nearby public transport services while the Upfield Line is closed for construction.
What safety, graffiti and surveillance learnings were identified in the Moreland to bell st project to date and how will these learn be used to provide a cleaner safer path for all?	5	This aspect of the state government's Level crossing Removal Project's final project design is not yet known. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests the Level Crossing Removal Project uses best practice Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design practices, like adequate lighting and clear sightlines to improve safety, as well as the incorporation of murals to prevent graffiti and support public safety
The Skyrail extension wasn't proposed to help cyclists. So what's the real purpose of this extension? And why isn't a better solution being found for cyclists? Skyrail isn't a solution for cyclists.	5	The purpose of the Brunswick Level Crossing Removal Project is determined by the state government rather than Council. There are a number of improvements proposed to local cycling infrastructure that can have a positive impact if delivered well. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick contains a number of suggestions for how this could be achieved.
How will council work with state government to avoid compound disruptions, as is the case this Sunday when the 19 and train will be shut due to the street party?	5	Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests the Level Crossing Removal Project gains a deep understanding of local movements and destinations to inform safe and convenient diversion routes during construction by consulting with Council, Merri-bek Bicycle User Group, Walk on Merri-bek and local people living with disabilities when considering disruptions to avoid compound disruptions.
I understand that the purpose of this project is to be able to run more frequent trains. Are we going to hear more from those who use and rely on the trains?	5	Council sought to engage as widely as possible, and have engaged with over 500 people face-to-face, and reached over 9,000 people online. The issue of train frequency has been raised as a concern for some. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick maintains Council's existing position that the Upfield line should be duplicated at it's northern end to allow trains to run more frequently.
Can we insist that the gardens at Moreland Station are not flattened again for	5	It is not yet known where the state government's Level Crossing Removal Project will route and store construction vehicles. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests that negative impacts



construction vehicles and use? Residents can't go though that again.		to landscaping and trees are minimised wherever possible.
What advocacy is the council doing with State Government beyond LXRP to maximize the broader benefits?	4	Advocacy within the Reshaping Brunswick relates to other parts of state government such as the Department of Transport and Planning, Public Transport Victoria, etc. on broader benefits includes the Upfield Line duplication, revitalising Sydney Road, installing accessible tram stops on Sydney Road, and ensuring that the best possible project is delivered which has positive outcome for the whole Brunswick community for generations to come.
My concern is around management and access. I live off Percy St, and will be effected by the closures. How will we be able to get out of our streets and access anything on the east side of the line?	4	The Council Report that will be considered at the April meeting proposes that Council undertake further work to consider the issue of local traffic changes brought about by the project in the form a localised Traffic Impact Assessment and determine what changes could be made to the surrounding transport network, including local streets.
Sydney road has many destination businesses that rely on close and easy access parking by their customers. Can council ensure existing road amenities are maintained?	4	Car parking on Sydney Road is seen as important for local traders to run their businesses, however Sydney Road is a complex environment with many factors to consider. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick proposes working together with the State Government, local businesses and local community to develop a shared vision to revitalise Sydney Road.
A specific business will be closings its doors and moving away from Merri-bek due to poor vehicle access. The conversations being had are detrimental to business. Will business be a priority?	4	Car parking on Sydney Road is seen as important for local traders to run their businesses, however Sydney Road is a complex environment with many factors to consider. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick proposes working together with the State Government, local businesses and local community to develop a shared vision to revitalise Sydney Road.
Does council have a position on whether we have two or three stations? If not, will it form a position on this?	4	Council has no knowledge at this stage about where stations will be sited or whether any will be merged. This decision will be made by the Level Crossing Removal Project. The number and sites of stations is a complicated one because of the potential impact on people's homes and of their journeys to the train. Council will consider these issues at its meeting of 12 April.
Hundreds of business rely on parking so how much consideration will be given to the disruption to these traders especially after the impact of covid?	3	Car parking on Sydney Road is seen as important for local traders to run their businesses, however Sydney Road is a complex environment with many factors to consider. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick proposes working together with the State Government, local businesses and local community to develop a shared vision to revitalise Sydney Road.

Will Brunswick road become a clear way once the crossing is removed making it possible to run 4 lanes?	3	Brunswick Road is managed by the State Government rather than Council. At this stage, there are no known proposals to modify the operation of Brunswick Road.
I use the 504, 506 and 508 buses that run across Sydney Road. As I don't drive these are essential services for me and so I'm wondering what happens to them when 'the works' commence?	3	Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests the State Government should provide increased frequencies on nearby public transport routes during construction of the project.
Are design concepts for stations/surrounding public amenities/green spaces going to be released for community feedback?	3	These final design aspects of the state government's Level Crossing Removal Project are not yet known. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests the Level Crossing Removal Project should ensure that designs of open space and amenities should be released to the community for feedback.
Will any consideration be given to people who must travel by car to Sydney Rd or are bikers the priority?	3	Car parking on Sydney Road is seen as important for local traders to run their businesses, however Sydney Road is a complex environment with many factors to consider. Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick proposes working together with the State Government, local businesses and local community to develop a shared vision to revitalise Sydney Road.
Will buildings around Dawson set crossing need to be demolished? If yes, how much notice do we get ?	2	All decisions and actions relating to property acquisition will be made by the Level Crossing Removal Project. Council has no knowledge about any potential acquisitions for this project. The draft position paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests the Level Crossing Removal Project should ensure early and regular communication with anyone affected.
What conversation has occurred if any around traffic management between the two sides of the rail lines and businesses? Considering impact of construction vehicle and equipment & parking availability	2	The Council Report that will be considered at the April meeting proposes that Council undertake further work to consider the issue of local traffic changes brought about by the project in the form a localised Traffic Impact Assessment and determine what changes could be made to the surrounding transport network, including local streets.
What consideration is being given to the additional bikes, cars etc that will detour down Watson Street towards Brunswick Rd? Its like a freeway already at times and should be changed to one way	2	The Council Report that will be considered at the April meeting proposes that Council undertake further work to consider the issue of local traffic changes brought about by the project in the form a localised Traffic Impact Assessment and determine what changes could be made to the surrounding transport network, including local streets.
rail crossings create traffic calming and natural gaps for pedestrians to cross roads. what are councils plans to make sure local roads don't become rat races for cars after skyrail	1	The Council Report that will be considered at the April meeting proposes that Council undertake further work to consider the issue of local traffic changes brought about by the project in the form a localised Traffic Impact Assessment and determine what changes could be made to the surrounding transport network, including local streets.

you can't take bikes and pets on trams. what is council doing to ensure people have access to other forms of transport while the train is out of action	0	Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests that during construction the Level Crossing Removal Project ensure train replacement buses travel the full length of the train line with both express services and stopping all stations routes, with bikes permitted to be carried on replacement buses, as they are on train services. Public Transport Victoria permits animals in a suitable animal container to travel on trams and buses.
how will council make safe the temporary bike lanes and pedestrian footpaths while skyrail work is happening	0	Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick proposes that the Level Crossing Removal project should make pedestrian, cycling, public transport and vehicle diversion routes during the construction phase of the project safe, for example by ensuring all diversion routes have clear direction signage and signalised intersections where required to ensure safety.
is council lobbying for more trains than one every 20 minutes on the upfield line	0	Council has an existing advocacy position that the Upfield Line should be duplicated in order to ensure that train users north of the project are not disadvantaged. Duplicating the Upfield rail line north of Gowrie Station is needed to help provide a safe and efficient public transport network. The draft position paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests that Council ask the Victorian Government to simultaneously duplicate the Upfield line north of Gowrie Station while carrying out the Level Crossing Removal Project.
is council lobbying to stop trains being short shunted (usually at Coburg) on the upfield line instead of running all the way to the end as timetabled	0	Council has an existing advocacy position that the Upfield Line should be duplicated in order to ensure that train users north of the project are not disadvantaged. Duplicating the Upfield rail line north of Gowrie Station is needed to help provide a safe and efficient public transport network. The draft position paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests that Council ask the Victorian Government to simultaneously duplicate the Upfield line north of Gowrie Station while carrying out the Level Crossing Removal Project.
How much did Merri-Bek Council pay the facilitators of the meeting on Thur 2 March at Brunswick Town Hall?	0	Information like this is commercial in nature, meaning we are not allowed to share it publicly, because it relates to the contractor's confidential information. The facilitators for the Public Meeting were engaged in accordance with Council's Procurement Policy 2021-25, which is publicly available on Council's website, and includes getting multiple quotes and consideration of value for money.
will there be accessible tram stops on sydney road before the train line is dug up? these were legislated to be done before the end of 2022	0	Council's draft advocacy paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests the state government should upgrade tram stops at strategic locations on Sydney Road to be fully accessible before the Level Crossing Removal Project temporarily shuts down the section of the Upfield Line for construction.

Is Council lobbying to duplicate the track past Gowrie while the skyrail is built? this should have happened when the Coburg skyrail section was built	0	Council has an existing advocacy position that the Upfield Line should be duplicated in order to ensure that train users north of the project are not disadvantaged. Duplicating the Upfield rail line north of Gowrie Station is needed to help provide a safe and efficient public transport network. The draft position paper Reshaping Brunswick suggests that Council ask the Victorian Government to simultaneously duplicate the Upfield line north of Gowrie Station while carrying out the Level Crossing Removal Project.
How high is the sky rail at Anstey?	0	These final design aspects of the state government's Level Crossing Removal Project are not yet known.
At the town hall meeting the 2 council reps that spoke a lot about lessons learned from the first skyrail project. When will the community be told what these lessons are?	0	The main lesson from previous level crossing removal projects in the municipality was that Council needs to move quickly to maximise opportunities to influence the design process at an early stage. That is why Council has engaged with the community to hear what is important to them, and is forming a position paper, Reshaping Brunswick, while the Level Crossing Removal Project is still at an early stage in the design process.
Comments	0	<p>We also received a number of comments from residents following the public meeting, relating to: project design, resident support, tree protection, cycling and pedestrian paths and routes, community consultation, a Sydney Road upgrade, open space, Royal Park, the Upfield train line, incorporation of First Nations themes into the designs, accessibility, the urban heat island effect, local traffic impacts, alternative public transport services, dog parks, transparency, and car spaces.</p> <p>These comments were considered alongside all of the feedback from the engagement program when forming Council's suggested advocacy position in Reshaping Brunswick.</p>