# Upgrading the bus network in the Caroline Springs area

We're proposing changes to bus services in Caroline Springs, Deer Park, Plumpton, Burnside, Ardeer, Albion and Sunshine, and we'd like your feedback.

#### The proposed network includes:

- extended coverage into residential areas including Plumpton, Caroline Springs, Deer Park and Burnside Heights, plus the Ravenhall employment precinct
- better connections to train services including the new Caroline Springs Station
- improved frequency on selected routes on weekdays and weekends
- improved access to key destinations in Caroline Springs and Sunshine
- > more regular services along Ballarat Road and improved coordination with trains on the Sunbury Line.

#### We're improving:

- limited service coverage in Plumpton, Burnside Heights, Caroline Springs and southern Deer Park
- > irregular services along some routes
- inconsistent connections at Sunshine and Albion stations
- limited access to Caroline Springs Town Centre from the southern part of Caroline Springs and Burnside
- > routes that don't run to major destinations.





## The proposed network options

Proposed upgrades mean buses would travel to more places and connect with the new Caroline Springs train station.

Existing routes have been extended to link residential communities with shopping centres, train stations, and community centres. Bus services will be extended to the new Caroline Springs Station, and more regular services along Ballarat Road will better connect with trains on the Sunbury line.

### Both options include:

ROUTE	PROPOSED CHANGES
215	Caroline Springs – Highpoint Shopping Centre No changes are proposed.
216	<b>Caroline Springs – Brighton Beach</b> Will operate east of Sunshine Station only. New Route 426 will replace Route 216 between Caroline Springs and Sunshine.
NEW 426	Caroline Springs – Sunshine New route that replaces Route 216 between Caroline Springs and Sunshine. Will provide coverage to Burnside Heights once Westwood Drive Bridge has opened. Route 426 and 456 combined will provide a frequent service between Burnside and Sunshine via Ballarat Road, with buses every 10 minutes in peak periods, and every 20 minutes during the day. Buses will meet Sunbury line trains. Route 426 will divert around Westwood Drive bridge prior to completion expected 2018.
460	<b>Caroline Springs Station – Watergardens</b> Will be extended from Caroline Springs Town Centre to the new Caroline Springs Station via Caroline Springs Boulevard. Buses will operate every 20 minutes on weekdays, and every 20-40 minutes on weekends. Existing trips via northern Hillside at school times will continue.
461	<b>Caroline Springs Town Centre – Watergardens</b> Will be extended into Plumpton via Hume Drive, City Vista Court, and Taylors Road and will no longer operate along Gourlay Road.





#### **Option A specific:**

456

#### ROUTE PROPOSED CHANGES

#### Melton – Sunshine

This service would no longer travel down Caroline Springs Boulevard and instead continue along Rockbank Middle Road. Residents on Caroline Springs Boulevard can catch Route 460 to Caroline Springs Station, Route 215 to Highpoint, or Route 462 to Deer Park Station. This service would run every 30 minutes in peak periods and every 40 minutes in off peak periods and on weekends and be coordinated with trains to and from the city.

#### ROUTE PROPOSED CHANGES



462

Watergardens – Deer Park This service would be extended from Caroline

Springs (south) to Deer Park via The Parkway and Bridgewater Terrace, then travel via Ballarat, Robinson and Foleys roads to Deer Park Station. It would run every 45 minutes in peak periods and every 60 minutes in off peak periods and on weekends. Customers can change to Route 460 on Caroline Springs Boulevard to travel to Caroline Springs Station.



#### **Option B specific:**

#### **PROPOSED CHANGES**

#### Melton - Sunshine

This service would operate from Melton to Sunshine via Neale and Rockbank Middle roads. It would deviate from Rockbank Middle Road to travel via The Parkway and Bridgewater Terrace, before continuing on Caroline Springs Boulevard, Westwood Drive and Ballarat Road to Sunshine Station. The service would run every 30 minutes in peak periods, and every 40 minutes in off peak periods and on weekends.

**NEW** 

456

Caroline Springs Town Centre – Deer Park This service would operate from Caroline Springs Town Centre to Deer Park Station via Caroline Springs Boulevard, Ballarat Road, Westwood Drive and Foleys Road. It would run every 60 minutes, seven days a week. Customers travelling from Deer Park to Watergardens can change at Caroline Springs Town Centre to connect with Route 460.

#### ROUTE **PROPOSED CHANGES**



462

This service would continue to operate as it currently does from Watergardens to Caroline Springs South via The Grange, Old Hall Drive and St Georges Avenue before terminating at the corner of Caroline Springs Boulevard and Rockbank Middle Road.

The service would run every 33 - 66 minutes in peak periods, and every 60 minutes in off peak periods and on weekends. Customers could change at Caroline Springs Boulevard for Route 460 to Caroline Springs Station, Route 456 to Sunshine Station, Route 464 to Deer Park Station or Route 215 to Highpoint Shopping Centre.

## **Questions and answers**

#### Are you introducing new routes?

Yes. Route 216 (Caroline Springs – Brighton Beach) will be replaced by new Route 426 between Sunshine and Caroline Springs, with an extension to the Caroline Springs Town Centre.

#### How will buses coordinate with trains?

All routes will coordinate with train timetables to provide good connections for travel towards the city in the morning, and from the city in the afternoon and evening.

For proposed routes 426 and 456, we would like to hear about the station you prefer to travel from. A faster journey is possible at Albion Station, while Sunshine Station offers more customer facilities.

#### Are you removing any current routes?

Route 216 between Sunshine and Caroline Springs will be replaced by Route 426, which will be extended to the Caroline Springs Town Centre via Burnside Heights.

Several other routes will be extended to reach more people and link to more destinations.

#### How was the proposed new bus network designed?

In preparing the proposed network we:

- > reviewed how the network is currently used
- > researched who uses the bus network and their needs
- reviewed growing areas that are not currently serviced by public transport
- > worked closely with local councils and bus operators.

We have carefully considered how an upgraded network will operate to ensure buses efficiently service as many residents as possible, while also providing connections to train services.

## Why is Route 462 not being extended to the new Caroline Springs Station?

If route 462 was extended to the new station buses would need to spend long periods of time waiting at train stations for connecting trains, when they could otherwise be providing service to more areas. We have instead developed network options that ensure that buses spend most of their day serving as many people and destinations as possible.

Many residents in southern Caroline Springs will also be able to walk to bus stops on the extended Route 460, which will provide a fast, frequent and direct service to the new Caroline Springs Station.

## Will I have to walk further to get to my closest bus stop?

Almost all existing bus stops will continue to be served by the upgraded bus network, although the routes serving each stop might change.

## How many bus stops will be added and have you decided where all of the bus stops will go?

We will need to install bus stops along streets where new bus services will be introduced.

In determining the location of new bus stops we must consider:

- > whether there is adequate space for pedestrians and passengers to safely access the new bus stop
- > whether buses can easily access the new bus stop
- > whether the new bus stop location maintains adequate visibility for drivers and other road users
- > whether stops along the bus route are evenly spaced
- > whether there is adequate space for the new bus stop to include all the design features required by the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*, and the VicRoads Bus Stop Guidelines 2006.

If there is a bus stop to be installed near your house, you will be notified directly.

## What is the long term plan for the Caroline Springs bus network?

The Caroline Springs region is rapidly growing. We will continue to pursue opportunities to improve the bus network and meet passenger demand.

## How has local knowledge been incorporated and who did you consult with?

We have worked closely with Melton City Council and Brimbank City Council, local bus operators, and now want to hear from you.

#### When will the changes be implemented?

Subject to feedback received, there will be a staged implementation with Routes 460 and 461 being extended in early 2017 to coincide with the opening of Caroline Springs Station. The remainder of the network will be implemented later in 2017.

Due to infrastructure works required for the Westwood Drive Bridge over Kororoit Creek, Route 426 won't be fully implemented until 2018 – instead it will operate with a temporary diversion and travel express between Rockbank Middle Rd/Westwood Dr and Caroline Springs Town Centre prior to the new bridge opening.

## Get involved

### Your feedback is important to help shape this significant upgrade.

#### What can my feedback influence?

Please provide your feedback by **midnight**, **Friday**, **11 November** by:

- dropping in to one of our community information sessions
- > filling out the online survey at ptv.vic.gov.au/getinvolved
- > calling 1800 800 007 and letting the customer service team know you'd like to provide feedback about the proposed Caroline Springs bus network.

We'll be assessing all feedback to determine what might need to change in our proposal, particularly the design of the network and how many services should run.

#### SESSION DETAILS

- \*Tuesday 18 October 2016, 11am–1pm & 4pm–7pm Caroline Springs Library 193–201 Caroline Springs Blvd, Caroline Springs
- \* Friday 21 October 2016, 11am–1pm Watergardens Shopping Centre 399 Melton Hwy, Taylors Lakes

**Monday 24 October 2016, 4pm–7pm** Springside Children's & Community Centre 24–50 Becca Way, Caroline Springs

\* Tuesday 25 October 2016, 2pm–5pm Visy Cares Hub 80B Harvester Rd, Sunshine

**Thursday 27 October 2016, 11am–1pm & 4pm–7pm** Hunt Club Community Arts Centre 775 Ballarat Rd, Deer Park

Saturday 29 October 2016, 11am–1pm Caroline Springs Square Shopping Centre 29–35 Lake Street, Caroline Springs

\*We will have a Vietnamese speaker in attendance at these sessions as part of the PTV team.



For more information call **1800 800 007**. If you can't attend a session, find information, maps and an online survey at **ptv.vic.gov.au/getinvolved** 

Consultation closes midnight, Friday, 11 November 2016.

If you have a hearing or speech impairment, contact us through the National Relay Service: phone **133 677**, then ask for **1800 800 007** 

TTY users can call us directly on 9619 2727

For information in other languages, call:

عربي	9321 5440	普通話	9321 5454
廣東話	9321 5441	Somali	9321 5446
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