March 2015

New, better bus network proposed for Wyndham

Dear parents/guardians,

Public Transport Victoria (PTV) has supplied us with detailed information on the upcoming changes to Bus services in our suburb. As you will see from the information; local bus services will improve dramatically from June 2015. At last!

The new bus routes will make catching public transport to school easier for our students as well as improving travel around Werribee better for families.

A new, better bus network is proposed for the Wyndham area that will provide more direct routes that connect with trains on the new Regional Rail Link and the Werribee line.

Proposed bus network map

Features

The proposed Wyndham bus network includes:

- New fast and more frequent routes along main roads – including Ballan, Tarneit, Derrimut, Morris and Sayers Roads, with services every 20 minutes during peak periods.
- Expanded coverage – with the bus network extended to more parts of Wyndham Vale, Manor Lakes, Tarneit, Truganina, Point Cook and Sanctuary Lakes.
• Train connections at the new Wyndham Vale and Tarneit stations – on the Regional Rail Link for travel to both Geelong and Melbourne, with bus access from most parts of Wyndham.
• More direct route alignments – as well as new direct routes on main roads, some other routes have been streamlined to help get you to your destination sooner. Most residents will remain within 400 metres of a bus route under the proposed network.
• More frequent day-time services – with buses operating every 20 minutes on weekdays on route 190 via Ballan Road, 180 along Tarneit Road and route 170 along Derrimut Road via Werribee Plaza.
• Improved access to the Point Cook Town Centre and East Werribee – with a new east-west route 498 between Hoppers Crossing and Laverton. This will also improve access to three schools near Dunnings Road.
• More destinations available for Seabrook and northern Altona Meadows residents without having to change buses, including the Point Cook Town Centre, Hoppers Crossing Station, and Aircraft Station shops during off-peak periods. 
• Coordinated timetables – during the morning buses will connect with trains towards Melbourne, while in the afternoon buses will meet trains arriving from Melbourne. Selected routes will also be coordinated with trains to and from Geelong where possible.
• New route numbers – to make allowance for the future growth of Melbourne’s west, new bus routes north of the Werribee train line will have numbers in the range 150 to 199.

Why is a new bus network proposed for Wyndham?

PTV regularly reviews bus networks across Victoria to ensure that they meet community needs. To respond to the fast growing population of Wyndham and to ensure bus services fully integrate with new train stations at Wyndham Vale and Tarneit, PTV is planning to restructure and expand the Wyndham bus network in 2015 to coincide with the early completion of the Regional Rail Link project.

These changes build on improvements made to Wyndham’s bus network in July 2014, which included improved coordination of bus services with trains, Sunday services on more routes, and extended evening services on selected routes.

How was the proposed network designed?

In preparing the proposed network PTV has:

• researched the demographics and travel patterns of Wyndham residents;
• reviewed usage of all existing bus routes;
• consulted with Wyndham Council and the local bus operator;
• reviewed customer feedback; and
• considered recommendations from an earlier review of bus services in the area.

PTV aims to have most homes in urban areas of Wyndham within 400 metres of a bus route. The proposed changes will bring over 20,000 more residents within reach of public transport.

The proposed Wyndham network also aims to maximise the number of residents within 800 metres of a bus service that operates every 20 minutes or better during peak times.

The fully revised network north of the Werribee rail line features five simple, direct and frequent major routes along arterial roads, designed to get residents to train stations and other local destinations quickly (bus routes 150, 160, 170, 180 and 190). These routes will operate every 20 minutes in peak periods, with selected routes also proposed to operate every 20 minutes during the day on weekdays.
The major routes will be complemented by 13 ‘neighbourhood’ routes that will service Wyndham residents who do not live near major roads. As the neighbourhood routes need to use local streets, they will be less direct and will operate to a lower frequency than the major routes along main roads.

To ensure we have an efficient overall network, buses will be introduced onto some local streets and removed from other local streets.

Where bus routes have been removed from local streets, bus stops will generally be available a short walk away.

**Will buses operate seven days a week?**

All bus routes in residential areas are proposed to operate seven days a week. While the exact operating hours are yet to be finalised, we will aim to have most routes operating until 9pm on weekdays, and until at least 7pm on weekends.

**What is proposed for the Point Cook area?**

The new bus network introduced in April 2013 provided more frequent and direct bus services to the new Williams Landing Station, and one route to Laverton Station. Since this new network was implemented, bus patronage in the Point Cook area has more than doubled.

The proposed network will expand coverage into western Point Cook and Sanctuary Lakes to provide better connections to local shops and schools. Also, a new Route 498 will support east-west travel to schools, shops and other local destinations between Laverton and Hoppers Crossing stations.

**Are all bus routes changing in Wyndham?**

A completely new network is proposed in the area north of the Werribee train line, with new routes and route numbers. Existing routes 436, 437, 442, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, and 493 will be replaced by the new network in this area with route numbers in the range 150-199. In some cases, new routes will be similar to existing routes. Route 496 is proposed to be extended to Sanctuary Lakes (at all times), and Aircraft Station outside peak periods. Minor route changes are proposed to routes 443 and 495, whilst no route changes are proposed to routes 400, 414, 417, 439, 441, 494 and 497 as part of this review.

**How will buses coordinate with trains the Werribee and Geelong lines?**

Bus timetables will be coordinated with new train timetables to provide good connections for travel towards Melbourne city in the morning, and travel from Melbourne city in the afternoon and evening on both the Werribee and Geelong lines.

All routes will connect with the Werribee line, with nine routes also serving Wyndham Vale or Tarneit stations on the realigned Geelong line. Geelong line trains will operate every 20 minutes on weekdays, providing more travel opportunities between Wyndham, Geelong and Melbourne. New bus Route 190 will provide a direct service connecting Werribee Station with most trains travelling to and from Geelong at Wyndham Vale Station.
Will school special bus services be changing?

PTV will also be reviewing the existing school special services to ensure they support the regular route network. PTV will engage with schools where changes are proposed to school bus routes to assess the impacts on students.

Many students will find the new regular route network provides better travel options for travel to school.

Proposed bus frequencies

The table shows the proposed service frequency on each route during peak periods, the inter-peak (ie between 9am and 3pm weekdays) and on weekends.

Proposed major routes will operate every 20 minutes in peak periods, and every 20-40 minutes at most off-peak times.

Neighbourhood routes will generally operate every 40 to 60 minutes. Frequencies in the new network will be finalised following community feedback and detailed analysis of available resources.

Fast, direct and more frequent routes

Route numbers with descriptions and frequencies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Route</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Route description</th>
<th>Weekday peak frequency (minutes)</th>
<th>Weekday interpeak frequency (minutes)</th>
<th>Weekend daytime frequency (minutes)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>170</td>
<td>Werribee – Tarneit via Werribee Plaza</td>
<td>Departs Tarneit Station and operates via access road, Derrimut Rd, Werribee Plaza, Derrimut Rd, Railway Av, Market Rd and Manly St to Werribee Station.</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>180</td>
<td>Werribee – Tarneit via Tarneit Road</td>
<td>Departs Tarneit Station and operates via access road, Derrimut Rd, Leakes Rd, Crossway Av, Sayers Rd, Tarneit Rd, Railway Av, Market Rd and Manly St to Werribee Station.</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>161</td>
<td>Hoppers Crossing — Werribee via Werribee Plaza</td>
<td>Departs from Werribee Station and operates via Manly St, Market Rd, Shaws Rd, Tarneit Rd, Paramatta Rd, Derwent Rd, Latham Rd, Danube Dr, Thames Bvd, Tarneit Rd, Cassowary Av, Rosella Av, Kookaburra Av, Derrimut Rd, Wilmott Dr, Warringa Cr, Derrimut Rd, Werribee Plaza, Derrimut Rd, Cameron Dr, Mossfiel Dr, Pannam Dr, Cumming Dr, Hogans Rd, Evrah Dr, Morris Rd, Bellbridge Dr, Maple Cr, Birchwood Bvd, Bellbridge Dr and Morris Rd to Hoppers Crossing Station.</td>
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<tr>
<td>166</td>
<td>Hoppers Crossing — Wyndham Vale via Werribee Plaza</td>
<td>Departs from Hoppers Crossing Station and operates via Morris Rd, Heaths Rd, Derrimut Rd, Werribee Plaza, Derrimut Rd, Heaths Rd, Tarneit Rd, Shaws Rd, Heaths Rd, McGrath Rd, Halladale Av, Macquarie Dr, Ballan Rd, Manor Lakes Shopping Centre and Manor Lakes Bvd, Armstrong Rd to Wyndham Vale Station.</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>167</td>
<td>Hoppers Crossing — Tarneit via Werribee Plaza</td>
<td>Departs from Tarneit Station and operates via access road, Derrimut Rd, Poplar Bvd, Wickford Rd, Tarneit Rd, Hummingbird Bvd, Yanga Av, Moorookyle Av, Sayers Rd, Babele Rd, Bethany Rd, Hogans Rd, Dowling Av, Barber Dr, Heaths Rd, Derrimut Rd, Werribee Plaza, Derrimut Rd, Heaths Rd and Morris Rd to Hoppers Crossing Station.</td>
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Werribee – Hoppers Crossing via Werribee Plaza

Departs from Hoppers Crossing Station and operates via Morris Rd, Heaths Rd, Mossfiel Dr, Cameron Dr, Derrimut Rd, Werribee Plaza, Derrimut Rd, Heaths Rd, Westmill Dr, Wilmington Av, Tarneit Rd, Hogans Rd, Thames Bvd, Heaths Rd, Greaves St North, Cottrell St, Market Rd, and Manly St to Werribee Station.

The new routes will be a big step forward for our developing community.

Yours faithfully,

Michael Fawcett
Principal