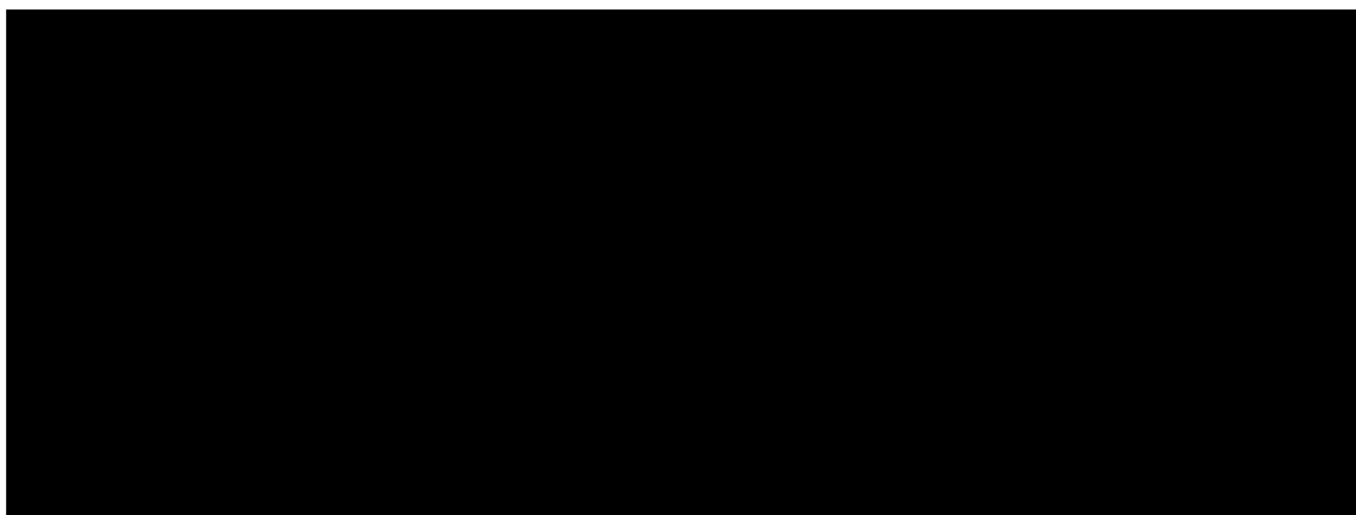


Submission form: Victoria's draft 30-year infrastructure strategy



About you

Please tell us which best describes you:

☒ Victorian resident

☐ Victorian business owner/operator

☒ Industry professional

☐ Community organisation representative

☐ Local government representative

☐ State government representative

☐ Researcher

☐ Other (please specify): Click or tap here to enter text.

Your focus areas

Select the topics or regions you are providing feedback on (select all that apply):

Topics	Regions
☐ Across sectors	☐ Regional Victoria
☐ Circular economy	☐ Urban growth areas
☐ Cities	☐ Melbourne
☐ Climate change	
☐ Community infrastructure	
☐ Education	
☐ Energy	
☐ Freight	
☐ Health	
☐ Housing	
☐ Infrastructure for Victoria's First Peoples	
☒ Transport	
☐ Water	

Your feedback

Add as many sections as you need to provide all your feedback in this submission.

Topic/area:	Click or tap here to enter text.
Recommendation name:	Click or tap here to enter text.
Recommendation number:	Click or tap here to enter text.
1. Do you support this topic or recommendation?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ In part
2. Tell us why	Click or tap here to enter text.
3. Share any supporting evidence or examples	Click or tap here to enter text.
4. Include proposed changes and improvements	Click or tap here to enter text.

Topic/area:	Click or tap here to enter text.
Recommendation name:	Click or tap here to enter text.
Recommendation number:	Click or tap here to enter text.
5. Do you support this topic or recommendation?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ In part
6. Tell us why	Click or tap here to enter text.
7. Share any supporting evidence or examples	Click or tap here to enter text.
8. Include proposed changes and improvements	Click or tap here to enter text.

Topic/area:	Click or tap here to enter text.
Recommendation name:	Click or tap here to enter text.
Recommendation number:	Click or tap here to enter text.
9. Do you support this topic or recommendation?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ In part
10. Tell us why	Click or tap here to enter text.
11. Share any supporting evidence or examples	Click or tap here to enter text.
12. Include proposed changes and improvements	Click or tap here to enter text.

Topic/area:	Click or tap here to enter text.
Recommendation name:	Click or tap here to enter text.
Recommendation number:	Click or tap here to enter text.
13. Do you support this topic or recommendation?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ In part
14. Tell us why	Click or tap here to enter text.
15. Share any supporting evidence or examples	Click or tap here to enter text.
16. Include proposed changes and improvements	Click or tap here to enter text.

More feedback (optional)

Tell us about infrastructure challenges, gaps or opportunities not covered by the draft strategy. This can include things you think we should add to an existing recommendation, or suggestions for a new recommendation.

Please provide evidence for your suggestions. This can include data, specific examples, cost benefit analyses, surveys, or program evaluations. Also, explain how your suggestions align with the objectives of our draft strategy (see page 11 of the draft strategy).

Suggestions for new recommendations should point towards infrastructure opportunities that can deliver long-term benefits for Victorians. They should also be areas where the Victorian Government has a leading role.

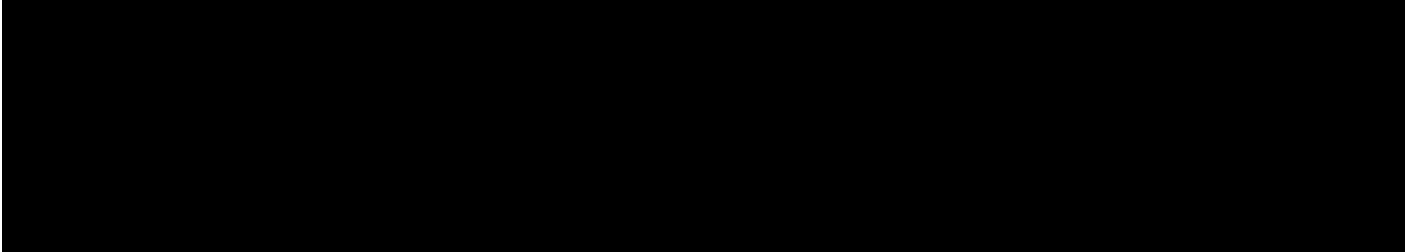
Infrastructure Victoria

Victoria's Draft 30 Year Infrastructure Strategy

Response to Infrastructure Victoria's Request for Feedback

Introduction

Thank you for your CEO Jonathan Spear's invitation dated 4th March 2025 to have my say on Victoria's draft 30-year infrastructure strategy recently prepared by Infrastructure Victoria.



Overview of the Draft IV Report

With notable exception, see below, I believe that IV's report is thoroughly researched, extensive and sound in its scope and provides a very useful infrastructure roadmap for a least the next 5 years and onwards to 2055 in many aspects.

Important Feedback

The only exception to the above, in my view, is a notable omission, which would not be too difficult to redress, ie in the final version of the report, due later this year.

I refer to the transport section of the report – more specifically those aspects dealing with the efficient and effective movement of passengers on Melbourne's train and bus networks. (Trams are well covered so I have no specific comments to add in their case.)

The problem as I see it, is that the report makes scant reference to the Suburban Rail Link (SRL) and its potential impact on the Strategy.

Given the size of the SRL, it could potentially have a major impact on the viability and effectiveness of the report's recommendations on passenger transport.

To redress 'this gap and therefore make it much easier for those interested in the report and its findings to appreciate and understand what is actually being recommended, I propose that the final version of the report clarify whether the report's findings have assumed that either:-

1); the SRL will not be proceeding any further than SRL East "early works", which are due for completion this year);

OR

2); SRL East will be fully constructed from Cheltenham to Box Hill but no further;

OR

3); SRL East and SRL North will be fully constructed;

OR

4); SRL will be constructed in full in coming decades.

If the working assumption in IV's report is in fact Option 1 above, then this could be readily addressed, by IV applying its extensive skills - in passenger bus planning and expanding express bus networks etc. - to provide the required passenger carrying capacity above ground in lieu of STL's proposed two underground rail tunnels, for a very much reduced capital cost and also enabling greater flexibility in network planning.

Conclusion

I would appreciate IV's consideration of this suggestion of mine and look forward to IV's feedback and associated discussion thereon.

