



## Active Transport

### Merri-bek

#### **Our ask:**

Fund, plan and deliver critical missing links in our walking and riding network, including:

- Upfield shared path from Sages Road to the M80 Trail
- Craigieburn Shared Path from Oak Park to Glenroy
- Harding Street Bridge, replacing the old wooden bridge over the Merri Creek linking Merri-bek and Darebin.

The Victorian Government is aiming for 25 per cent of all trips to be made by walking or riding by 2030.<sup>12</sup>

In Melbourne, 60 per cent of people's trips are under five kilometres. Many of these trips are well-suited to a short bike ride, but less than two per cent of them are made by bicycle.<sup>13</sup>

In Merri-bek, a recent study found that cycling was the top response when asked what modes of transport people would like to use more often.<sup>14</sup> However by far the biggest barrier for people wanting to cycle more was that it does not feel safe. There is a desire for safer and more cycling-related infrastructure to encourage cycling.<sup>15</sup>

Infrastructure Victoria recently recommended that more protected and connected cycle corridors should be built in Melbourne and regionally.

Critical missing links in Merri-bek's walking and riding network include the Upfield Shared Path from Sages Road to the M80 Trail, the Craigieburn Shared Path from Oak Park to Glenroy and the Harding Street Bridge.

### **Upfield Shared Path: Sages Road to the M80 Trail**

**Fund, plan and deliver a missing link of the Upfield Shared Path, from Sages Road to the M80 Trail, including a signalised pedestrian crossing at Box Forest Road and shared path along Sages Road.**

The Upfield Shared User Path is one of the most popular bike riding and walking paths in Melbourne attracting around 2,500 users daily.

Transport Victoria are upgrading the Upfield Shared Path between Sages Road and the M80 Trail which will improve connections from Melbourne's north to key active transport routes such as the Merri Creek Trail, Moonee Ponds Creek Trail and the Capital City Trail.

A signalised pedestrian crossing over Box Forest Road - a very busy, high-traffic arterial road - will provide a safer route for bike riders and pedestrians and a shared path along Sages Road will make the entirety of the route safe for all ages and abilities.

### **Craigieburn Shared Path: Oak Park to Glenroy**

**Fund, plan and deliver a one-kilometre missing link of the Craigieburn Shared Path from Cartwright Street, Oak Park to Glenroy Road, Glenroy.**

The Craigieburn Shared Path is a planned Strategic Cycling Corridor that follows the Craigieburn rail line and, once complete, will provide a safe and convenient recreational and commuter cycling route from Donnybrook Railway Station in the north and connecting to the Moonee Ponds Creek Trail near Bell Street in the south, including bike links to several railway stations.

Funding and delivering the Oak Park to Glenroy section will provide access from the south to the Glenroy Activity Centre, and provide a safe active transport option to a number of schools and kindergartens.

### **Harding Street Bridge**

**Fund a new Harding Street Bridge over the Merri Creek.**

Merri-bek and Darebin City Councils are working together to design and construct a new bridge over the Merri Creek, replacing an old wooden bridge that has reached end-of-life. This bridge is a vital connection for communities on both sides of the creek, with many students to local primary and secondary schools using the bridge to get to and from school every day. Victorian Government investment in the new bridge would help Merri-bek and Darebin Councils make this vital connection safer, more accessible and more user friendly for pedestrians and bike riders while minimising impacts to the creek and local biodiversity.