



Artist's impression of the Peninsula Link shared use path.

Freeway design and landscaping

Solutions for linking the road with its surrounds

An outstanding feature of Peninsula Link is the high quality of its urban and landscape design, as expressed in its topography, vegetation and various built structures, including bridges, retaining walls, pedestrian crossings, underpasses and noise walls.

Abigroup's design for Peninsula Link combines landscape, architectural elements and public art to provide a memorable journey for road users and an attractive environment for residents and visitors to each locality the road travels through.

The design for Peninsula Link is based on:

- ▶ a belief that major engineering works can contribute to a natural setting
- ▶ an extensive network of linear parks and shared use paths
- ▶ a landscape design with 1.5 million plantings, including 50,000 trees
- ▶ a commitment to public art through a long-term collaboration with the McClelland Gallery and Sculpture Park in Langwarrin.



Artist's impression of the Cranbourne Road interchange.

Achieving a gateway experience

The vision underpinning the urban, rural and landscape design is to develop Peninsula Link as a gateway to the Mornington Peninsula.

To this end, the design highlights and articulates a journey from the north to the south in which the motorist moves from an urban and culturally-rich setting into the rolling, green landscape of the Moorooduc Plains.

The designers have focused on the qualities of the places that Peninsula Link runs through, paying particular attention to materials, scale, form and texture.

Bridges and bridge treatments

Road bridges are a defining feature in the urban design. Each bridge structure includes signature elements indicating their status in the freeway network.

A blue palette indicates a key node, such as a major intersection, while yellow and gold indicate local road crossings. Shades of green mark the segments making up the largely rural Moorooduc Plains section of the freeway's southern end.

These colour palettes will be represented on bridges in the glazed brick facing on the support structures and pedestrian rails.

Peninsula Link has three pedestrian or shared use path bridge crossings, clad in steel in a zig-zag style. Where the pedestrian bridges are adjacent to local neighbourhoods, the cladding is oxidised steel.

Commitment to public art

The Peninsula Link urban design features one major and two minor artwork locations along the freeway. These works will be acquired in collaboration with the McClelland Gallery and Sculpture Park in Langwarrin.

Under the terms of the competition, a series of medium-sized sculptures will be commissioned over the project life and displayed periodically at the Skye Road and Cranbourne Road interchanges, each for a period of two years.

Creating public space

The linear park system along Peninsula Link will create public spaces promoting health and fitness, education and enjoyment by the local community. Where possible, noise walls and retaining walls along the freeway have been placed as close to the road as possible to create spacious public areas that allow for safe movement.

The inclusion of a shared use pathway will provide links between interesting local areas and provide social opportunities for locals. The path will weave its way through varied ecological sites such as wetlands, woodlands and grasslands.

In areas away from the shared use path but within the lineal open space, pathways will be created to allow residents to access local destinations.

Landscaping for added value

Peninsula Link's landscape design has been developed with an aim to protect and enhance local environmental values. In part this will be achieved by planting indigenous species known to occur naturally in the freeway corridor.

Generally hardy and drought-tolerant species will be planted as they are best suited to withstand roadside conditions.

In specific locations, such as the northern end of the freeway, and where the freeway traverses The Pines Flora and Fauna Reserve, the landscape design recognises the need to retain as much existing vegetation as possible.

In addition, planting densities and the structure and composition of plant communities have been selected to maximise the potential for natural regeneration, habitat values and discouraging weeds.



Artist's impression of the Pines alignment.



Artist's impression the Bungower Road interchange.

For example, in an area where a massed effect is required, the preference has been to select mixed species of similar form, texture and colour, rather than a single species, to help ensure the planted landscape is durable and sustainable.

The landscape design also includes major shaped earth features, sometimes known as land-forming, at the Bungower Road and the Mornington-Tyabb Road interchanges.

Along with providing interesting visual features along the roadway these land forms also act as natural barriers to light and sound.



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