



The duplication of the Calder Highway will greatly improve access to the Organ Pipes National Park, named for its famous rock formation (seen left).

Who You Can Talk To

Plans of the works can be inspected at the site office, and staff are available to discuss any aspect of the project.

Appointments can be made during business hours with VIC ROADS Metropolitan Region office. Call either

David Harris (03) 860 6238 or
Jim Morse (03) 860 6248.

Written enquiries can be made to:

The Regional Manager Metropolitan,
VIC ROADS
700 High Street,
East Kew, 3102

Facsimile No: (03) 859 6327 or:

VIC ROADS Corporate Affairs,
60 Denmark Street, Kew, 3101

Telephone: (03) 860 2551
Facsimile No: (03) 853 0390

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The Calder Project

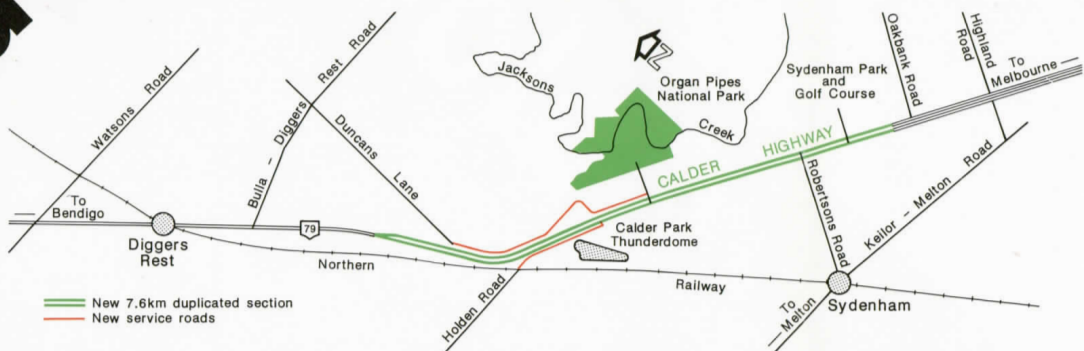
79 duplicating highway

from Keilor to Diggers Rest



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Keilor to Diggers Rest



What It Will Mean To You

Because of the high traffic volumes on this section of the highway, especially during peak hours, there is little opportunity for overtaking with safety. Entering or leaving the highway from side roads can also be difficult.

Duplication of the highway to four lanes will:

- provide safer and easier driving conditions for all road users;
- provide a smoother traffic flow during peak hours;
- greatly improve access to adjacent properties and public facilities such as the Organ Pipes National Park and the Keilor Public Golf Course; and
- significantly improve travel times along this length.

What the project involves

A new two-lane road for Melbourne-bound traffic will be constructed to the east of the existing highway. The median strip dividing the highway will be landscaped, with U-turn crossings at various points along the new section.

Access

As part of the current works, a service road will be constructed on the northern side of the highway, between Duncans Lane and Organ Pipes Road, to provide access to properties on that side. A service road will also be constructed on the southern side of the highway, east of Holden Road.

All other adjoining properties will have direct temporary access to the highway.

In the Long Term

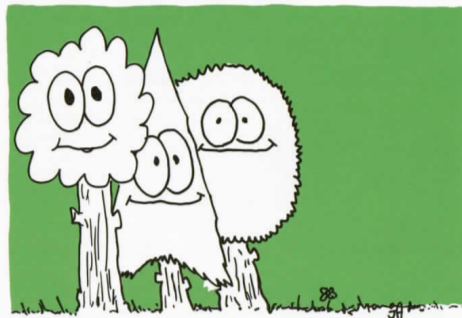
The project design provides for full freeway conditions to apply in the longer term to match expected traffic growth. As part of this long-term development, entry will only be permitted where the service roads connect with interchanges to be constructed near Robertsons Road and Calder Park Drive.

Timing and Cost

Construction of the current works is programmed to commence in late 1989 and be completed early in 1991.

The project will be federally funded and is estimated to cost \$11 million.

Landscaping: 20,000 trees to be planted

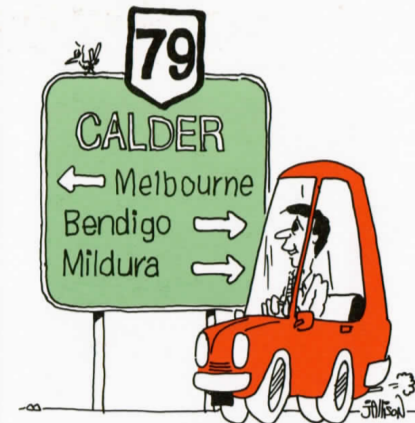


VIC ROADS is working closely with 'The Friends of Organ Pipes National Park', a local conservation group, to prepare a landscape plan for the project.

Seeds will be collected from local plant species in the Keilor Plains area for planting in the road reserve.

More than 20,000 native trees and shrubs will be planted along the entire length of the freeway to enhance its appearance and to blend it into the surrounding environment.

Planting is expected to commence in 1990 so that the species will be established by the time the project is complete.



The Calder Highway - Route 79 - is an important route for motorists and for the transportation of goods to Melbourne's ports from central and north-western Victoria.

A high priority for VICROADS is to progressively upgrade the highway to four lanes between Melbourne and Bendigo.

As part of this strategy, planning is well under way to duplicate the section from Oakbank Road, Keilor North, to Duncans Lane, Diggers Rest - a distance of 7.6 km.

The Calder is the longest highway radiating from Melbourne, stretching 505 kilometres to Yelta on the NSW border.

The original route of the highway between Melbourne and Bendigo was through Castlemaine (Mt Alexander). A railway line to Bendigo was completed in 1862 and, for a number of years, most goods and passengers were transported by rail.

Declared in 1925 as the North Western Highway, the road became the Calder Highway in 1928 to honour William Calder, the first Chairman of the Country Roads Board.