Leongatha Heavy Vehicle Alternate Route
Start of Works

Construction of the Leongatha Heavy Vehicle Alternate Route will begin in February/March to allow for the removal of approximately 600 heavy vehicles a day out of Leongatha’s CBD area.

Identified as a priority project for South Gippsland, the alternate route will be key in facilitating amenity, safety, commercial and parking improvements within the town centre.

Motorists and residents may have already noticed pre-construction works being carried out, including:

- High voltage power relocation works at the intersection of Nerrena Road/Long Street/South Gippsland Highway
- Extensive Telstra and fibre optic communication line relocation
- Sewer relocation near the intersection of Nerrena Road and South Gippsland Highway
- Rationalisation of water mains at the intersection of Nerrena Road/Long Street/South Gippsland Highway and water main relocation along the Strzelecki Highway

What is happening?

Construction works are now set to begin. Motorists and residents can expect to see changes in the area over the next nine to 12 months, including:

- Intersection of Long Street/Nerrena Road/South Gippsland Highway will be realigned to create a cross-intersection to allow traffic on the alternate route to re-join the South Gippsland Highway south of Nerrena Road
- Traffic lights and street lighting to be installed at the intersection of Long Street/Nerrena Road/South Gippsland Highway
- Intersection of South Gippsland Highway and Strzelecki Highway (Roughead Street) will be widened to cater for B-double movements. Vegetation to be thinned out on the corner of Centenary Park and construction of advanced warning signals to allow for improved sight and the provision of early warning to vehicles queued in Roughead Street.
- Intersection of Strzelecki Highway and Long Street will be reconfigured to cater for B-double movements and the road levels improved providing safer conditions to cater for higher vehicles – additional street lighting to be installed
- Access to the carpark opposite the Post Office will be upgraded including widening to cater for both entering and exiting vehicles
- A new 3m wide shared path on the western side of Long Street to link the Long Street/Nerrena Road/South Gippsland Highway intersection to the existing path running through the railway precinct
- Side road intersections of Hughes Street, A’Beckett Street and Jeffrey Street will provide left turn in and left turn out options to improve road safety
1. Turning vehicles to give way to Strzelecki Highway traffic
2. Left in left out access at A’Beckett, Jeffrey and Hughes Streets to provide improved safety for all traffic
3. Road levels improved to enable a smoother and safer transition for turning heavy vehicles
4. Left in left out access only to properties and businesses along Long Street
5. A right turn will be permitted from Long Street into Bennett Lane to enable access to the railway station
6. An off road shared path will be constructed
7. A U-turn will be permitted at the traffic lights
8. Intersection will be controlled by traffic lights
9. Pedestrians can safely access schools and the town centre using the extended footpaths and crossing points at the traffic lights
10. Railway level crossing works
11. Some vegetation will be trimmed or cleared at Centenary Park to ensure appropriate sight distance and safety for drivers and pedestrians
12. Car park entry closure
13. Traffic from South Gippsland Highway will have priority of way onto the Strzelecki Highway
14. Bass Highway traffic will now give way to all South Gippsland Highway traffic
15. Car park entry to provide free flowing traffic on the Strzelecki Highway
What impact will this have?
While these works are being carried out, motorists and residents can expect changes in traffic conditions which will include:
- Changes in the level of road surfaces
- Old road pavement removed and strengthened to allow for resurfacing
- New road pavements constructed where road widening is to be implemented
- Some lane closures
- Traffic management to guide motorists safely around work sites

While disruption will be kept to a minimum, motorists and pedestrians may expect some delays while the works are carried out. VicRoads appreciates ongoing patience and understanding until these works are finalised.

Benefits of the new route
The Leongatha Heavy Vehicle Alternate Route will provide increased safety, amenity and economic benefits to Leongatha by removing approximately 600 heavy vehicles from the CBD each day.

It will also help support South Gippsland Shire Council’s Bair Street Rejuvenation Project which aims to create a more vibrant and prosperous commercial and retail precinct for Leongatha.

Removing heavy vehicles from Bair Street will allow South Gippsland Shire Council to start works that will improve parking opportunities, pedestrian safety, access to the shopping precinct and beautification of the CBD.

For more information
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