

Consultation Summary on the proposed changes to the Yarra Valley bus network

APRIL 2023

The Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) asked the community for their feedback on proposed changes to the Yarra Valley bus network. This is a summary of the community's feedback and was used to help inform the final changes to the network.

The final bus network will be announced shortly.

Feedback was collected online, via hardcopy at the Alexandra and Healesville libraries and at information sessions. Consultation ran from Monday 21 March to Sunday 24 April 2022.

People reached

102

submitted feedback online

175

contributors

73

submitted feedback in person

159

contributors use one or more Yarra Valley bus service

We consulted on bus routes

684 Melbourne - Eildon via Healesville

685 Healesville - Lilydale

686 Healesville - Badger Creek

687 Healesville - Chum Creek

What you supported

1. Increased services on Route 685.
2. Removal of complex deviations on Route 685.
3. Extending services to Healesville Sanctuary.
4. More services to Healesville Hospital.
5. The consolidation of Route 686 and Route 685.



Your concerns

1. No direct service to the CBD on Route 684.
2. Needing to interchange between bus and train on Route 684.
3. Possible journey time increase because of the need to interchange on Route 684.
4. Connection times between Route 684 and the train at Lilydale Station.
5. Missing Route 684 to Eildon if trains are running late.

What you would like to see

1. Increased span of hours on Routes 684 and 685.
2. Preference for Route 684 to start/terminate at Ringwood Station (Eastland Shopping Centre) instead of Chirnside Park Shopping Centre.
3. Increased connection times to ensure sufficient time to transfer between bus and train services.
4. Better weekend services.
5. A bus between Healesville and Woori Yallock.

Your words

“I think Lilydale Station is a good change over point.”

“We need more services, more often.”

“We need more services to link with the train as there is currently poor bus/train connections and too much waiting time.”

“The elderly wanting to get to Southern Cross Station would like to stay on the Route 684 bus and not change to a train at Lilydale.”

“Good to see Route 684 going to Chirnside Park and Lilydale Station. Nice new station too.”

“Need more options for the bus back from Lilydale. If you miss the bus you are stuck in Lilydale.”

“People need buses and so do tourists.”

“It makes more sense to go to Ringwood and Eastland as you have more trains to transfer to.”

“My kids travel to Eastland from Eildon regularly (Route 684). They feel safe knowing they only have to be on one bus”.

Next steps

The planning team has reviewed the feedback, which has helped inform the final changes to the network. The changes are expected to be introduced in late 2023.

A comprehensive marketing campaign will be developed to support passengers with their journey planning.

Thank you for your participation in the Yarra Valley bus network consultation.