



Project summary

The Harbour Esplanade redevelopment has seen key areas of public space transformed into a major waterfront destination, creating a unique harbour-front park for Melbourne completing the city's inner ring of parks. The new green spine will also better connect the precincts within Docklands.

The first stage of works, between Bourke St and Docklands Drive, has seen the creation of a tree-lined boulevard, dedicated bike and pedestrian paths, and the realignment of tram tracks into the roadway to provide additional parkland and recreational space.

The project work package included the relocation of the light rail tracks to the middle of Harbour Esplanade, the construction of four raised light rail platform stops, the upgrades of five traffic signal intersections and the extension of the light rail tracks to Footscray road creating a new light rail terminal to service major events at the stadium.

Key personnel



John Christou
Principal Consultant

...what we did on this project

The redevelopment of Harbour Esplanade at Docklands is a project that has transformed the CBD fringe and provided improved ambience and accessibility to this area

This was a fully funded project delivered for Public Transport Victoria (PTV) on behalf of VicUrban that has transformed Harbour Esplanade into a destination and has provided a great connection between the city and Docklands precinct.

The construction works were split into two separate contracts, light rail works and the road works, both of which were delivered in parallel forging a strong interface between the two contractors.

Urban design, traffic engineering, signalisation and other road interfaces had to be carefully managed to ensure that project delivered on all its objectives minimising the impact to the local community and business.

John Christou was the Project Manager that managed the development and delivery of the project on behalf of Yarra Trams

The high profile of the many large and small business based in the Docklands precinct increased the sensitivity and importance of this project across government and transport agencies alike.

The stakeholder and the community engagement strategy that was developed

was crucial to the successful delivery of this project. The programme of works was developed taking consideration feedback provided by the stakeholders considering their operation requirements. One of the main challenges in this project was to meet the programme milestones while maintaining access to all business minimising impact to their day to day operations.

The scope of the light rail works included the following:

- Relocation of existing utility services
- Repositioning of over 3km of tram tracks
- Construction of four fully accessible tram platform stops
- Installation of new street lighting
- Installation of new pedestrian operated signals
- Upgrade of all traffic signals at three intersections along Harbour Esplanade
- New footpaths and open spaces across this precinct.

This project was delivered on time and within the agreed project budget.

...some fast facts



Touch Projects team
1 Senior Project Manager



Project value
AUD \$15.5M



Head contractor
Coleman Rail



Construction duration
10 Months



Completed
2011



Client reference
Nicolle Nazaretian
Program Manager
Public Transport Victoria