Melbourne Update 2014 - 2016

COTMA CONFERENCE – OCTOBER 2016

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Preston Workshops > New Preston Depot

Works were completed to transform the old workshops with new workshop facilities and a new depot capable of holding 70 E class trams officially opened in April 2016.



Plan – courtesy of Yarra Trams



A big cut below ground level for the exit fan & track >

New Preston Depot









Mess hall

Sanding area - located immediately after run-in.

New Preston Workshops





Drive in, then retract the overhead!

Kew depot – 100 years

Kew Depot was built as the second depot of the Prahran & Malvern Tramways Trust in 1915.

The centenary was celebrated in May 2015.



Picture courtesy of Yarra Trams

Despite requests, no historic trams operated on the occasion.

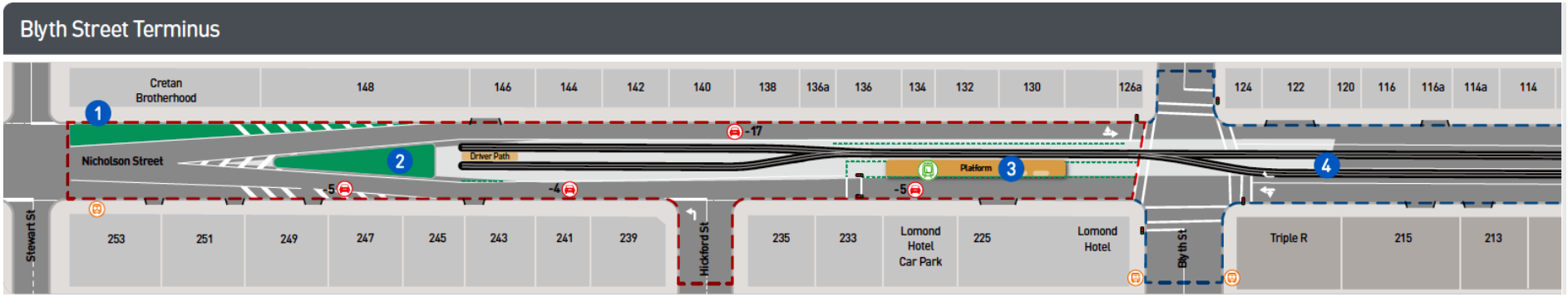
Track upgrades

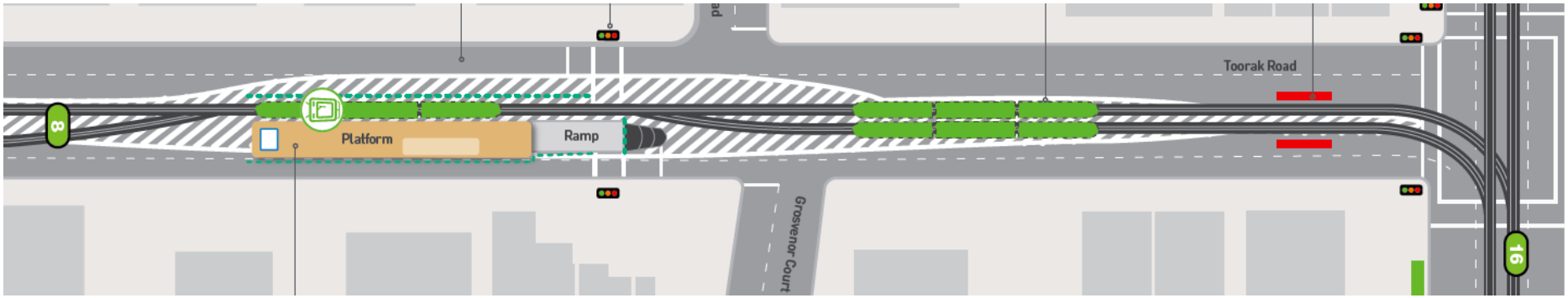
Track renewals continue across the network.

New style termini installed at East Brunswick and Toorak – both of which feature a single track at the platform terminus opening up again to double track after the terminus.



Plans courtesy of Yarra Trams





Moonee Ponds junction

This busy junction was re-laid over 12 days in January 2016 becoming a double track junction with Footscray trams now running through the junction to a new terminus on the north side.







Artists impression courtesy of Yarra Trams

Platform stops

Platform stops are being rolled out on an opportunistic basis and with a variety of designs.

Although several routes are now 100% low floor operated at most times there is no apparent priority being given to new platform stops on those routes.



Level crossing removal

State Government policy is to remove many railway level crossings. The Gardiner tram-train crossing was replaced with a bridge over the railway in January 2016



E class rollout

Order increased from 50 to 70. 6043 was noted on test two weeks before COTMA. They are delivered from Bombardier Dandenong on a rather large truck.

Second route to go over was route 11 to West Preston.

The originally planned Bundoora (86) roll-out was delayed due to delays in building substations – land acquisition being the main problem.

E class trams will start running on 86 by the end Nov 2016.





Art trams

Trams are again a part of the 2016 Melbourne Festival.

175 (below) won the people's choice award last year.





B class upgrades

Melbourne's first articulated trams are getting further upgrades to extend their life and improve passenger comfort. Following the earlier seat layout changes to make more room for prams and shopping jeeps they now feature LED destination displays and internal PIDs with GPS controlled stop announcements.





End of the Z1 and Z2

After just over 40 years, the original ‘orange trams’ are all withdrawn, eliminating a range of mechanical and electrical equipment.







Cartoon courtesy of The Age

A commemorative tour was conducted on Saturday 23rd of April 2016, after their withdrawal from regular service. It included one last run down Bourke St where they were first introduced in 1975.

… and …

- "Tram Hub" opened in mid 2015 and is home to a unified power and operations centre, rather than in separate buildings as had previously been the case. The customer information team is also based in the operations centre so that they can provide live updates to passengers via real-time digital channels and announcements on trams and at stops. Traffic staff are based at the depot and take up various runs from a 'tramless depot'.



- All night trams are back on 6 routes:
  19, 67, 75, 86, 96, and 109.
  Commenced Jan 2016.
  All night trams last ran in 1957.





- A new feature of the 'Tram Tracker' app is that Yarra can track users using 'beacons' to monitor passenger movements – it can be turned off.

Top and bottom pictures this page courtesy of Yarra Trams

Questions?

