

2017

UPGRADE SOUTH YARRA STATION

SURVEY RESULTS



PRODUCED BY SAM HIBBINS MP
STATE MEMBER FOR PRAHRAN



“Working to secure an upgrade to South Yarra station has been one of my top priorities as your local Member of Parliament.”

— **SAM HIBBINS MP**

South Yarra station is bursting at the seams and struggling to serve over 13,000 commuters each day. That’s why working to secure an upgrade to South Yarra station has been one of my top priorities as your local Member of Parliament.

Congestion at the station is getting worse with an increasing number of residents commuting by train and rapid population growth driven by the Forrest Hill growth area. Inaction by successive governments has resulted in a congested single entrance, overcrowded trains and unsafe pedestrian crossings.

Since my election, I’ve campaigned extensively for an upgrade; regularly raised the issue in state Parliament; presented the Upgrade South Yarra station petition to the Minister for Public Transport and secured documents through Freedom of Information that exposed the lack of investment in South Yarra station for well over a decade.

To ensure our community’s voice is heard, I’ve initiated an Upgrade South Yarra station survey to determine what commuters’ highest priorities for an upgrade are.

The response has been very encouraging, with 975 submissions received. Respondents’ top priorities for an upgrade to South Yarra station include: an interchange with Melbourne Metro; a northern entrance with a platform overpass; an expanded front foyer; maintaining heritage character; and a safe pedestrian crossing at Yarra Street. The full results in this report will be forwarded to the Minister for Public Transport.

I want you to know that your voice is being heard. Let’s keep the pressure on to secure funding for a much-needed upgrade to South Yarra station.

Thank you for your continued support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Hibbins'.

Sam Hibbins MP

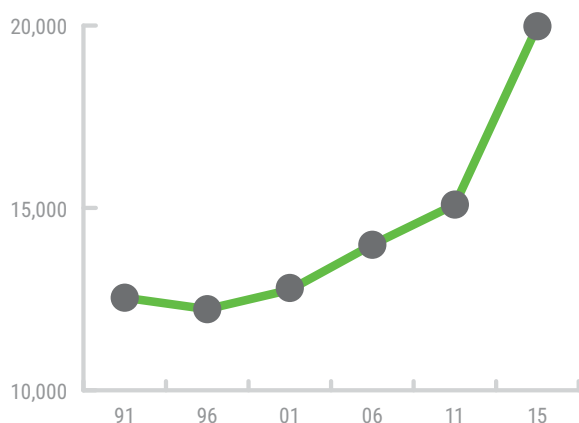
State Member for Prahran

BACKGROUND

Rapid Population Growth

According to ABS and Census data, South Yarra's population has been growing steadily since 1996. But in 2011, the projected population growth rate spikes dramatically, with the ABS predicting that South Yarra's population would grow from around 15,000 in 2011 to almost 19,981 in 2015 – an increase of approximately 33% in just five years.¹

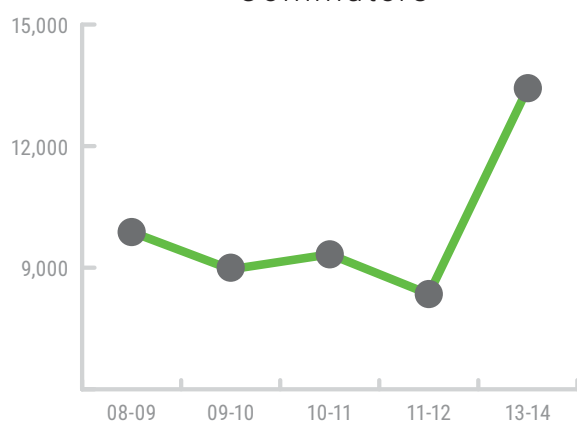
South Yarra Population



Greater Demand

With the bulk of South Yarra's growing population being of working age, this has resulted in a corresponding spike in the number of weekday commuters using South Yarra station.²

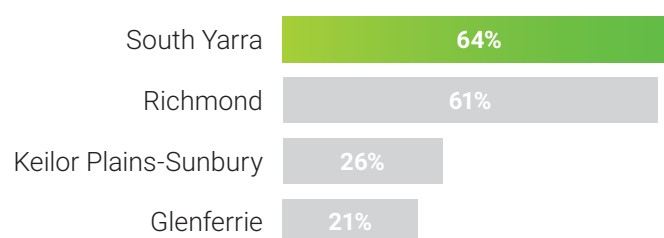
Weekday Train Commuters



The Fastest Growing Station

In the 2013-14 financial year (latest available data), South Yarra station experienced the greatest growth in annual passengers boarding compared to any other station – surpassing other large growth areas such as Richmond and Keilor Plains-Sunbury.²

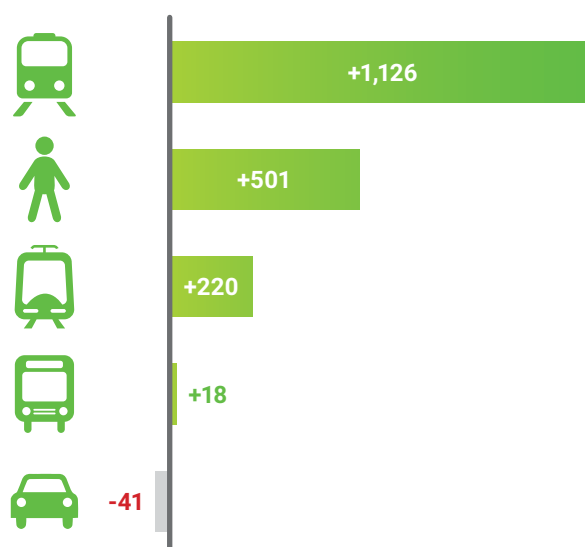
Annual Passenger Growth



More People Choosing Public Transport

According to Census data from 1996 and 2011, the number of South Yarra residents using public transport or walking to get to work grew dramatically – while the number of people using cars to get to work actually fell. Train travel saw the greatest increase in popularity by far.³

Change In Method Of Travel To Work



1. Australian Bureau of Statistics, Regional Population Growth, Australia (3218.0). Compiled and presented in profile.id by .id, the population experts.

2. PTV Research and Statistics, Train Station Patronage fact sheet 2014. 2013-14 is the most recent available data.

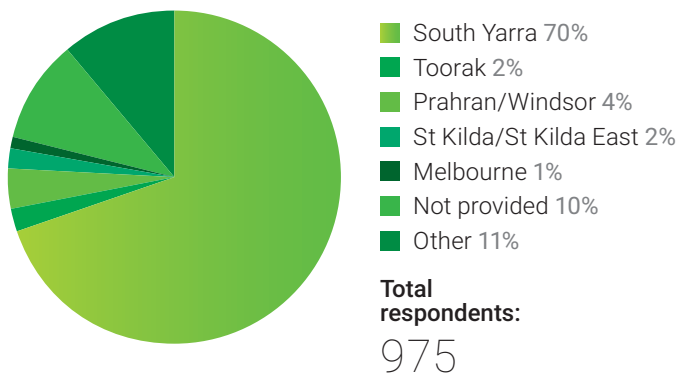
3. Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2006 and 2011. Compiled and presented by .id, the population experts.

THE RESULTS

Location Of Respondents

The survey forms were delivered to all households and businesses throughout South Yarra. Additional surveys were handed out at South Yarra station on weekdays so that users of the station from other suburbs could also have their say.

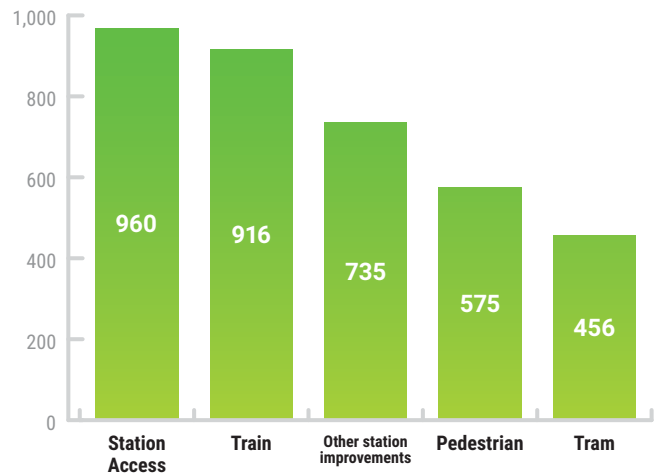
Respondent Post Codes



Priorities By Category

The chart below illustrates the top priorities of respondents organised by their category.

Upgrade Categories

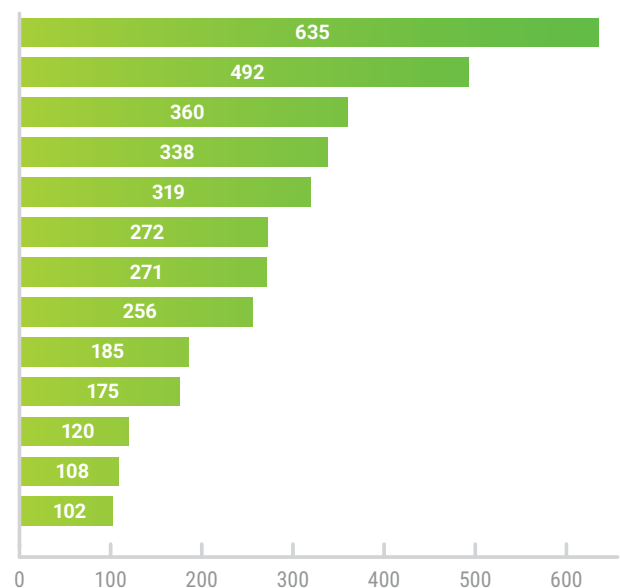


Upgrade Priorities

Respondents were asked to tick the three upgrade options that were of highest priority to them.

1. Interchange with Melbourne Metro Rail
2. Northern entrance with platform overpass
3. Expanded front foyer
4. Heritage character maintained
5. Safe pedestrian crossing at Yarra Street
6. Increased train frequency – Frankston & Sandringham lines
7. Increased tram frequency on Toorak Road
8. Improved pedestrian crossing at Toorak Road
9. Tram Super Stop
10. Upgraded toilets
11. Other
12. Better disability access
13. Secure bike parking cage

Ranked In Top 3
By Respondents



WHAT THEY SAID

“South Yarra must be linked to the Melbourne Metro and as part of its initial construction.”

— **MARK, SOUTH YARRA**

“With so many school kids and other pedestrians crossing Yarra Street, it is only a matter of time until there is a serious accident.”

— **GRACE, PRAHRAN**

“It’s ridiculous that we even have to fight for this upgrade, it is so obviously a sensible and logical decision for the present and the future.”

— **MICHAEL, SOUTH YARRA**

“All of these upgrades need to happen, especially South Yarra station being included in the Melbourne Metro.”

— **WILL, PRAHRAN**

“Congestion in the front foyer frequently spills out onto the footpath and the road, which makes it difficult and dangerous to get in and out.”

— **CLINTON, SOUTH YARRA**

“Due to the packed main foyer and platform, it takes me longer to exit South Yarra station than it does to travel from Flinders Street to South Yarra on the train. A northern entrance would be a godsend.”

— **MICHAEL, ABBOTSFORD**

“The station desperately needs work to manage the numbers of commuters who rely on it every day. All suggestions are good ones.”

— **PAMELA, SOUTH YARRA**

“We need more than four Myki gates in each direction. The queues to exit the station in peak hour are ridiculous.”

— **CLAIRE, PRAHRAN**

“It is essential with the rapidly growing residential population in South Yarra that essential infrastructure is upgraded.”

— **ALEXANDRA, SOUTH YARRA**

“We need more undercover areas if possible. It’s very difficult on hot or rainy days.”

— **TIFFANY, NARRE WARREN**

“The amount of times I’ve nearly been hit by drivers trying to get in or out of Yarra Street is ridiculous.”

— **CAMPBELL, SOUTH YARRA**

“As a frequent user of South Yarra station, I find it most frustrating having to fight my way through crowds each morning. This station desperately needs upgrading and a second entrance. It also needs connection to new Melbourne Metro.”

— **MARK, CLAYTON SOUTH**

“There is not enough room for the bikes chained to the front fence and pedestrians on the footpath during peak times.”

— **ROBIN, SOUTH YARRA**

“The toilet facilities currently are a bad joke.”

— **CHRISTIAN, SOUTH YARRA**

“We want an upgrade but not a demolition job. Too many historical buildings are being knocked down already.”

— **TERENCE, SOUTH YARRA**

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