



Rail Futures Institute Inc

A0059839B

4 Manor Crescent
HIGHTON VIC 3216

10 August 2026

Hon. Ben Carroll MP
Premier of Victoria
Member for Niddrie
Parliament House
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

Dear Premier,

Re: SUNSHINE STATION SUPER HUB – METRO TUNNEL and V/LINE CONNECTIONS.

I am writing regarding the proposed arrangements at Sunshine station as part of the Sunshine Station Superhub project. The project will provide crucial access to Sunshine's key roles identified in *Plan for Victoria (2025)* as both an Employment and Innovation area and a Priority Precinct.

The proposed station layout allows for regional V/Line travellers to conveniently connect between Geelong, Ballarat, Bendigo line and Metro train services serving the five new Metro Tunnel stations, then continuing to/from the Dandenong, Pakenham and Cranbourne lines, also the Sunbury line and in future to/from Melbourne Airport.

However, notwithstanding our previous representations to the former Premier and relevant Ministers and by others, the project still does not include reinstatement of the former platform on the existing standard gauge line passing through Sunshine station. This is an omission that seriously disadvantages V/Line North Eastern line travellers on standard gauge trains serving Seymour, Avenel, Euroa, Benalla, Violet Town, Wangaratta, Springhurst, Chiltern and Albury/Wodonga in multiple ways:

- The new Metro Tunnel services provide easy access to the major hospital and medical research precinct and Melbourne University at Parkville, many businesses, jobs and community facilities around inner Melbourne and at Sunshine itself as it develops as a key metropolitan precinct. However, North Eastern line passengers find it very difficult to access these places in the absence of an Albury line platform.
- Trains serving the Sunbury, Dandenong, Pakenham and Cranbourne lines all stop at Sunshine but **no longer pass through Southern Cross station** where Albury trains terminate, denying Albury line travellers convenient interchange to these metropolitan lines at Southern Cross.
- Albury line travellers connecting with V/Line Geelong, Ballarat or Bendigo services are forced to travel unnecessarily into Southern Cross and then through Sunshine again, adding at least 40 minutes to overall travel times.
- When the Airport line opens, it will be more convenient for many travellers from the North-East to change to an Airport train at Sunshine rather than take the bus service from Broadmeadows. Especially for elderly and disabled passengers, Broadmeadows is a poor interchange facility, including steep non-compliant ramps.

We ask that V/Line Albury line passengers be treated similarly to all other train travellers to and from Victoria's south-west, west and north by reinstatement of a suitable basic platform on the existing standard gauge line passing through Sunshine station, to be undertaken most efficiently as an integral part of the Superhub project works.

Yours sincerely,

John Hearsch
President, Rail Futures Institute