

# More trains, trams to cut crowding

**Timna Jacks**

Melbourne's public transport is getting a boost, with an extra 95 weekly train services added to the network in a move to reduce crowding on peak time services and slow the spread of COVID-19.

From Monday, the Sunbury, Craigieburn, Werribee, Mernda, Dandenong, Ringwood and Glen Waverley lines will get an extra two services per weekday, on either side of the morning and afternoon peak periods.

The extra services will run between 6-7am and 9-10am, and from 3pm to 4pm or after 6pm.

The Frankston and Sandringham

lines will get an extra 10 services a week from July 27. The Hurstbridge line will get five new services each week.

E-Class trams will run from Collins Street in the city to St Georges Road in Preston, via Brunswick Street in Fitzroy, once during the weekday peak periods.

A second tram shuttle from Victoria Harbour in Docklands to St Vincent's Plaza in East Melbourne via Collins Street will run services all day.

Route 30, which runs from East Melbourne and Docklands via La Trobe Street, will be replaced with Route 12.

Bus commuters will also be able

to board through all doors over the next two years, with transactions on buses permanently removed from July 13.

Public Transport Minister Ben Carroll said the state's busiest lines were getting extra services to ensure the safety of Victorian commuters.

The changes to the network come as two Protective Services Officers working at major city stations including Flinders Street have tested positive for the coronavirus, bringing the total number of positive cases at Flinders Street to four in three weeks.

Six Victoria Police employees have been sent home to self-isolate.