



Homes Victoria, together with our project partner Building Communities, is delivering 155 new social, affordable, market, and specialist disability rental homes at the Essex Street housing site in Prahran by 2026. The builder at the site is ICON.

Building Communities has now received planning approval for this project.

This project is part of the Victorian Government's plan to improve housing affordability by building more and better homes in places where people want to live.

Once completed, the new homes at Essex Street will be managed by one of Victoria's leading not-for-profit housing organisations – Community Housing Limited (CHL).

CHL will be based at the Essex Street site delivering tenancy management services, community building programs, and regular maintenance.

The redevelopment of Essex Street will upgrade the site and deliver:

- a 37% increase in social housing
- mix of dwelling sizes and layouts
- space for a new café
- new quality green open spaces and landscaped zones
- communal open space for residents
- central plaza for residents and the community to enjoy
- Energy efficient, all electric homes with a 5-star Green Star rating, and 7-star NatHERS average rating
- on-site tenancy and property management.

Community consultation on the plans

We held two stages of consultation on the Essex Street project to hear feedback from the community about the plans to redevelop the site.

- **Stage one consultation** was held between June and July 2022
- **Stage two consultation** was held between November and December 2023.

During stage two consultation, you told us:

- Safety is a priority
- Minimise overshadowing and overlooking from buildings
- Reduce impacts to traffic and car parking
- Provide better indoor and outdoor spaces
- Manage construction impacts
- Communicate with residents about the project

Feedback received during the stage two consultation has been responded to by Building Communities in a report that was provided to the Minister for Planning as part of the planning application.

The report on the consultation is now available to read on our [Engage Victoria webpage via the QR code opposite.](#)



Talking with residents about plans for the Essex Street housing site.



Artist's impression of landscaped zones inside Essex Street housing site.

What's happening now at Essex Street?

Now that planning approval has been granted, ICON will continue securing and preparing the site for construction to commence by late 2024.

The project is scheduled for completion in late 2026.

If you have any questions or concerns about works at the Essex Street, Prahran, please contact ICON's 24-hour hotline on **(03) 9389 3619** or email community.questions@icon.co

For information about how Homes Victoria is delivering more and better homes for Victoria please contact prahran@homes.vic.gov.au or visit our website for the project at www.homes.vic.gov.au/essex-street-prahran