**Project 3. Rolling Stock Rejuvenation**

**Project Brief**

Victoria claims to have the largest tram network in the world with 250 km of double track.[[1]](#footnote-1) The tram network infrastructure includes 24 routes and 1763 tram stops.[[2]](#footnote-2) With a view to meeting future needs the Victorian government has announced a rejuvenation of its rolling stock including both its aging tram and train fleet.[[3]](#footnote-3)

Focusing on trams (for the purpose of this project), the rolling stock strategy aims to improve network accessibility including those with disability, improve user experience, reduce whole of life running costs, improve safety and tram performance. Key limitations include those associated with current network infrastructure (platform lengths, platform positions, shared road with cars, metal on concrete rails, weight etc), cost and electrical power grid characterics.2,[[4]](#footnote-4)

Whilst initial upgrades will be made through new investments into E-Class Trams, development is ongoing with respect to a new generation of tram design. In addition to the above objectives, new designs might also consider avenues to restrict the transmission of diseases (such as COVID-19) and thereby help to increase commuter confidence in taking public transport.

The integration of new technologies and practical innovations are key to delivering on the Governments objectives provided the business case justifies them for consideration. The new technologies and practical innovations can could be integrated into the new tram design either immediately or phased in over the lifetime of the rejuvenation period as upgrades.

1. <https://yarratrams.com.au/facts-figures> (accessed 24th June 2020)) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trams_in_Melbourne> (accessed 23rd June 2020) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Trains, Tams and Jobs, Victorian Rolling Stock Strategy 2015-2025, Victorian Government [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Deloitte Infrastructure Capability Assessment – Transport, Infrastructure Victoria, 2016 [↑](#footnote-ref-4)