Pre-welding works
Pre-welding and preparation of lengths of rail will be carried out nightly from Sunday 29th January until Friday 3rd February, between 9.00PM to 6.00AM. The works will take place in two locations on the eastern side of Swanston Street - between Flinders Street and Flinders Lane (in front of St Paul’s Cathedral) and between Little Bourke Street and Lonsdale Street.

Approximately 100 metres of the southbound kerbside lane will be fenced off to allow for the lengths of rail to be welded and moved safely.

Major works
The major works to renew the tram tracks and establish the foundations for two pairs of accessible stops will begin in the early hours of Saturday 4th February 2012.  

Saw cutting of concrete and the existing rail will begin at approximately 2.00AM. Significant dust and noise will be produced as saw cutting teams move along the worksite. From approximately 6.00AM, heavy excavators will start to break the road surface to allow for the removal of the existing tram tracks. This work is very noisy and dusty and will continue throughout Saturday until approximately 6.00PM.

Once the old tracks have been removed, construction of the new tracks and accessible stops will begin. While not as loud as the excavation works, there may be the need to conduct some noisy works during construction and there will be constant noise associated with the movement of machinery and equipment.

Works are scheduled to be completed by approximately 5.00AM on Monday 6th February.

Road closures
Road closures for the weekend from midnight Friday 3rd February until 5.00AM Monday 6th February include:

- Swanston Street between Flinders Street to Lonsdale Street
- Flinders Lane between Russell Street and Elizabeth Street
- Little Bourke Street between Russell Street and Elizabeth Street
- Full closure of westbound lane of Collins Street
- Partial closure of westbound lane of Lonsdale Street

Local access will be available on those cross streets however large vehicles are discouraged from entering the area. City of Melbourne asks that you reschedule all non-essential works, services and deliveries to the area bounded by Flinders Street, Russell Street, Lonsdale Street and Elizabeth Street so that they are carried out either prior to the commencement of works or after their completion.

Parking
No stopping signs will be placed where necessary to ensure safe traffic management in streets that cross Swanston Street, for the duration of the opening weekend. Effort will be made to ensure minimal disruption to local residents and traders.
Variable Messaging Signage
VMS signage will be in place from one week prior to commencement of works and will be located at:
- Collins & Russell intersection
- Bourke & Russell intersection
- Swanston & Lonsdale intersection
- Swanston & Flinders intersection

Waste collections
For the area bounded by Russell Street, Flinders Street, Elizabeth Street and Lonsdale Street, normal domestic and commercial waste collection services will be disrupted over the opening weekend of works. Please note the following changes:
- Any collections scheduled for this area must be completed prior to midnight on Friday 3rd February or after 6.00AM on Monday 6th February.
- From midnight on Friday 3rd February until 6.00AM on Monday 6th February, access to this area will be restricted. For essential waste collections during this time, please arrange alternative collection points.
- Normal waste collection services will resume after 6.00AM on Monday 6th February.

Yarra Trams
On Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th February, trams travelling from St Kilda Road towards the city will terminate at the Arts Precinct. Trams travelling from Melbourne University will terminate at the new accessible Melbourne Central tram stop, outside the State Library. Passengers wanting to continue their journey along Swanston Street or beyond can:
- Walk to the connecting tram service
- Change to a City Loop train at Flinders Street or Melbourne Central Stations
- Consider catching an Elizabeth Street tram service.

An accessible mini-bus featuring a wheelchair lift will be located at both the Arts Precinct and Melbourne Central stops for passengers with a mobility impairment. Yarra Trams Customer Service staff will be on duty throughout the works to provide assistance to customers.

NightRider
Temporary nightrider bus stops will be located along both sides of Collins Street between Russell Street and Swanston Street as has been provided in the past for New Years Eve celebrations.

Pedestrians and bike riders
Pedestrians and bike riders must follow traffic management instructions at all times. Pedestrian access will be maintained throughout Swanston Street for the duration of the opening weekend, however there may be a reduction in the footpath width. Bike riders must dismount at each work area and walk their bikes along the footpath.

For more information visit www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/swanstonstreet or call our customer contact centre on 9658 9658