



CASE STUDY

COBURG STATION

Melbourne, Victoria

PRODUCTS:

XTA | 2.0 LOOP RECESSED

XTA | 2.0 LOOP SLOT

XTA | 1.6 OPTIK SLOT

XTA | 1.5 RECESSED

OVERVIEW

The new Coburg Station, serves the Northern Melbourne suburbs in Victoria, Australia. This majestic station is part of the Victorian Government's Level Crossing Removal Project and removes four hazardous level crossings and replaces the previous grade railway line with a new elevated Skyrail.

The two new stations in Coburg and Moreland provide vertical connectivity to the elevated railway with improved amenities, and the creation of surrounding civic and parkland space.

The energy-efficient station includes the use of Xero's Linear Lighting systems within the public concourse, platform and various staircase areas.

BRIEF

Space was a significant issue with the upfield line being on the of the narrowest rail corridors in Melbourne and often prone to flooding. A "premium station" rating that was designed at Coburg would usually require double the amount of space. Wood Marsh Architecture analysed the technical requirements of the station and looked to challenge and improve the conditions through collaborative and considered design. The reduced floor area meant a lower build cost whilst also returning the space around the station back to the community for more landscape, art, and amenities.

LIGHTING

A vivid reddish orange colour was selected to reinforce a consistent colour palette and colour coding of the Coburg Station. The Linear Lighting used highlighted key architectural elements – that includes the textural quality of the hexagonal patterning and the incorporation of subtle references of the original heritage-listed station buildings, arches, stairways and station signage. It also provides wayfinding, surveillance and safety to passengers utilising the space at night.



RESPONSE

The initial response from the public was one of hesitation to the elevated nature of the new railway, however, since its completion, feedback from the community has been overwhelmingly positive with notable mention of the upgraded amenities the new station provides, increased space, connectivity and amenities such as better lighting around the station platforms, pedestrian and bike paths, playgrounds, outdoor fitness spaces, leisure areas that have been implemented in the space below the elevated railways.

OUTCOME

Coburg Station as a typology defines functional and circulatory features such as the arrival concourse and vertical connectivity. Its significance above a private dwelling is signified by the height and scale of its spaces and a level of grandeur that is uncommon in buildings with such small footprints. Sightlines from staircases, views out of the arch windows and circulation – whether to wait at the front or back of the train have been integrated with the commuting experience. It makes the procession of connecting passengers from grade to the elevated platforms some 10 meters above ground.

The outcome provides a blend of functional and practical lighting, accentuating the architectural beauty and meticulous consideration of form, space and program.

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