**What is the electric bus project?**

Electric and eco-friendly buses will become an important part of future public transport networks in Melbourne and across Australia. Transdev Melbourne are excited to partner with the Victorian Government to bring the first Melbourne-built fully electric bus to Victoria’s public transport network.

**Who built the electric bus?**

The body construction and fit out for the new bus has been completed by leading bus builder Volgren in their Dandenong factory. The electric bus has been built in line with the Government’s Local Jobs First policy, supporting Victorian jobs and backing the local automotive industry to develop new capability and innovation.

**Where will the electric bus operate?**

The bus will be based at Transdev Melbourne’s North Fitzroy depot where a charging station has been installed. Initially the bus will operate 12 round trips a day on Route 246 between Elsternwick and Clifton Hill via St Kilda, between 5.45am and 11.30pm on weekdays.

**When will the electric bus enter service?**

The bus will officially commence operation from the end of November until January 2021 as part of a trial to help determine the potential for a wider rollout of electric buses in Victoria.

**What is the carrying capacity of the electric bus?**

The carrying capacity of the bus is 61 passengers (39 sitting, 22 standing).

**How much distance can the electric bus cover on a full charge?**

The bus has a range of around 300km in general operating conditions. It takes between 4-5 hours to fully charge, and will initially be operating 12 round trips per day.
What enhancements will the electric bus feature?

The new zero-emission bus is fitted with 324 kWH of Lithium Phosphate batteries providing 300 kilometres of travel range. It features a low floor, intelligent early detection collision avoidance systems, USB charging ports and will be among the cleanest commercial vehicles on Australian roads.

Does Transdev Melbourne have plans to add more electric buses into its fleet?

The electric bus trial will run until January 2021 and we are looking forward to gathering customer feedback during this time. Eco-friendly buses will be part of the future, and we look forward to continuing to work with the Victorian Government and local industry to bring that future to Victoria.

Is this Transdev’s first electric bus?

As of 2019, Transdev has a fleet of over 400 fully electric buses in operation around the world. We were the first zero emission mobility operator in Europe and remain the number one operator of zero emission electric buses in Europe. We have the first fully electric bus fleet in the Netherlands, which includes 45 buses with the latest available storage and charging technology.

Are electric buses cost-effective?

Costs and technologies are changing very rapidly in this space, and trials like this one will ensure that Victoria is ready to introduce eco-friendly options when the time is right in coming years.