Major construction is continuing in Kensington at the site of the future western tunnel entrance. This update provides an outline of current and upcoming works in your area throughout April.

**Construction snapshot**

Construction works are continuing within the Kensington precinct during April and will include:

- Site preparation and establishment activities
- Driven piling works
- Bentonite plant works
- Diaphragm-wall preparation
- Tunnel cross passage ground improvement works
- Bored piling (road-side) on Childers Street
- Recharge well pump testing adjacent to Childers Street
- Installation of monitoring instrumentation and survey activities.

Further information on these works can be found overleaf or at [metrotunnel.vic.gov.au](http://metrotunnel.vic.gov.au).

**When are we working?**

**Normal construction hours**

7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday
7am to 1pm, Saturdays.

Some activities may be required to continue slightly past these hours. All efforts will be made to complete activities as scheduled.

**Out of hours**

Some works are required to take place out of normal construction hours. The timing of these works are outlined in the construction information overleaf.

**24 hours**

24 hour works are sometimes required during peak construction activities. These are timed to minimise disruptions to the train, tram and road networks where possible. The timing of these works are outlined in the construction information overleaf.
WORKS IN YOUR AREA

Site preparation and service investigation
Childers Street, Kensington and Hobsons roads
Ongoing to May 2019
- Service investigations will continue, involving non-destructive digging (NDD) to help locate underground services.
- These works are expected to generate periods of loud noise during NDD activities.
- The traffic signals at the Kensington Road and Hobsons Road intersection will be upgraded to include right turning arrows at the north and south approaches along Kensington Road.

Childers Street, Kensington and Hobsons roads
7pm to 10pm, Tuesday 9 April
- Traffic detection sensors will be installed within the road, involving power saws to cut the road. To minimise traffic disruption, these works will be undertaken out of hours.
- These works are expected to generate medium to high levels of noise during saw cutting activities.

Driven piling works
Childers Street
Early April
- An oversized piling rig will be delivered at night to prepare an area within the Hobsons Road site for bentonite storage tanks.
- These works are expected to generate low to medium levels of noise while the machinery is unloaded.

Childers Street
Monday 15 April to mid-2019
- Driven piling will be undertaken to construct the foundations for the train tracks leading into the new tunnel entrance.
- There will be increased truck movements associated with the delivery of concrete piles.
- These works will involve excavating excess soil and pouring a concrete base after piles are installed.
- Once the concrete base is poured and set by late April, piles will be ‘broken back’ (levelled off) using a jackhammer, saw cutter and small crane.
- These works are expected to generate medium to high levels of noise and medium levels of vibration.

Bentonite plant works
Hobsons and Kensington roads
Ongoing to May 2019
- Installing a temporary Bentonite facility, including pipes and storage tanks which will pump Bentonite clay from the Hobsons Road site to the Childers Street site (see terms explained).
- An overhead electricity cable has been removed to undertake these works safely. A temporary light tower will be used for up to five weeks on Kensington Road until the cable can be reinstalled. The lighting tower will be battery operated overnight to minimise noise levels.
- Earthworks, including use of a vibrating roller and excavation of excess soil, will be undertaken to prepare an area within the Hobsons Road site for Bentonite storage tanks.
- These works are expected to generate low to medium levels of noise, and medium to high levels of vibration associated with the use of vibrating rollers.

Diaphragm wall preparation
Childers Street
Monday 8 April to mid-2019
- Works to prepare for the installation of diaphragm walls (D-walls) that will form the structure of the western tunnel entrance will start in April (see terms explained).
- A new piling pad will be established, involving the use of vibrating roller and excavation of excess soil.
- Concrete guide walls will be installed to assist with construction of the D-walls. These works involve excavating a small trench adjacent to the tunnel entrance, installing reinforcement steel and concrete.
- These works are expected to generate periods of high noise levels, and medium to high levels of vibration.

Tunnel cross passage ground improvement works
Lloyd Street and McLennan Drive
24/7, ongoing until mid-2019
- Cross passage ground improvement works on Lloyd Street and McLennan Drive will continue. This work is not expected to be audible from residential properties.

Bored piling works
Childers Street
April to May 2019
- Bored piling works for the tunnel boring machine (TBM) retrieval shaft adjacent to South Kensington station will continue and are expected to be completed by late April.
- Once poured and set, piles will be ‘broken back’ (levelled off) using a jackhammer and excavator, and a capping beam will be installed to prevent the piles from moving.
- These works are expected to generate periods of medium to high levels of noise.
- A full closure of Childers Street will be required to undertake these works (see traffic and transport impacts).
- Properties adjacent to the works will receive additional notification once the dates for these works are confirmed.

Terms explained
Diaphragm walls (D-walls)
- D-walls are continuous concrete slabs that are installed along both sides of the tunnel entrance.
- These works are confirmed.
- Additional notification once the dates for these works are confirmed.

Before construction of the D-walls can take place, concrete guide walls are installed, typically as temporary, lightly reinforced concrete elements that are placed alongside the D-walls. Guide walls are important as they help guide the D-wall equipment and aid in the positioning of the final structure.

Bentonite
- Bentonite is a type of naturally occurring clay used to help stabilise D-walls.
- In Kensington, a temporary storage tank will be constructed in the Hobsons Road worksite, with pipes pumping Bentonite across to the Childers Street worksite.

We’re taking a break
- Please be advised that the Metro Tunnel Project will take a break from major construction over the Easter period.
- The last day of construction before the break will be Thursday 18 April. Work will recommence on Monday 29 April.
- During this time, we may undertake some minor works to maintain our sites or respond to unforeseen circumstances.

LOOK AHEAD FOR 2019

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Traffic and transport impacts

- Signage and traffic controllers will be in place to direct vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists around traffic signal and sensor works. Intermittent lane closures on Kensington Road will be required for these works.
- Access for local residents, businesses and over-height vehicles will be maintained unless otherwise notified.
- An oversized piling rig will be delivered in early April outside normal working hours. Increased truck movements are expected in the area for delivering concrete piles, concrete works and earthworks.

Childers Street temporary closure

- Childers Street will be closed to all through traffic during bored pile break back works.
- Over-height vehicles accessing the Lloyd Street Business Estate will be detoured via Kensington Road, Derby Street and Tennyson Street. This detour may be required 24 hours a day during these works. Childers Street will be reopened to over-height traffic outside of work hours, if possible.
- Signage and traffic controllers will be in place to direct vehicles.
- Adjacent properties will receive additional notification once the dates for the road closure is confirmed.

Additional cyclist wayfinding signs

- Additional wayfinding signage to safely direct cyclists to alternative routes, away from works, was recently installed in Childers, Tennyson and Altona streets.

More information

To find out more about the Metro Tunnel Project and register for future email updates:

- 1800 105 105 (24 hours a day, 7 days a week) Press 2 and follow the prompts
- [facebook.com/metrotunnel](http://facebook.com/metrotunnel)
- Subscribe to eNews or construction notification emails: metrotunnel.vic.gov.au/subscribe

It should be noted that this information is current at the time of printing, however due to unforeseen circumstances, changes may occur. Please visit [metrotunnel.vic.gov.au](http://metrotunnel.vic.gov.au) for the latest updates.