Works Notification

Out of hours works
Kensington

October 2020

As part of the Metro Tunnel Project we will be undertaking out of hours work at the western tunnel entrance to install new infrastructure.

What we are doing

Tunnel entrance construction
— Tunnel entrance excavation, involving the use of excavators loading material into trucks
— Using an excavator to prepare the area for concrete pours
— Using a small crane to lift concrete panels and materials into the tunnel entrance
— Installing steel reinforcement and timber formwork in preparation for concrete pours for the tunnel entrance ground slab, props and internal tunnel entrance walls
— Installing drainage pipes, pits, grout and waterproofing material
— Pouring concrete and crushed rock to provide a stable working area
— Concreting works involving around five trucks per hour and a concrete pump
— Concrete breakback, using a jackhammer, saw cutter and excavator (7am to 6pm only)
— Establishment of a dewatering system to remove and recharge water to maintain groundwater levels.

Rail corridor works
— Installing new rail corridor infrastructure, including overhead wiring equipment, signalling structures, drainage pipes, signalling pipes and pits, ballast (crushed rock), concrete sleepers and new railway tracks leading into the tunnel entrance
— Track and survey maintenance work using handheld equipment and power tools.

Compensatory flood storage soil nail wall construction
— The western tunnel entrance is located within the Maribyrnong flood plain. To offset a loss in flood plain storage from the construction of the decline structure, an area of the existing rail embankment will be reshaped to a vertical retaining wall to provide flood storage during a 1 in 100 year flood event
— These works will involve excavation along the rail corridor embankment between Hobsons Road and the Maribyrnong River
— Use of a soil nail machine to drill and install steel bars into the embankment
— Spraying concrete onto the embankment surface.

Groundwater well installation and monitoring works
— As previously notified, upcoming works are taking place to install groundwater wells in preparation for works within the tunnel entrance in late-2020
— These works involve using a drilling rig to create six wells. Drilling works will only occur during normal construction hours
— Following well drilling, a PVC pipe is lifted with a winch, and the pipe is then grouted into place
— A small compressor is required to assist with the works
— Following completion of well works, two overnight pump tests will take place
— These involve pumping water from the wells for a continuous 48 hour period
— The pump test will require a generator to operate the pump and lighting towers
— No machinery will be required during the pump test.
Asbestos removal during soil nail works

All work areas will be monitored during works, and any asbestos found will be removed by independent occupational hygienists, in accordance with WorkSafe Victoria’s Compliance Code 2008 for Removing Asbestos in Workplaces.

Removal of asbestos-containing material by licensed removalists does not pose any safety risk to site staff or the public. Appropriate management measures will be employed during the removal of the asbestos.

These include:
— Air monitoring undertaken by an independent hygienist to ensure public safety
— Exclusion zones set up around the asbestos removal area.

Egress building construction
— Some egress building construction activities will take place from 7am to 10pm, Monday to Friday, and 7am to 6pm, Saturdays from early October
— All efforts will be made to mitigate noise during construction, including undertaking the noisiest activities during the day where possible
— Further information will be provided before works commence.

When

Tunnel entrance construction
— 7am to 10pm, Monday 21 September to late-October (no work on Sundays).

Rail corridor works and tunnel entrance construction
— 6pm, Friday 2 October to 4am, Monday 5 October
— 6pm, Friday 9 October, to 4am, Monday 12 October.

Compensatory flood storage soil nail wall construction
— 6pm, Friday 2 October to 4am, Monday 5 October
— 7am to 6pm, Monday 5 October to Friday 9 October
— 6pm, Friday 9 October, to 4am, Monday 12 October
— 7am to 6pm, Monday 12 October to late-2020 (no work on Saturday evenings and Sundays).

Groundwater well installation and monitoring works
— Thursday 17 September to Saturday 3 October
— 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday
— 7am to 1pm, Saturdays
— The pump test is scheduled to occur from 7am, 24 September to 7am, 26 September.

What you should be aware of
— As excavation progresses deeper into the decline structure and under the roof slab, the tunnel entrance walls and roof will provide noise attenuation for these activities
— All efforts are being made to mitigate impacts of noise and disruption to the community on site including undertaking the noisiest activities during the day where possible
— The use of lighting towers will be minimised through the use of wired lighting, which requires one generator. The generator will be surrounded by noise blankets to reduce noise emissions
— Well drilling works are expected to generate medium levels of noise. Installation of pipes, grouting and the pump test will generate low levels of noise.

Tunnel entrance construction
— Excavation works will involve approximately six trucks per hour travelling along Childers Street, Hobsons Road and south along Kensington Road
— Excavation is expected to be completed by early-November
— The use of smaller trucks will be used from 6pm onwards to avoid use of the turnaround located adjacent to Ormond Street. Trucks will enter from Kensington Road and then reverse along Childers Street
— Traffic controllers will be in place on Kensington Road and Childers Street to assist with trucks reversing into site
— To further reduce noise, trucks reversing into site overnight will utilise broadband reversing beepers, which generate a sound that dissipates quickly outside of the immediate work area
— Concreting works, where possible will be kept to daytime only. Larger concrete pours may need to commence at 6am and extend beyond 6pm.

Rail corridor works
— Rail corridor works will involve the use of rail mounted cranes, excavators, trucks and non-destructive digging trucks
— These works will occur between South Kensington station and Footscray station
— Rail corridor works in October will generate low to medium levels of noise. Some periods of high level noise may occur while a non-destructive digging vehicle operates adjacent to the Kensington Road rail bridge.

Compensatory flood storage soil nail wall construction
— The first stage of soil nail works are required to be completed while trains are not running to ensure work can be undertaken safely
— The soil nailing works will generate periods of high levels of noise. Grouting and concreting works will generate medium levels of noise
— Some works may be required overnight in November. Further information will be provided to residents in advance of these works.
Health and safety

The Metro Tunnel Project is a critical state infrastructure project under Stage 4 restrictions, allowing work to continue with strict health and safety measures in place.

The health and safety of our workers and the community is our key priority and we have measures in place to protect the safety of our construction workforce, including temperature screening, additional protective equipment including masks, daily health screening of workers, enhanced cleaning, staggered shifts and break times, and physical distancing.

Our workforce numbers across Victoria’s Big Build have already been significantly reduced to support directions from the Chief Health Officer, and we are continuing to manage the number of staff and visitors attending our worksites.

For more information about coronavirus (COVID-19), please visit coronavirus.vic.gov.au.

Keeping you informed

To help support the Victorian Government’s stage 4 coronavirus (COVID-19) restrictions while still making sure people know what’s happening in their area, we’ve temporarily changed the way we’ll notify you about upcoming works.

We are using the following channels instead of hand delivering information into your letterbox at this time.

Please sign up to our email updates via the Metro Tunnel Project website (metrotunnel.vic.gov.au) so we can continue to keep you informed about works in your area.