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

Construction snapshot
Tunnel boring machine (TBM) disassembly and retrieval is now complete, with both TBMs now back at the Arden Station site, where they are being reassembled to commence tunnelling from Arden to Parkville.

Works in Kensington are continuing to complete Diaphragm walls (D-walls) and excavation of the tunnel entrance.

In May, works within the Kensington precinct will include:
- Preparatory works for the egress building that will be constructed at the TBM retrieval shaft
- Tunnel cross passage ground improvement site reinstatement works
- Tunnel entrance excavation and base slab construction
- D-wall construction activities
- Capping beam works
- Borehole drilling works
- Permanent propping installation
- Rail corridor works
- Installation of monitoring instrumentation and survey activities.

Further information on these works can be found overleaf or at metrotunnel.vic.gov.au

When are we working?

Normal construction hours
7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday
7am to 1pm, Saturdays.

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. The timing of these works are outlined in the construction information overleaf.

Health and safety
The health and safety of our workers is our key priority as we continue to deliver the Metro Tunnel Project, as is supporting social distancing measures in line with current health advice. We have strict protocols in place to protect the safety of our construction workforce, including enhanced industrial cleaning arrangements, provision of personal protective equipment and measures to reduce staff contact, including staggered shifts. For more information and advice about the outbreak of Coronavirus, please visit coronavirus.vic.gov.au
**WORKS IN YOUR AREA**

**Egress building preparatory works**

**Childers Street**  
**May to July 2020**

At the Western Portal, an egress building will be constructed using the TBM retrieval shaft as its foundation and basement. This building will provide emergency access to and from the tunnels, and house emergency equipment and mechanical and electrical systems. The first stage of works involves completing the underground structure of the egress building in preparation for the above ground structure to be built above it later in the year. This involves:

- Using saw cutters and an excavator-mounted jackhammer to demolish the temporary internal dividing wall
- Installing waterproofing membrane to line the underground internal walls
- Installing steel molds (formwork) and reinforcement using a crane and hand tools
- Pouring concrete to create the internal walls of the underground structure
- Above ground works to construct the building are expected to commence in late 2020. Further information will be provided before these works occur.

**Tunnel entrance excavation and base slab construction**

**Childers Street**  
**Ongoing to late-2020**

Cross passages are short tunnels that connect the twin tunnels and are an important safety feature as they allow people and emergency services to move from one tunnel to the other in the event of an emergency. There will be 26 cross passages located at regular distances along the tunnel alignment.

During May, works to construct the four cross passages between the Arden Station site and western tunnel entrance at Kensington will commence. The first stage of work involves:

- Installing work platforms and steel bracing frames inside the completed section of tunnel
- Geotechnical probe drilling in cross passage locations. This involves drilling through the tunnel wall and collecting samples to confirm ground conditions in each location
- Cutting through the tunnel wall using a wall saw
- Each cross passage is expected to take approximately six months to construct. Works will occur concurrently at different cross passage sites
- These works are not expected to be audible at surface level
- Further information about cross passage construction can be found at metrotunnel.vic.gov.au

**Diaphragm-wall construction**

**Childers Street and Hobsons Road**  
**7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, 7am to 3:30pm, Saturdays 4 May to mid-June 2020**

- There are now 13 remaining D-wall panels to be completed
- Works in early-May will continue to build concrete guide walls. These works involve excavating two trenches, installing reinforcement steel and pouring concrete
- D-walls will be constructed opposite the South Kensington station platforms (see map available for location of works)
- D-wall works will take place mostly during normal construction hours. There may be times where works extend beyond these hours to complete a concrete pour or to ensure the site is left safely at the end of a shift
- More information on D-wall works can be found at metrotunnel.vic.gov.au/construction/kensington

**Capping beam works**

**Childers Street**  
**Ongoing to July 2020**

- There will be ongoing steel and concreting works in May to complete capping beams
- These works are expected to generate low levels of noise to nearby residents

**Cross passage construction**

**From the Arden Station site to Kensington**  
**May 2020 to early-2021**

There are now 13 remaining D-wall panels to be completed. The delivery of props and mobilisation of the D-walls is expected to take approximately six months. This activity is planned to commence in mid-2020.

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**Ongoing to July 2020**

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**Rail corridor maintenance works**

**Childers Street**  
**12am to 4am Tuesday 19 and Wednesday 20 May from 12am to 4am, Mondays and Thursdays ongoing to late-2020**

- While excavation activities occur, occasional overnight works may be required within the rail corridor to undertake track maintenance works to ensure trains can continue to operate safely on the network. This activity has been revised to continue to late-2020 while excavation takes place adjacent to the rail corridor
- Works will involve readjusting sleepers, crushed rock and tracks with hand tools and if required a small excavator
- Works may be required for up to four nights per month, however it is unlikely that all Monday and Thursday shifts will be required
- Maintenance works may generate low to medium levels of noise.

**Borehole drilling works**

**Childers Street**  
**Ongoing to September 2020**

- Construction of the tunnel entrance involves installing 3D supporting props which provide horizontal support to the two tunnel entrance walls. The props are concrete structures which are reinforced with steel and connect to the capping beams on each D-wall
- 9 of the 30 props are constructed offsite and will be delivered to site between 5 and 8 May 2020. As the props are delivered, they will be reversed into Childers Street and a large crane will be used to lift each prop into place
- The delivery of props and mobilisation of the crane will occur during normal construction hours in early-May
- The remaining 21 props will be constructed onsite, which will involve placing steel, installing temporary timber moulds and concrete pours. This activity is planned to commence in mid-2020
- Propping works are expected to generate low levels of noise associated with steel works, concrete pours and while the crane is lifting props into place.

**Tunnel cross passage reinstatement works**

**Lloyd Street**  
**Ongoing until May 2020**

- Overnight closures of Lloyd Street will be required for up to two weeks in May
- Access to and from the Lloyd Street Business Estate will be maintained at all times
- Further notification will be provided once closure dates are confirmed.
**Traffic and transport impacts**

**Childers Street**
- Childers Street is currently closed to all traffic
- Over-height vehicles accessing the Lloyd Street Business Estate and Childers Street residents are required to detour via Kensington Road, Derby Street and Tennyson Street during this time
- Traffic controllers are in place on Kensington Road and Childers Street to assist trucks reversing into site
- Traffic management will be in place during construction activities.

**Sump piling works**
A sump is a low space located beneath the tunnel entrance ground slab which will collect runoff water from the tunnel entrance and pump it back into an improved drainage network along Childers Street.

To construct the sump, piling works will commence in late June to install foundations for a sump box so that a pump system can be installed in late-2020. This involves using a piling rig with an auger to drill holes, placing concrete cages into the holes and then filling them with concrete to complete the foundation. There are approximately 45 piles which will be installed. This activity is expected to generate periods of high-level noise while the piling rig operates during normal construction hours.