As part of the Metro Tunnel works to construct the eastern tunnel entrance in South Yarra, works were recently undertaken to improve ground conditions within the egress shaft near Arthur Street. Due to ongoing challenging conditions in the area, 24 hour works to complete the shaft are required to ensure safety and structural integrity.

What we are doing

Works within the egress shaft remain complex, due to challenging ground conditions, made worse by recent wet weather. As a result, critical work is required to complete the shaft, day and night, six days a week.

Egress shaft excavation work

- 24/6 work hours are required to excavate soil and material from within the egress shaft
- Work will involve crews using hand tools, an excavator within the shaft and the use of a crane which will be located near the William Street bridge
- Steel will be fixed to the walls and concrete sprayed over it to reinforce the structure as excavation takes place.

Installation of support struts

- To ensure the egress shaft is structurally sound while excavation progresses, additional support struts will need to be installed within the structure
- Works will involve installation of scaffolding, work crews using hand tools and the use of a small crane to lower equipment into the shaft.

Construction of the base slab, internal walls and stairs

- Once excavation of the egress shaft has been completed, work on the base slab can begin
- Constructing the base slab involves waterproofing, steel fixing and a concrete pour to form a solid base
- Further steel fixing, waterproofing and concrete pours will take place as the internal walls are built. Concrete pours must be continuous to ensure structural integrity
- Once the walls have been completed precast concrete panels, stairs, handrails and other architectural features will be installed throughout the egress shaft
- These works will involve the installation of scaffolding, work crews using hand tools and the use of a small crane to lower equipment into the shaft.

When

- Monday 29 June to Wednesday 30 September
- 24/6, Monday to Saturday.
What to be aware of

- Due to the complex nature of these works, the high number of concrete pours and to ensure worker safety, these works are required to take place during 24/6 construction hours.
- There will be some additional truck movements as we remove excess soil from site and during the concrete pours. Where possible, we will limit the number of trucks on site after 10pm.
- The continuous use of a crane will be required for the duration of these works as equipment and materials are transported in an out of the egress shaft and to ensure worker safety.
- These works are expected to generate medium to high levels of noise. We also expect some low levels of vibration. Where possible, we will attempt to schedule high impact works during normal construction hours.
- Works will be completed under directional lighting powered by generators to ensure the safety of our workers. Every effort will be made to direct these lights away from residential properties.

Health and safety

The health and safety of our workers and the community is our key priority as we continue to deliver the Metro Tunnel Project, as is supporting physical 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.


More information

To find out more about the Metro Tunnel Project:

- 1800 105 105 (24 hours a day, 7 days a week)

Rail Projects Victoria

PO Box 4509, Melbourne, VIC 3001

Interpreter Service (03) 9209 0147

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