Works notification

24/7 Ground improvement works
Peppercorn Lawn, Melbourne

21 September – late November 2020

The twin tunnels to be constructed as part of the Metro Tunnel Project will travel underneath Peppercorn Lawn, where 24/7 ground improvement works are set to commence.

At regular intervals along the Metro Tunnel alignment, cross passages are constructed underground to connect the twin tunnels. These cross passages 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.

Peppercorn Lawn, on the edge of the Yarra River, is directly above one of these underground cross passages. Ground improvement works are required at this location prior to the construction of the two tunnels and the cross passage. These works will involve drilling and grout injection to strengthen the ground prior to the tunnel boring machines passing through in mid-2021.

What we are doing

— Jet grouting as part of cross passage ground improvement works
— Using a grout monitor attached to a drill stem, grout will be injected into the surrounding soil
— The softer soil is replaced by the grout and displaced soil is pumped to the surface into on-site storage bays
— Once dried, the displaced soil will then be trucked away from site via Boathouse Drive during normal daytime construction hours.

What to be aware of

— 24/7 ground improvement works will commence on Monday 21 September 2020 and will continue until late November 2020, before returning to daytime hours only
— Jet grouting works will continue overnight. This will involve the use of a drilling rig, jet pump and cement silo
— Two small excavators on site will primarily be used during normal daytime construction hours
— Most deliveries will remain within normal daytime construction hours, however some concrete deliveries will continue until 8pm
— The works are expected to generate low to medium levels of noise.

When
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.


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 electronic distribution and post instead of hand delivering information into your letterbox at this time.

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