



# MRM to North Western Sewer Connection Project Community Update – November 2021

## Future-proofing our sewerage system while improving community connection along the Maribyrnong River

Residents and businesses in Melbourne's west will benefit from a transformational new sewer to meet the needs of a growing population and improve the transfer of wastewater to where it's treated at the Western Treatment Plant.

A new sewer will be built to connect the Maribyrnong River Main (MRM) sewer to the North Western Sewer to increase capacity for future flows whilst ensuring local amenity, environment, heritage and community interests are protected and enhanced during the delivery of the project.

## What are we doing?

- A new 1.2km gravity sewer will be built to divert sewage flows from the MRM Sewer into the larger North Western Sewer in Maidstone, which transports wastewater to the Western Treatment Plant.
- The sewer will connect from the MRM Sewer on the northern side of the Maribyrnong River, crossing the river via a new bridge, with a buried pipe to be constructed from Medway Golf Club to Hampstead Road.
- 800m of the new sewer will be constructed by a tunnel boring machine (TBM) up to 30-40 metres below Williamson Road.
- The remaining section of the new sewer will be constructed by open-cut trenching methods at a depth of 2-4m below ground.

## Leaving a long lasting legacy

As part of this project, we're working with Maribyrnong and Moonee Valley City Councils to deliver long-term benefits for the Maribyrnong River and the community including:

- A new pipe bridge designed for use by pedestrians, cyclists, wheelchairs and prams.
- Opening up an inaccessible section of land on the southern side of the river and creating a new shared path for the community to enjoy continuous views and access along the river.
- Weed removal replaced by native grasses, trees and shrubs.

### Update on project timing



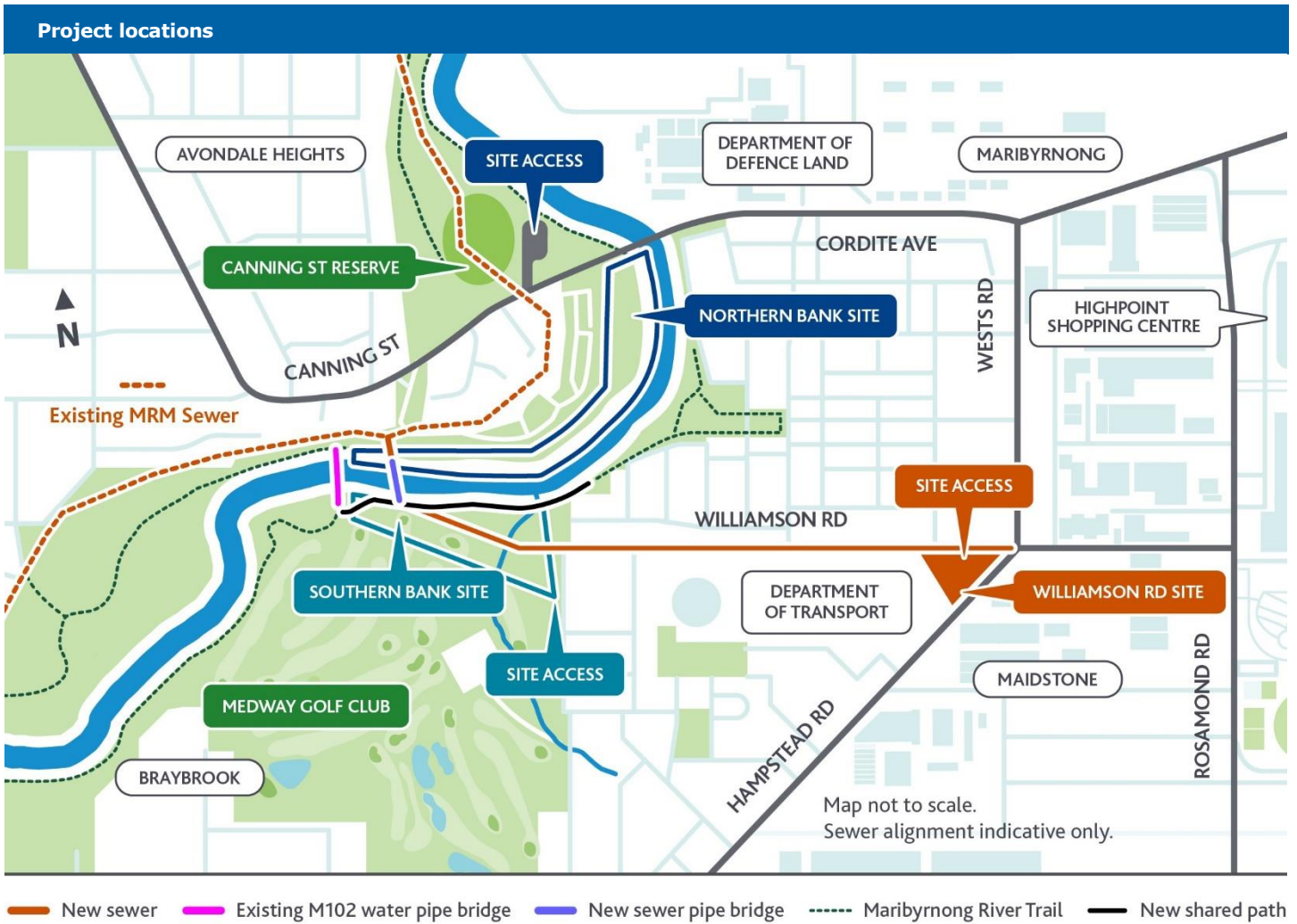
- The Design & Construct tender for the project was awarded in September 2021 to Safety Focused Performance Joint Venture (SFP JV). SFP JV comprises Abergeldie Contractors (Abergeldie), Downer Group (Downer) and Stantec Australia (Stantec).
- Planning permit applications for the removal and trimming of native vegetation have been submitted to Maribyrnong and Moonee Valley City Councils. We're also working with other key agencies to secure appropriate approvals for construction.
- Detailed design will be undertaken from October 2021 to February 2022.
- The two-year project will start in early 2022.

## Three construction work zones

**There will be three main construction work zones operating at different times. All three sites will be carefully managed to ensure impacts to the local community are minimised as much as possible. Refer to the project map for location details.**

1. Williamson Road site	2. Southern Bank site	3. Northern Bank site
<p>Williamson Road site in Maidstone is where the main project office will be located, with off-street parking for construction personnel and a storage area for equipment. This will remain in place until the project is complete in 2023.</p> <p>A deep pit (known as a shaft) will be excavated near the corner of Hampstead Road to launch the tunnel boring machine (TBM) and for the connection to the North Western Sewer.</p>	<p>Southern Bank site is located between the Maribyrnong River and Medway Golf Course in Maidstone. A 300m section of the new sewer will be constructed by open-cut trenching methods, along with works for the bridge installation.</p> <p>A shaft will be excavated to retrieve the TBM at the eastern end of the golf course. This site will have a small storage area for equipment and amenities for workers, and will be accessed from Myrtle Drive. Once the sewer installation is complete, a new shared path will be created, followed by extensive re-planting.</p>	<p>Northern Bank site is between the Canning Street bridge and the M102 water pipe bridge in Avondale Heights. This is where a new manhole will be built for the connection to the MRM sewer, and where the new bridge will be constructed from.</p> <p>A small site office and storage area for equipment will be set up and will remain in place until the bridge has been completed. This site will be accessed via the Canning Street Reserve carpark and will require the closure of the Maribyrnong River Trail for the duration of these works.</p>
Site timing and activities	Site timing and activities	Site timing and activities
<p>We'll be occupying this site from January 2022 to late 2023 (see <a href="#">note</a>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Site establishment: Set up main project office and amenities, storage area and carpark for construction personnel</li> <li>• Excavation of entry pit for the TBM (launch shaft) - 8 months duration</li> <li>• Tunnelling under Williamson Road - 6 months duration</li> <li>• Connection to North Western Sewer</li> <li>• Work site removal and reinstatement</li> </ul>	<p>We'll be occupying this site from mid 2022 to late 2023 (see <a href="#">note</a>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Site establishment: Set up storage area and amenities</li> <li>• Excavation of exit pit for the TBM (retrieval shaft) - 3 months duration</li> <li>• Creation of access tracks for heavy construction vehicles</li> <li>• Open-cut trenching to install new sewer - 5 months duration</li> <li>• Bridge installation works</li> <li>• Construction of new shared path and revegetation with native plants</li> <li>• Work site removal and reinstatement</li> </ul>	<p>We'll be occupying this site from mid 2022 to late 2023 (see <a href="#">note</a>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Site establishment: Set up small project office and amenities, storage area for bridge materials and car parking for construction personnel</li> <li>• Creation of access tracks for heavy construction vehicles</li> <li>• Construction of new manhole and connection to MRM sewer</li> <li>• Construction of bridge and connecting pathways</li> <li>• Work site removal and reinstatement</li> </ul>

Note: These dates may change as the planning and design progresses and more information becomes available. We'll keep you updated about the timing of the works, including exact dates for activities, as the project progresses.



**What to expect during construction**

**Noise**

Some noise is expected from trucks, reversing beepers, machinery and other equipment. The TBM won't cause noticeable noise or vibration because of its depth below ground (up to 30-40 metres). There will be some noise from machinery and equipment at the Williamson Road site that enable the TBM to operate; these will be fitted with noise reducing barriers to minimise disruption to residents.

Strict control measures will be in place to ensure construction noise is well managed. Controls will include:

- Using materials and equipment that reduce noise at all work sites
- Planning noisy works at times where there will be least disruption and inconvenience, and always providing advanced notice to surrounding residents and businesses
- Monitoring noise levels and implementing appropriate further mitigation measures where necessary
- Installing noise reducing barriers at the Williamson Road site where 24-hour works are required.

**Vibration**

Shaft excavation, piling (foundations that are driven or bored New pipe bridge through the ground) and other activities may cause some minor vibration. While we do not expect vibration to impact nearby properties, we will:

- Undertake predictive modelling to determine the extent of where vibration may be felt
- Complete pre-condition property surveys where properties may be affected by vibration-causing activities
- Limit high vibration-causing activities to standard construction hours where possible
- Implement measures to minimise vibration where possible
- Meet strict vibration standards and requirements
- Monitor vibration levels at all times. Monitoring data will be used to check that vibration levels are consistent with predictive modelling.

## Construction Traffic

During construction you may notice changes to some of the local roads. Early warning signs will be put in place around work site entrances.

Local roads most impacted by our construction vehicles will be: Williamson Road, Hampstead Road, Omar Street and Myrtle Drive in Maidstone, as well as Canning Street in Avondale Heights.

To keep traffic moving, we'll implement traffic management plans to ensure motorists are able to move safely around our work areas, and limit construction vehicles on major roads during peak travel times.

Surrounding residents and businesses will be notified when out-of-hours or disruptive deliveries are required (like over-sized vehicles to deliver large equipment).

## Dust

Mitigation measures will be implemented to reduce dirt and dust from our work sites. These will include: wetting down vehicle tracks and spoil stockpiles; covering dirt and rock when being transported off site by trucks; wheel wash stations to minimise dirt leaving work sites; and regular street sweeping to maintain the condition of local streets.

## Working Hours

Standard construction hours will be 7am to 6pm Monday to Friday and 7am to 3pm on Saturdays (as required). Quiet work outside these hours will include office work, checking on site safety, general site cleaning and equipment maintenance.

The TBM at the Williamson Road site will operate 24-hours a day Monday to Saturday.

Night works will be required for short durations for connections to the existing sewers, and extended work hours may be required when completing some critical work activities. Affected residents and businesses will be notified of this in advance.

## Lighting

Where we are required to work at night, we'll need to use lights to provide safe working conditions. We will limit disturbances to residential areas by positioning lighting away from properties.

## Reduced Access To Maribyrnong River Trail

During construction of the new bridge, the Maribyrnong River Trail between the Canning Street bridge and M102 water pipe bridge will be closed for 6-8 months. Public safety is our number one priority – the closure of the trail is necessary to ensure the safety of the community and our workers while works are underway. We'll be working with Moonee Valley City Council to ensure temporary detour routes are safe and appropriate. Further information will be provided to the community once detour plans have been approved.

## Canning Street Reserve

Public access to the play space, picnic facilities and sports ground at Canning Street Reserve will be maintained at all times. Traffic controllers will be present during site working hours and secure fencing will be installed to ensure the safety of the community. Please follow directions from signs and traffic controllers to ensure your own safety, as well as the safety of our workers and other community members.

## Tree Removal



As part of these essential infrastructure works, a Council planning permit is required to remove, destroy or lop any native vegetation.

The project has undergone a careful design process to avoid as many trees and shrubs as possible, including working with independent ecologists, arborists and Council. However some vegetation, including large trees, will need to be removed to undertake the works. We may also need to trim branches where trees are located in close proximity to work areas.

While there are trees identified in the planning permit application that are marked for removal due to the likely impact on them, it is Melbourne Water's intention to protect and retain as many of these as we can. Throughout the detailed de-sign process for the project, we will continue to look at how we can avoid impacts to any native vegetation, while still being able to construct the sewer infrastructure.

Wherever possible, logs and vegetation material from lopped trees will be mulched or kept for re-use by Council for local garden beds and/or as habitat. After the works have been completed, extensive re-planting will be undertaken.

## Keeping You Informed



We will provide further information on the project as the detailed design progresses and more information becomes available. We will make contact with directly affected residents and businesses through notifications and door knocks (where public health restrictions allow) to ensure they are appropriately informed prior to upcoming works.

To keep you up to date with what we're doing, how the work is progressing and when we'll be in your area, we'll provide website and social media updates, community bulletins and signs in the area. Make sure you 'follow' the project page to receive updates on the project at [yoursay.melbournewater.com.au/MRMNWS-Connection](https://yoursay.melbournewater.com.au/MRMNWS-Connection).

## Information Sessions

Keep an eye out for information sessions in the coming months. These sessions will provide an opportunity to learn more about the project, meet the project team and have your questions answered.

## Contact The Project Team

Phone: 1800 712 434

Email: [MRM-NWSConnection@melbournewater.com.au](mailto:MRM-NWSConnection@melbournewater.com.au)



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