

M40 Preston Reservoir to Merri Creek Water Main Renewal Project Newsletter July 2017

Project overview

In November 2016 Melbourne Water started work on the M40 Preston Reservoir to Merri Creek Water Main Renewal Project. This project is expected to be completed by the end of 2017.

This M40 water main project has two construction zones:

- The **northern** section extends from our Preston reservoirs to Regent Street, across High Street and along Robinson Road.
 - The **southern** section extends from Arthurton Road Northcote to Oakover Road Preston, within the centre-median along St Georges Road.

This 100 year old main had a history of leaks and bursts and was at the end of its service life. It was a critical part of our distribution network and supplied safe drinking water to Yarra Valley Water and City West Water.

We have made good progress with our construction work and have started to reinstate the new pipeline alignment along Robinson Road Reservoir and within the centre-median along St Georges Road Thornbury.

Following discussions with VicRoads and other stakeholders, we revised the draft re-instatement plan for St Georges Road.



Northern section pre-construction



Southern section pre-construction

Our plan includes:

- Restoring the un-signalised crossings between Arthurton Road and Miller Street
 - Constructing a wider, safer shared path (3.5m wide from Arthurton Road to Gadd Street and 4.5m wide from Gadd to Miller streets. This path will narrow to be 2.5m at the crossovers)
 - Replanting the palms and planting more than 300 semi-mature Chinese Elms.

A copy of this revised reinstatement plan is available on our M40 webpage www.yoursay.melbournewater.com.au/m40

Our community research

In late March 2017, independent researchers undertook a survey of more than 200 residents and businesses along both construction zones to evaluate the effectiveness of our project communications. Thanks to those who participated in this research. The findings are being used to guide the content of our project communications, especially our Construction Updates.

- In the north, the majority of residents confirmed that they were receiving the right amount of information and understood what was happening, when.

- In the south, residents confirmed that they wanted more information, especially details about construction timelines, road closures, upcoming works and our reinstatement plans.

While some people asked for more information about long-term plans for the un-signalised crossings across St Georges Road, this was always a decision for VicRoads.

In March we advised VicRoads that we needed to progress our plans - and that we would reinstate the un-signalised crossings. This decision was supported by VicRoads.

Northern Section - across High Street and along Robinson Road

CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW PIPELINE

In November 2016 we began our construction work in the pipe track adjacent to GE Robinson Park - and installed our first pipe at the intersection of Crawley Street and Robinson Road. From there we worked north towards Reservoir 1.

Our time lapse video shows the first pipes being delivered and installed at Preston:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GWMN6UOUqRE>

In late March 2017 we installed pipes across High Street Reservoir. As this involved the full closure of all four lanes, we worked 24 hours (day and night shifts) to complete the work as quickly as possible. We also installed new pipes at Howard Street in anticipation of future work to be undertaken as part of the Preston Pump Station Upgrade, scheduled for late 2017.

In April 2017 we constructed a temporary carpark at Regent railway station and began work to install pipes along Robinson Road, from Regent Street to Crawley Street. We have almost completed this pipeline work.

We have also constructed a deep pit between Reservoirs 2 and 3 and installed new pipes to connect these reservoirs to the new water main. This critical infrastructure is used to divert water from the storages into our water supply distribution network.

Thanks to residents who live near our work zones and to people who use public transport at Regent Station for your patience while we work in this area.

Once our construction work in this northern section of the project has been completed, we will construct a new 2.5m wide shared path for pedestrians and cyclists. This will connect to the existing shared path at High Street and at Regent Street.



Southern section - St Georges Road

CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW PIPELINE

In November 2016 we started construction of the new shared path on the eastern side of the St Georges Road centre-median. For safety, we constructed temporary fencing around our construction zone.

We engaged tree specialists to trim and remove the palms and had them transported and stored in the Yarra Valley. We removed all other existing vegetation from the centre-median. Our time lapse video shows the palm trees being relocated to the Yarra Valley and replanted as part of our reinstatement work.

<https://youtu.be/pv-sZGJzgEo>

For safety during construction, we closed all un-signalled crossings between Arthurton Road and Normanby Avenue. These crossings will be reinstated.

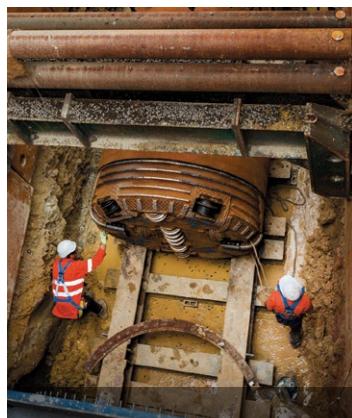
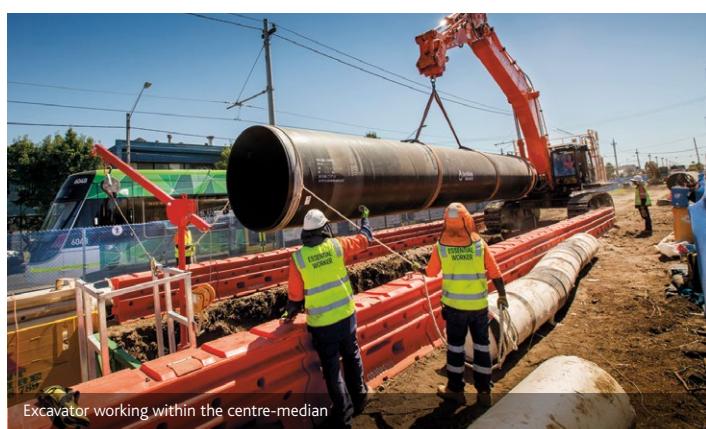
In May 2017 we part-closed the St Georges Road and Normanby Avenue intersection to enable us to trench and install pipes. In early July we crossed Hutton Street. Thanks to residents, business owners and motorists for your patience while we completed this work.

To enable us to construct the pipe under the Miller Street tram tracks, we engaged a specialist tunnelling crew to complete this work. We constructed a launch shaft for the tunnel boring machine near Rennie Street and the retrieval shaft at the tram depot, north of Miller Street. This tunnelling work was completed in July 2017.

In early July we started work to implement our revised reinstatement plan. Starting at the Arthurton Road end of the centre-median, this plan includes:

- Constructing a wider, safer shared path (3.5m wide from Arthurton Road to Gadd Street and 4.5m wide from Gadd to Miller streets that tapers to be 2.5m at all cross streets)
- Replanting the palms and planting more than 300 semi-mature Chinese Elms as an avenue, on either side of the shared path.

As agreed with VicRoads we will be restoring the un-signalled crossings at Beaconsfield Parade, Gadd Street, Woolton Avenue and Watt Street and the u-turn crossing at Beavers Road.



What's next?

We expect our reinstatement work will take until the end of this year to complete, weather permitting. Until then, the fencing around our construction zone will remain in place. This is to maintain safety while we grout the existing M40 pipeline that is being de-commissioned. We will re-open the east-west crossings along St Georges Road as soon as it is safe to do so.

Key project dates



More information

We are committed to keeping you informed about our M40 water main renewal project. We distribute Construction Updates direct to properties in the vicinity of our work zones. If you are outside this zone, please register your details via our webpage or email the project team.

If you want more information, please contact us using these details:

To contact the M40 project team

Phone 1800 754 077

Email m40@melbournewater.com.au

Visit our website www.yoursay.melbournewater.com.au/m40



To access the TTY and Interpreter Services

TTY 133 677

Interpreter 131 450

To contact Melbourne Water

Phone 131 722 Email enquiry@melbournewater.com.au

Remember your local businesses

For safety, we installed temporary fencing and closed the un-signalised crossings between Arthurton Road and Miller Street. As these changes will remain in place until our work is completed we encourage you to use the signalised crossings to access local businesses. There are temporary crossing points for pedestrians and cyclists at Gladstone Avenue and Gadd Street.

