16 April 2019

Works update: Maribyrnong River bridge works

Construction of the new bridges across the Maribyrnong River is now underway, with the start of piling works for the bridge supports about to commence and expected to continue for the next 12 months.

The Maribyrnong River bridges will link to the new elevated roadway above Footscray Road between the West Gate Tunnel and CityLink, and will provide motorists with greater connectivity to the port and city.

Piling works

Piling works will be ongoing from early May 2019 for approximately 12 months. Piling is required to construct the foundations for the piers that will support the bridges over the Maribyrnong River, as well as supporting the banks of the river. Piling works will commence at the pier locations and along the nearby river banks.

Piles will be constructed using a combination of methods including: marine driven piling, driven piling, bored piling and sheet piling.

Noise and vibration will be noticeable during these activities. Please contact the project community relations team if you require more information about these activities, or how to manage construction impacts during this time.

Ongoing general construction activity will also be undertaken in the works area, including movement of construction plant and equipment.

Works have been planned to take place between Mondays and Saturdays, 7am to 5pm.

Marine traffic in the Maribyrnong River

Piling works within the Maribyrnong River will require marine traffic management to keep recreational river users safe around the works. Buoys will be placed to assist with indicating navigation channels around the works in the river.

There may be times where temporary river closures will be in place to meet work safety requirements. Signage and river traffic management will indicate these at the time.
**MacKenzie Road works**

Works to begin realigning Mackenzie Road will start in late April. This activity is required to create more space for piling activity on the Maribyrnong River bank and for the future rebuild of Mackenzie Road.

These activities will include implementing traffic management, road works, vegetation removal, kerb removal, road preparation and a traffic switch to the new road section.

Traffic flow along MacKenzie Road will be maintained during these works.

These activities have been planned as night works to minimise impact to the truck and freight industry.

**Utility relocations**

Utility works will be ongoing within the area as works progress. Power relocation works in Maribyrnong, Lyons, Whitehall and Youell streets will continue until late May. This will be performed using a combination of open trenching, underground drilling and cable installation. These works will be delivered by the utility providers’ preferred contractors and supported by the Project team.

Additional utility relocations will be required in 2020, which will include telecommunications, water and gas. Works have been scheduled to take place at night to minimise impact to the community.

**Shared use path changes**

The shared use path (SUP) along the Maribyrnong River from Lyons Street and Shepherd Bridge will be diverted to Whitehall Street to enable construction to take place. This diversion will remain in place until completion of the works in 2022.

Detour signage will be in place to advise pedestrians and cyclists of the change. Please see map for SUP change details.

**Tunnel construction update**

Over the next few months, works at the tunnel sites will also ramp up, as we launch Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) Bella mid-year. This includes:

- Pre-assembly of TBM components and preparing for the launch in the northern portal site;
- Delivery of the precast concrete tunnel lining segments from Benalla and components for our second TBM, Vida, which will start to arrive after Easter; and
- Ongoing installation of devices to monitor ground movement, building movement, vibration and ground water levels along the tunnel alignment.

**Local road and parking changes**

To enable our teams to undertake the works safely and efficiently, some temporary road changes will take place, including removal of car parking spaces and occasional road closures, if required. Traffic management will be in place to advise changes.

There will also be an increase in construction vehicle movements in the area, as we transport equipment and material to and from our work sites.
Contact us

Do you have a question about the project? If you need more information or would like to provide feedback, please get in touch.

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If you are deaf, or have a hearing or speech impairment, contact us through the National Relay Service.
For more information, visit: www.relayservice.gov.au.