

28 March 2018

Dear Resident / Business owner,

Update on planned traffic changes in your area: Whitehall Street closure and detour via Somerville Road, Hyde Street and Leek Street

Construction on the West Gate Tunnel Project has started and will deliver a vital alternative to the West Gate Bridge, quicker and safer journeys, and remove thousands of trucks off residential streets.

North Yarra Main Sewer diversion – essential works for the West Gate Tunnel Project

Before tunnelling for the West Gate Tunnel Project begins in 2019, we need to divert a section of the North Yarra Main Sewer. This sewer runs directly below the centre of Whitehall Street in Footscray/Yarraville where the new tunnels will also be located.

To divert the sewer, parts of Whitehall Street need to be dug up, so traffic changes are needed to keep road users and our work crews safe. We recently spoke with residents and businesses in the area about how to best manage these necessary traffic changes.

What we heard

We would like to thank everyone who provided feedback to help inform planning for the works. Through discussions, we heard that residents and businesses want regular communications about what's happening and would like to see us manage any changes to access, safety, air quality, noise and vibration.

Confirmed traffic detour

A section of Whitehall Street, between Leek Street and Somerville Road, will be closed to northbound traffic for around 12 months for the sewer diversion works. Northbound traffic will be detoured along Leek Street, Hyde Street and Somerville Road. See the detour map over the page.

This detour has been confirmed after considering feedback from residents and businesses, detailed traffic studies and safety assessments and allows us to:

- maintain a direct route for southbound traffic
- detour only half of Whitehall Street traffic, limiting the impact on the detour route
- avoid using other already busy local roads as detour routes
- increase monitoring and support enforcement of truck curfews and local destination exemptions
- monitor and alter the conditions as appropriate to maintain safe access for residents and businesses.

Confirmed detour route for Whitehall Street northbound closure – late April 2018 to April 2019



Communicating and managing changes

During works, there will be unavoidable disruptions in the local area, including:

- detours for vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians
- a temporary change to the existing truck curfew, between Leek Street and Somerville Road, during daytime hours 8am-6pm (the night time curfew will remain in place and the full curfew reinstated when the sewer works are complete)
- no parking and one-way traffic only on Leek Street
- no right turn from Schild Street onto Hyde Street
- lane closures, intersection changes and speed limit reductions on Whitehall Street
- regular night time closures of Whitehall Street between Leek Street and Somerville Road

As part of our recent consultation, we discussed ways to support local residents, businesses and road users through these works and temporary changes. Based on feedback received, we will:

- install a signalised pedestrian crossing on Hyde Street to improve safety and access
- have traffic controllers on site during peak times to actively manage conditions
- work with residents and businesses on the detour route to develop individual mitigation plans as appropriate
- keep in regular contact with residents and businesses throughout the course of works
- offer property condition surveys to all residents and businesses on the detour route
- monitor traffic and support enforcement of truck curfews and local destination exemptions

Contact us

Please contact us if you have any questions or feedback about these works.



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