



Managing construction

This West Gate Tunnel Project has a number of major construction sites. All works on these sites are carefully planned and managed to make sure residents can continue to enjoy where they live, and business can continue to operate. This fact sheet outlines what we are doing to manage the impacts during construction of the West Gate Tunnel Project and how you can contact us if have questions.

The West Gate Tunnel Project is being built over five years and opens in 2022. It will provide a vital alternative to the West Gate Bridge, quicker and safer journeys and remove over 9,000 trucks from residential streets in the inner west.

Quick facts

- 5** year construction period
- 18** kilometres of new traffic lanes
- 9** kilometres of new noise walls





Vibration and ground movement

Thousands of tunnels are safely constructed and operate in cities all around the world, including Melbourne's CityLink and City Loop tunnels. The machines and techniques used to dig and build such tunnels are designed and tested to reduce vibration and the impact on people living and working above. To manage vibration during construction, we will:

- Inspect properties before and construction
- Meet strict targets set to manage vibration, minimise disruption, and avoid damage to buildings
- Monitor ground movement and vibration levels at all times

See our 'Tunnelling' Fact sheet for more details about how we will build the tunnels.

Noise

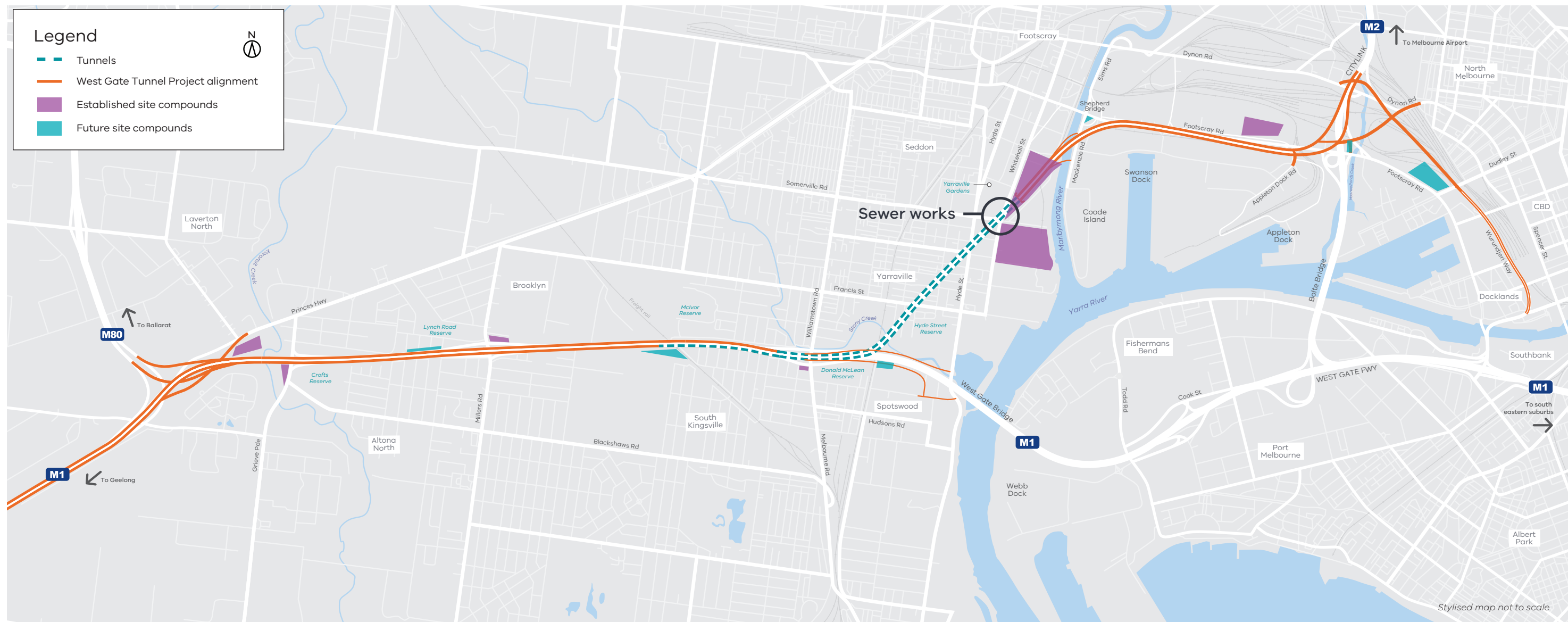
Strict controls have been put in place to ensure construction noise is well managed and complies with the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) Victoria guidelines and the Environmental Performance Requirements that have been set for the project. These controls will include:

- Using materials and equipment to reduce noise from major activities at construction compounds
- Planning noisy works at times where there will be least inconvenience, and always providing advance notice to the community
- Monitoring noise levels and taking action to reduce noise
- Leaving existing noise walls in place where practical or providing temporary noise walls until new ones are built.

Important



There are specific requirements to protect residents from excessive noise at night. If noise exceeds set levels, we will reassess the situation and take action to manage any impacts. This could mean changing the time of work, providing respite periods, using noise barriers or changing construction methods to reduce noise to the greatest extent possible. **If you ever have concerns about the amount of noise call us straight away on 1800 105 105.**



Dust

We try to avoid creating dust during construction, but where it can't be avoided we will take action to reduce the dust and limit as much as possible its impact on the surrounding environment. We will do this by:

- Covering dirt and rock when being transported
- Spraying water on open stockpiles and roads to keep dust down
- Monitoring dust levels at key locations and taking action to suppress dust in extreme windy conditions

Lighting

Where we are required to work at night, we will use lights to provide safe working conditions. We will limit the light impacts on residential areas adjacent to work zones by positioning all lighting to face the work areas and away from residential properties where possible.



Contaminated soil

Most of the soil and rock we're digging out of the ground is natural material. However, because heavy industry and rubbish tips have operated previously at some of our construction sites, we expect to find some contaminated soil and will manage it safely according. We will:

- Carry out detailed studies to identify areas with contamination
- Manage any contaminated materials in accordance with EPA Victoria requirements, environmental laws and regulations
- Test soil and separate contaminated materials from clean fill



- Use facilities licenced by EPA Victoria to treat and dispose of contaminated soil or re-use fill according to approved guidelines
- Cover all trucks that are removing contaminated soil and rock.

Trees and vegetation

We want to see as many mature trees retained as possible and will only remove plants when it is necessary for construction. We will:

- Conduct detailed tree studies to confirm important trees and habitats
- Set out no-go zones and fence areas to be protected
- Plant over 17,000 trees and tens of thousands of native and Indigenous shrubs and grasses along the roads and around waterways and parks.

Environmental Management Strategy (EMS)

All works are planned and managed in line with the project's Environmental Management Strategy (EMS). You can find the EMS on our website. It identifies the impacts of project construction and how they should be managed. It was approved by a number of organisations before works on the project started.

Traffic and detours

During construction you may notice changes to some of the roads you are familiar with. Detours and early warning signals will be put in place leading up to and around work zones. There will also be trucks travelling to and from construction sites.

To keep traffic moving we will:

- Implement tailored traffic management plans for each construction zone to ensure vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians can move safely around work areas, access public transport and also be aware of changes to speed limits and property access
- Keep all freeway lanes open during peak times
- Limit construction traffic and project vehicles on major roads during peak travel times
- Provide clear and up-to-date information for drivers, cyclists and pedestrians via social media, the project website, letterbox drops and doorknocks with affected residents and businesses.

Parks and sporting grounds

We have avoided the use of open spaces for construction as much as possible and will continue to work with councils, community groups and sporting clubs to reduce disruption from our works. We will:

- Keep all sporting grounds open and operating during construction
- Work with councils and clubs to avoid impacting on organised local events
- Reinstate or improve the small number of open space areas being used during construction where possible.

Travel disruption

During construction you can plan ahead using our travel disruptions map at westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au/travel disruptions. We will also be updating our social media channels including **Facebook page (WestGateTunnelProject)** and **twitter (@WestGateTunnel)**

See our 'Keeping Traffic Moving' Fact sheet for more details.



The project will create nearly nine hectares of new open space including parkland for the community to enjoy.





Local business operation

We will ensure business access is maintained during construction so that there is minimum disruption to customer, staff and delivery access. We will continue to engage with the business community and organise our work around access and operational needs. We will:

- Make sure businesses stay visible and their services are accessible

Develop partnerships with business, councils and community groups to inform and communicate the different construction plans to different stakeholders.

Keeping you informed

We will keep people informed and work together to make things easier during construction.

You can expect to see regular information from us about construction activities happening in your area, including:

- Newsletters to keep you up-to-date
- Works notifications in your letterbox
- Door knocks or street meetings before major works
- Information on the website
- News and updates on social media.

We have a team that is dedicated to working with the community. They are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week to answer any questions or concerns.

Our West Gate Tunnel Project Info Centre provides a one-stop shop for project information and enquiries.

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.



1800 105 105



westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au



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Interpreter service: 13 14 50

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.