



Maribyrnong River Main Sewer Upgrade Project

Melbourne Water is building a new 1.2-kilometre gravity sewer to divert sewage flows from the existing Maribyrnong River Main (MRM) Sewer in Avondale Heights, into the larger North Western Sewer (NWS) in Maidstone, which transports wastewater to the Western Treatment Plant.

The MRM Sewer, which follows the Maribyrnong River from Thompson Street Reserve in Avondale Heights to Epsom Road in Ascot Vale, is one of the main sewers in Melbourne Water's network. Population growth and more extreme rainfall events have resulted in substantial increases in sewage flows, and the MRM Sewer is running out of capacity to carry these higher flows.

The MRM to NWS Connection project will provide a world-class sewerage system to manage future flows by increasing the capacity of the system and improving the transfer of wastewater from the area. The new sewer will transport approximately 24 million litres of sewage each day from 36,000 properties in Taylors Lakes, Sydenham, Tullamarine (including Melbourne Airport), Airport West, Essendon West, Keilor East and Avondale Heights to where it's treated at the Western Treatment Plant in Werribee.

What are we doing?

- Constructing a new 1.2 km gravity fed sewer utilising tunnelling and open cut trenching construction methods
- Constructing a new 80m pipe bridge across the Maribyrnong River. This bridge will carry the sewer pipe as well as an improved shared user pathway to connect the Maribyrnong River Trail with the Maribyrnong and Braybrook trails
- Installation of seven new maintenance holes to ensure safe access for future maintenance of the sewer network.

What this means for you

- Approximately 1 km of the Maribyrnong River Trail will be closed between Canning Reserve and the existing M102 water pipe bridge in Avondale Heights for the duration of the bridge construction works. This is estimated to be for an 8 months duration. Refer to map over page
- A work site for the construction of the new sewer pipe bridge will be established with construction vehicles entering and exiting through Canning Reserve, Avondale Heights
- All pedestrians and cyclists will be detoured off the Maribyrnong River Trail at Canning Reserve and Grimes Flat (Barbara Crescent, Avondale Heights)
- Signed detour routes will be established prior to the river trail being closed. Details are still being finalised with the Department of Transport and Moonee Valley City Council
- The existing M102 water pipe bridge will remain open while these works are underway
- Residents close to the construction zones will continue to receive more details on what to expect.

Contact the project team:

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Keeping informed as works progress

To keep you up to date with what we're doing, how the work is progressing and when we'll be in your area make sure you 'follow' the project page to receive updates. Use the QR code below or go to **yoursay.melbournewater.com.au/MRM-NWS-Connection**.

Tree removal

As part of these essential infrastructure works we're working with our service provider Safety Focused Performance Joint Venture (SFPJV), ecologists, arborists and Councils to avoid as much tree and habitat loss as possible. The design of the bridge and pipe alignment has gone through a careful design process to avoid as much vegetation loss as possible. Wherever possible logs and mulch will be retained for re-establishing garden beds and/or as habitat.

Leaving a long-lasting legacy

As part of this project, Melbourne Water is working closely with Moonee Valley and Maribyrnong City Councils to deliver long-term benefits for the Maribyrnong River and the community.

Benefits will include opening an inaccessible section of land on the southern side of the Maribyrnong River and a new shared path for the community to enjoy continuous views and access along the river. Weeds will be removed throughout the reserve and native grasses, trees and shrubs will be planted in their place.

A new pipe bridge will be built over the Maribyrnong River for use by pedestrians, cyclists, wheelchairs and prams. This will create a key link in the western active transport corridor.



Scan the QR code for
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