

Community Bulletin

Reimagining Your Moonee Ponds Creek – Stage Two

November 2022

The Reimagining Moonee Ponds Creek project aims to create a more appealing creekside environment, restore waterway health and activate open space and recreational opportunities along a section of the creek in Strathmore and Oak Park in Melbourne.

Melbourne Water is leading the project, on behalf of the Chain of Ponds Collaboration Group and in partnership with Merri-bek City Council, Moonee Valley City Council, Greater Western Water and the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.

Update for Stage 1

Works are continuing to upgrade a section of the existing footpath along the Moonee Ponds Creek side of Brosnan Crescent. Design changes have been implemented to raise the height of shared user path to help protect the shallow root system of nearby trees which has led to this part of the works being delayed so far. A section of the Brosnan Crescent pathway will have permanent safety fencing installed.

To facilitate the installation of additional concrete paths, 14 trees have been removed along Brosnan Crescent. Between Brosnan Crescent and the waterway, 114 trees will be kept. The project will plant a total of 43,000 native plants within the project area.

What we are doing in Stage Two?

Works have had a delayed start due to significant rain that the catchment has received these past weeks. We are now beginning works to naturalise a 50 metre section upstream of Margaret Street bridge. The works will progress downstream of the bridge in later stages of the project. This work will involve the removal of concrete panels on the slopes of the creek and the installation of rock work. The use of rocks and boulders will achieve safety and stability and improved aesthetics of the area, helping to provide solidity to the surrounding embankment and reduce erosion. During this work, base flow water in the creek will be diverted around the works downstream.

To ensure necessary machinery is able to access the waterway, an access track will be created along the creek side of Oak Park Reserve. To facilitate the installation of the access track and to construct the future terrace and pond at a later stage, some vegetation will be removed.

Upon testing, it was revealed that soil in the project area contains fragments of non-friable asbestos. Non-friable asbestos is lower risk compared to other types of asbestos as it is more difficult to become airborne. In line with contamination handling guidelines, a licenced contractor wearing recommended safety equipment will undertake the removal to ensure that the risk remains negligible. While not required by regulations, Melbourne Water will take a conservative approach and engage a health and safety consultant to monitor air quality in the area continually remains at safe levels to the public.

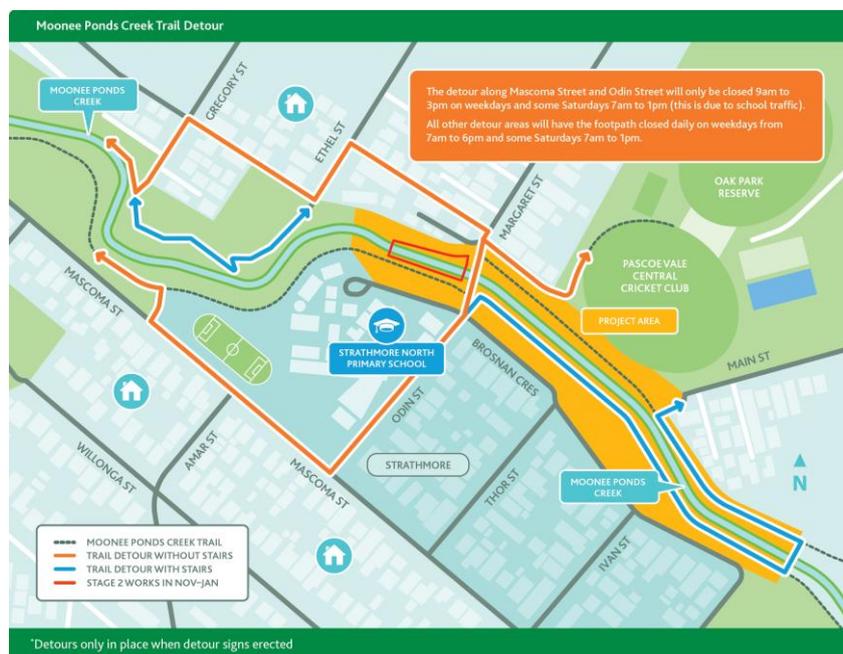
When are the works happening?

Weather dependent, works for these stages will begin **in late-November to early-December 2022**. Stage 1 and stage 2 works are expected to finish in February 2023.

What to expect

- For the safety of everyone, some pathways will be closed during the works.
- Pedestrians and cyclists will be temporarily detoured along Mascoma and Odin Streets. Please see detour map below (includes accessibility detour – no stairs).
- A small site compound will be established at the corner of Main Street, next to the Oak Park Reserve.

- An access track will be established along the creek side of Oak Park Reserve to allow machinery to access the creek. Truck access will be via Main Street for the channel works and concrete trucks will be visible on Brosnan Crescent for the new shared user path.
- To enable heavy vehicles to access the works area, there will be temporary parking changes including the removal of parking along the north side of Main Street between **7am-4pm on weekdays**. Parking will remain available on the south side of Main Street.
- Access to all local streets and their properties will be maintained and managed via traffic management as required.
- There will be an increase in large vehicle traffic in the surrounding areas as vehicles deliver plant and equipment and assist with the works.
- Licenced contractors wearing recommended safety equipment (white haz-man suits, masks, gloves, glasses) to remove the soil with asbestos.
- There will be short-term increase in noise and dust. We will use a range of measures to reduce these impacts including gawk screens and dust compression controls. We will monitor noise and dust levels throughout works to ensure they don't exceed Environmental Performance Agency thresholds.



When are we working?

Works will be undertaken between:

- 7am to 6pm Monday to Friday
- 7am to 1pm Saturdays (occasional)

On occasions we may need to undertake works out of hours. We will notify you in advance if these works are required. The timings of these works are weather dependant.

What's next?

We will continue to keep the community updated on progress and upcoming works for further stages of the Reimagining Moonee Ponds Creek project and thank you for your patience.

Keep up to date with what's happening

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