



Maribyrnong River Main Sewer Upgrade Community Update June 2018

Upgrade works starting soon

To maintain our world-class sewerage system, we will soon be starting works to upgrade the 7.2 kilometre Maribyrnong River Main (MRM) Sewer in Avondale Heights, Essendon West and Aberfeldie. Works will be undertaken in stages and will be completed by mid-2020.

Upgrading the sewer is an important initiative for the residents of the north-west suburbs as it will ensure the sewer continues to provide the community with a secure and reliable sewerage service for years to come.

There will be no impacts or interruptions to your water or sewerage services during the works. While you may experience some other disruptions and inconveniences, rest assured that in the long term your area will benefit from improved community liveability, service reliability and environmental outcomes supported by world-class infrastructure.

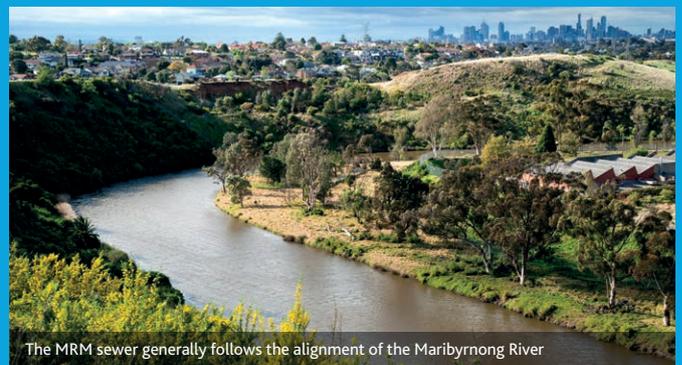
Owned and operated by Melbourne Water, the MRM sewer generally follows the Maribyrnong River from near the end of North Road in Thompson Street Reserve to Epsom Road (see map overleaf).

The MRM is one of the main sewers in Melbourne Water's 400 kilometre network, which transports approximately 24 million litres of wastewater each day to the Western Treatment Plant.

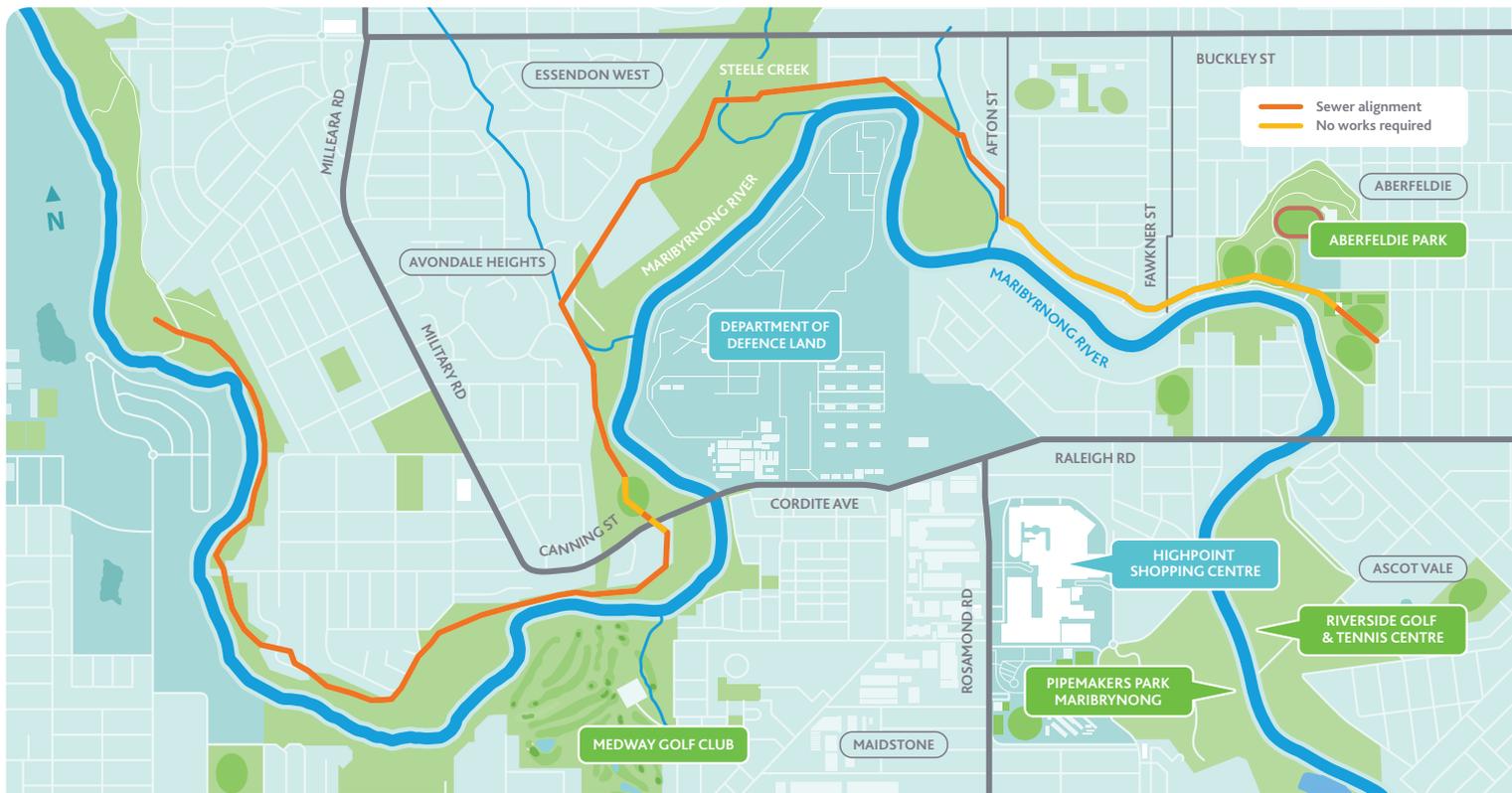
Built in stages between 1963 and 1977, the MRM has deteriorated significantly in recent years and some sections are coming to the end of their working life. Some parts of the sewer have already deteriorated rapidly and immediate repairs have been required to ensure it continues to function safely and effectively. Urgent repairs were completed on small sections of the sewer around Avondale Heights between November 2017 and April 2018.



The Maribyrnong River Trail overlooking the Maribyrnong River



The MRM sewer generally follows the alignment of the Maribyrnong River



WHAT TO EXPECT DURING CONSTRUCTION



A staged approach to undertaking the works

The majority of works will take place around existing manholes, with works moving progressively along the sewer alignment from manhole to manhole. Crews may be working in a number of different areas at one time, but will not be at any given location for the entire duration of the project. We will provide more information, including exact timing of planned activities, in advance of works happening in your area.

Site compounds

Site offices, compounds and storage areas will be set up in the area. These will remain in place until the project is complete in 2020.

Working hours

Construction works will take place from 7.00am to 6.00pm Monday to Friday, and 7.00am to 3.30pm Saturdays. Residents will be advised if works are necessary outside of these hours.

Noise and vibration

Some noise and vibration is expected during construction from trucks and other vehicles, machinery, reversing beepers and generators to power pumps and other equipment.

From time to time, machinery and materials may need to be located on nature strips or in street parking areas.

Odour

You may notice some odour when manholes are opened and the sewer is being cleaned.

Traffic, parking and pedestrians

There will be some changes to traffic conditions, including car park closures, lane closures, speed limit reductions and some street closures while we work on local roads. Detour arrangements, signage and traffic controllers will be in place to manage traffic flow and ensure motorists, cyclists and pedestrians are able to safely navigate around our work areas.

There may be reduced access to the Maribyrnong River Trail in some locations, with temporary diversions in place for cyclists and pedestrians around construction areas.

Please follow directions from signs and traffic controllers to ensure your own safety and for other community members.

Water and sewerage services

There should be no impacts or interruptions to your water or sewerage services during the works. If you do experience any disruptions, please contact your local water retailer, City West Water on 13 16 91.

Once again, we thank you in advance for your patience during these important works.



Stakeholder and community consultation and communication

2016 – 2018

Planning, design and approvals phase



June – August 2018

Pre-construction activities undertaken



August 2018

Sewer upgrade works start



Mid – 2020

Completion of works



These dates may be subject to change as works progress and as more information becomes available. We will keep you updated about the timing of the works as the project continues.



Many MRM manholes are located in parkland



Sewer bypass pipeline set up for urgent repairs in Thompson Street Reserve

Respecting the landscape

We are working closely with Moonee Valley City Council, Parks Victoria, Wurundjeri Land Council and community groups to manage the works and to ensure the significant cultural heritage and ecological values of the local area are protected.

Project-specific environmental management plans will be in place throughout the works to protect native plants and animals. A cultural heritage management plan for the project has also been approved by the Wurundjeri Land Council.

The project has been carefully designed to avoid as many trees and shrubs where possible; however, unfortunately not all vegetation can be avoided. In some areas, we will need to remove small and medium sized trees, shrubs and grasses to undertake the works. We have been working closely with Moonee Valley City Council and Parks Victoria to minimise the amount of vegetation that will need to be removed as much as possible.

After the works have been completed, we will replace all vegetation that was removed by re-planting in the local area, and rehabilitate disturbed areas in accordance with revegetation and reinstatement plans approved by Moonee Valley City Council and Parks Victoria.

Other areas affected by our works will be restored to their original level of amenity or similar condition. Reinstatement will be inspected by Moonee Valley City Council to ensure community safety and well-being.

How is the sewer upgraded?

Upgrading the 7.2 kilometre sewer involves:

- Installing an above-ground bypass sewer pipeline to allow local sewerage services to keep operating at all times
- Constructing temporary and permanent access tracks to manholes
- Cleaning the sewer
- Relining the sewer by inserting a new plastic sleeve into the existing pipe. This is the best way to repair ageing or damaged sewer pipes as it means we do not need to dig up the pipe, minimising impacts on the local community
- Filling the gap between the existing pipe and new sewer liner with cement (grouting)
- Rehabilitating ageing and damaged manholes and decommissioning some that are no longer needed.

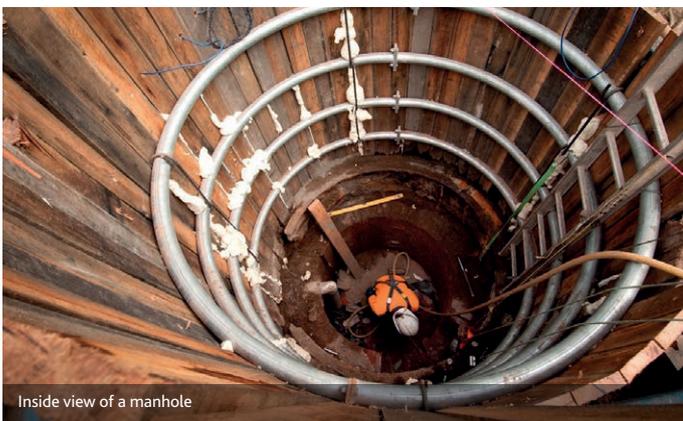


Undertaking works to repair the sewer

Access tracks to manholes

Some manholes are located in areas of steep and difficult terrain; these can be up to 40 metres deep (equivalent to the height of a 15 storey building).

Access tracks for construction vehicles and machinery need to be created so we can safely and efficiently get to the manholes to complete the works. This requires significant earthworks in some areas due to the landscape. Some of these access tracks will remain in place after works are complete to enable ongoing maintenance activities to be performed safely into the future.



Inside view of a manhole

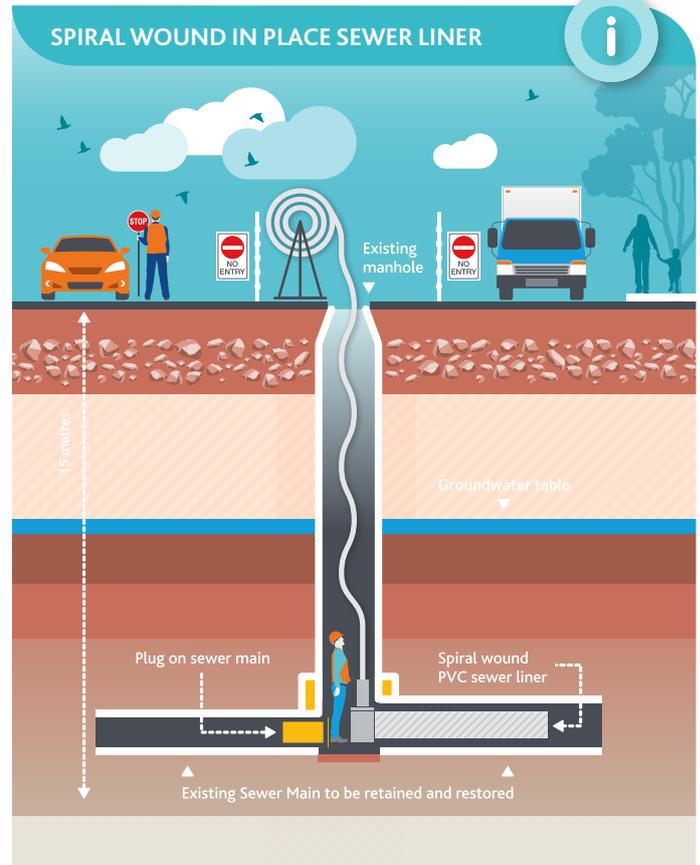
Sewer bypass pipelines

Above-ground sewer bypass pipelines and pumping equipment will be installed to allow local sewerage services to keep operating at all times while works are underway. Some of these will be several kilometres in length and will be progressively removed as each stage of the project is completed.

The pipelines will be located close to the Maribyrnong River Trail in various areas, which may reduce the available space for shared path users in particular sections while work is being undertaken. In some places, the bypass pipeline will cross over the Maribyrnong River Trail with ramps set up to maintain accessibility for path users. Signs will identify where cyclists will need to dismount and walk their bikes over the ramps.



Sewer bypass pipeline to be installed



MORE INFORMATION

We will continue to maintain contact with directly affected residents and businesses through notifications and door knocks to ensure you are informed prior to upcoming work.

To keep you up to date with what we're doing, how the work is progressing and when we'll be in your area, we'll also provide web updates and community bulletins. If you wish to receive email updates, please contact the project team to subscribe to our email distribution list.

Contact the Maribyrnong River Main Sewer upgrade project team: Phone 1800 027 517 or email MRM@melbournewater.com.au

For updates, visit our website
www.melbournewater.com.au/MRM

 **To access the TTY and Interpreter Services**
 TTY 133 677
 Interpreter 131 450

To contact Melbourne Water
 Phone 131 722 Email enquiry@melbournewater.com.au