



WEST GATE TUNNEL PROJECT UPDATE

ISSUE #18
NOVEMBER 2021

New noise walls deliver quieter backyards

Nine kilometres of new and improved noise walls are one of the many benefits of the West Gate Tunnel Project and will provide residents of the west with some of the best quality noise protection in Victoria.

The project is delivering better noise protection than ever before with a traffic noise objective of 63 dB(A) LA10 – this is quieter than the existing standard for freeways.

Through extensive community consultation during the planning phase of the project, the team specifically designed noise walls to address the unique issues facing the community.

More than 2,200 panels have now been installed along the West Gate Freeway and more than half of all noise walls are now complete.

Using textured concrete and acrylic panels of pale blues and greens, the noise walls are designed to reflect the rolling hills of Western Victoria's You Yangs Regional Park, the traditional country of the Wadawurrung People.

When complete, we will
have installed

9kms

of new & improved
noise walls

3,300

noise wall panels

**SIGN UP FOR
PROJECT UPDATES**

westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au

*Image: Noise wall installation
continues on the West Gate Freeway*

In partnership with:

 Transurban

 WEST GATE TUNNEL
PROJECT

 MAJOR
TRANSPORT
INFRASTRUCTURE
AUTHORITY

 VICTORIA'S
BIG BUILD

 VICTORIA
State
Government

Hyde Street ramps take shape

Construction works are well underway as we build two new Hyde Street ramps that will connect trucks directly to local industry, taking away the need to move through local roads, and provide another freeway entry and exit point for drivers.

The columns and bridge structure supports that will form the new ramp from the West Gate Freeway to Hyde Street are now installed.

Next up, crews will start to install the beams on top of these columns to form the ramps themselves. In total there will be 184 beams, each weighing just under 100 tonnes, installed to create the ramp which runs alongside Stony Creek.

In the outbound direction, 15 columns are now in place and ready for the installation of bridge supports, known as cross heads, on top in the coming months. Once completed, a further 60 beams will be installed to create this on ramp to the West Gate Freeway.

We're also building a new elevated walking and cycling path on the northern edge of the new ramp that will extend the Federation Trail through to Hyde Street.

For the safe delivery of construction materials and for the safety of our workers and the community, regular nightly closures of Williamstown Road are needed to complete these works. Please check bigbuild.vic.gov.au for up-to-date traffic changes and information.

We thank you for your patience during works.

New Hyde Street ramps

- 42 columns to create ramps
- 46 crossheads for ramps
- 2 kms of new road
- 1.2 kms of new walking and cycling paths



Construction of Hyde Street ramps next to Stony Creek

Disposing of tunnel soil safely

Work has started on a purpose-built facility at Hi-Quality Group's Sunbury Eco-Hub that will be used to manage and dispose of soil excavated by the tunnel boring machines (TBMs) on the West Gate Tunnel Project.

Safety of the community is our number one priority, and the Hi-Quality facility is designed to effectively manage all tunnel soil with low levels of PFAS.

The EPA has rigorously assessed the site's environmental management plans to ensure all environmental risks are addressed. This includes groundwater and surface water quality, air quality, and noise.

Final preparations for tunnelling are underway and it's expected to commence in early 2022.

For more information on the facility, visit hiqualityecohub.com.au



Excavation at the outbound tunnel exit

West Gate Freeway getting wider

The West Gate Tunnel Project will construct around 18 kilometres of new traffic lanes on the West Gate Freeway which will ease congestion and make it easier and quicker to get in and out of Melbourne from the west.

To achieve this, the West Gate Freeway is being widened from eight to 12 through lanes and all existing lanes are being completely rebuilt.

This year, a number of changes to traffic lanes are required and these changes will move drivers onto new lanes so our crews can continue to rebuild the old ones.

So far, lane changes between Newport Bridge and Muir Street and Rosalla Road and Kyle Road have taken place and 2.3 kilometres of new lanes have been constructed.



Surveying newly constructed lanes on the West Gate Freeway

New cycling and pedestrian paths taking shape

We're building a new walking and cycling path that will allow pedestrians and cyclists to cross the North Melbourne rail lines and Moonee Ponds Creek along Dynon Road separated from traffic, providing better access to the broader cycling network.

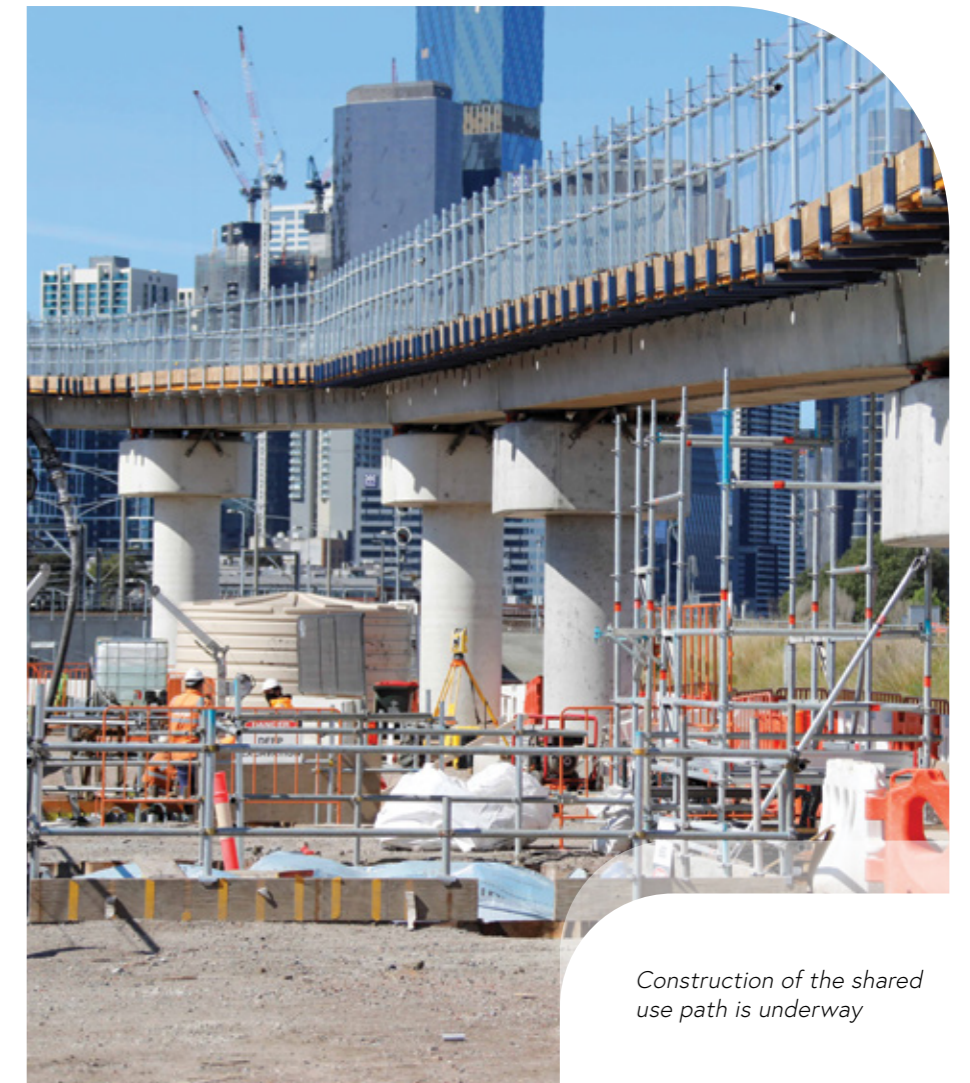
Marine piling in Moonee Ponds Creek was recently completed. This involved driving 30 metre steel tubes into the riverbed below the water using a large crane-like piece of machinery.

This process essentially allows us to build or install foundations in a marine environment.

The new Dynon Road shared use path is also taking shape in the yards next to North Melbourne Railway station.

Our crews recently installed 16 massive concrete beams, each weighing 22 tonnes, to create the base for the new path.

The new shared use path is part of the 14 kilometres of new and upgraded cycling and walking paths the project will deliver. We will be also rehabilitating the unused rail land alongside Moonee Ponds Creek to provide more green open space.



Construction of the shared use path is underway

West Gate Kids engage with engineering

The winter school holidays marked the midway point of the 2021 school engagement program – West Gate Kids.

The school engagement program is facilitated by award-winning scientist and local educator, Dr Lorien Parker of SciencePlay Kids. Dr Loz, as she is affectionately known, has been leading the program since 2018.

Since commencing three years ago more than 3,000 students from over 30 different schools have taken part in the program.

In 2021, our aim is to reach 3,000 students and have 30 schools participate. So far, the program has engaged with about 1,300 students across 12 schools.

With half of the participants being girls, our inspiring West Gate Kids program will hopefully have a lasting impression on these students and encourage them to take up a career in engineering and construction in the years to come.



Footscray North Primary School students participating in the West Gate Tunnel Project school engagement program

Benefiting communities in the west

Footscray-based social enterprise 100 Story Building is one of the non-for-profit organisations in Melbourne's west benefiting from a West Gate Neighbourhood Fund Partnership.

The organisation will use the funding to redevelop its community writing centre for children and young people in the local area, transforming existing space into an engine room for creative program development and delivery. This investment will include vital accessibility upgrades, child-led co-design and a professional recording studio.

The \$10M West Gate Neighbourhood Fund is supporting Maribyrnong and Hobsons Bay communities during the building of the West Gate Tunnel Project.

For more information, visit westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au/community/grants



100 Story Building supports creativity and literacy in children and young people

CONTACT US

info@wgta.vic.gov.au

1800 105 105

West Gate Tunnel Project Info Centre
Corner of Somerville Rd and Whitehall St
Yarraville VIC 3013

Follow us on social media



Translation service – For languages other than English, please call 13 14 50.

Please contact us if you would like this information in an accessible format.

If you need assistance because of a hearing or speech impairment, please visit relayservice.gov.au