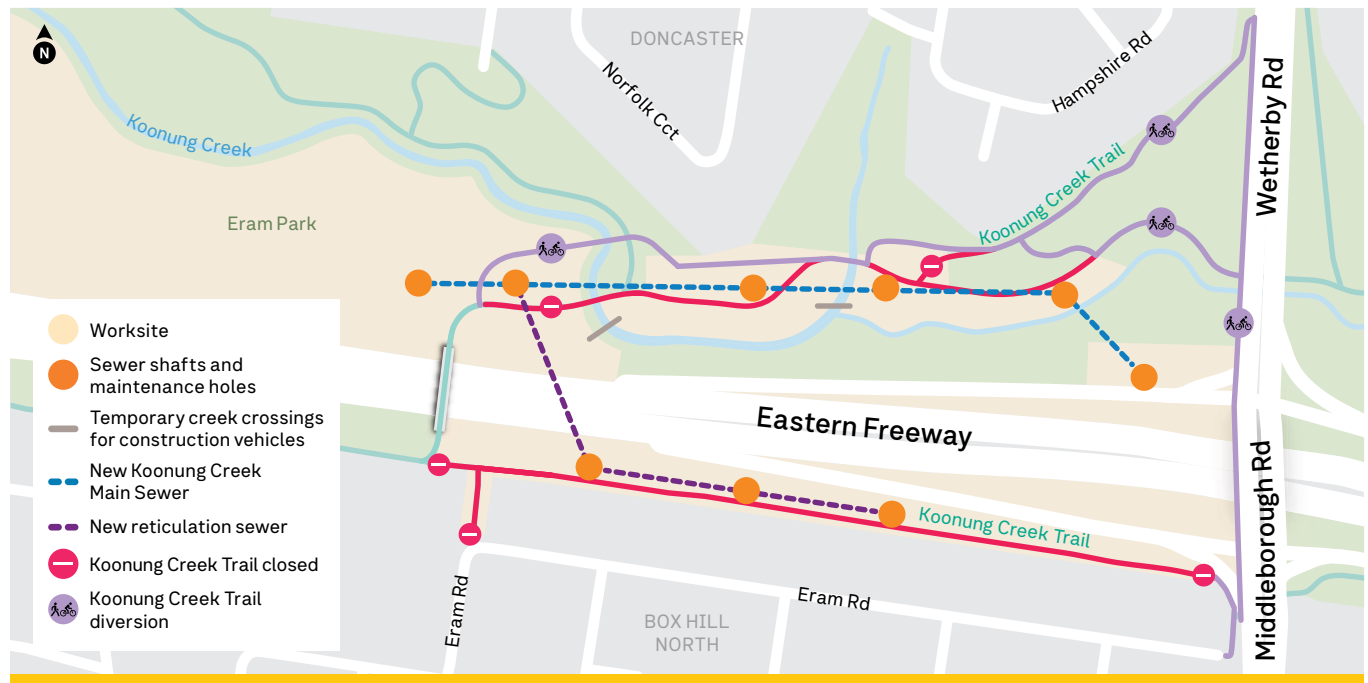


Critical sewer works for the Eastern Freeway Upgrades

BIG BUILD
EASTERN FREEWAY

Fact Sheet
December 2025



Relocating the Koonung Creek Main Sewer

To make room for new lanes on the Eastern Freeway, sections of Melbourne's sewer network, including the Koonung Creek Main Sewer, need to be relocated. This sewer, which runs alongside and under the freeway, services thousands of homes and businesses in Melbourne's east.

From late 2025 we'll work along the Koonung Creek Trail, and in Eram Park and the Koonung Creek Linear Park to relocate this essential infrastructure.

The works will include bored piling and excavation to build tunnel shafts and maintenance holes, and using a mini tunnel boring machine (TBM) to dig a new sewer main.

Works behind Eram Road and in Koonung Creek Linear Park

We'll start by building temporary launch and retrieval shafts for the mini TBM. This involves digging an up to 9 metre wide and 12 metre deep hole. We'll use a piling rig to dig deep holes around the perimeter, which will be filled with concrete and reinforcements to create the vertical walls of the shaft. An excavator will then remove the material from inside the shaft.

The mini TBM, which is around 1 metre in diameter, will begin tunnelling from Eram Park. It will tunnel east towards Wetherby Road, being retrieved and launched again at each shaft. The mini TBM will operate between 7 and 14 metres underground.

We'll also relocate the existing reticulation sewer, which runs under the freeway and behind Eram Road.

These smaller sewer pipes connect nearby homes to the Koonung Creek Main Sewer. We'll use a smaller TBM, around 55 centimetres in diameter, to tunnel this section.

Homes will stay connected to the network while we tunnel the new sewer.

⚠ When we'll be working

We'll carry out most of our works during the day, although some extended hours and night works may be required.

We'll let you know ahead of time if we need to work at night. We'll have strict controls in place to manage potential construction impacts during night works.

If you have concerns about construction impacts, call us 24/7 on **1800 105 105**.

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What to expect

We'll be working behind Eram Road and in Koonung Creek Linear Park from December 2025 until late 2026. You'll notice workers and construction vehicles in the area.

Construction vehicles will access the sites from our freeway entry and exit points and access tracks within our worksites. You may notice vehicles crossing the Koonung Creek Trail, which will be managed under traffic control.

During sewer works, we will have multiple excavators, cranes, piling rigs and mini TBMs operating in our worksites. This machinery is expected to generate increased levels of noise, dust and vibration at times.

We'll also have equipment on site such as a control centre and generators to operate the mini TBMs. This equipment will also generate increased levels of noise at times.

Excavated material will be transported to an approved disposal facility in covered tip trucks via the freeway.

How we'll manage impacts

As with all construction projects, there will be some noise, dust and vibration impacts to the community. These impacts will be closely managed and must comply with the project's strict Environmental Performance Requirements (EPRs).

We'll work closely with impacted residents to provide additional information on works, timing and how we propose to manage the expected disruptions.



Piling rig

Fast facts



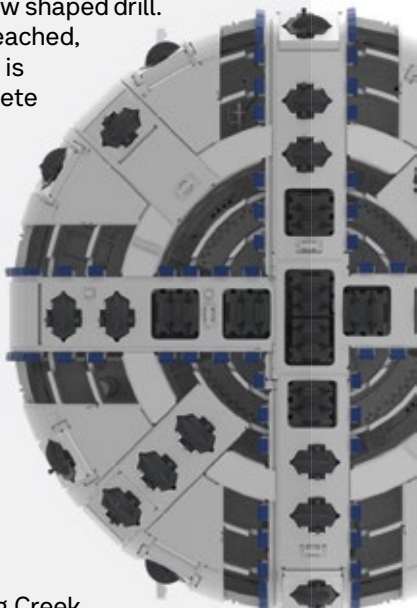
What is bored piling?

Bored piling is a way to build concrete columns in the ground called piles. A piling rig drills holes into the ground using a corkscrew shaped drill. Once the desired depth is reached, a reinforcement steel cage is lowered into the hole, concrete is then poured into the hole to set the pile structure.

What is a Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM)?

A TBM is a machine that excavates soil and rock from the ground to create a tunnel, while making little disturbance above ground.

Mini TBMs

		
Reticulation sewer mini TBM 55cm	Koonung Creek Main Sewer mini TBM 1m	NEL TBM 15.6m



Mini TBM for Koonung Creek Main Sewer tunnelling

Construction timeline

Late 2025	Early 2026	Mid 2026	Late 2026
Building concrete and crushed rock hardstands in Eram Park	Continue piling and concrete works to construct sewer shafts	Continue tunnelling Koonung Creek Main Sewer and reticulation sewer	Complete maintenance hole construction and reinstatement works
Piling and concrete works to construct sewer shafts	Excavation to dig out material for sewer shafts	Complete tunnelling and retrieve mini TBMs	Connect new sewer to existing sewer main
	Begin tunnelling new Koonung Creek Main Sewer and reticulation sewer		



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contact@bigbuild.vic.gov.au



1800 105 105 (call anytime)



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