

July 2023

## Construction of ventilation structures continues

TUN2307.02

The West Gate Tunnel Project is continuing to build ventilation structures for the southern and northern tunnel entry and exit.

The two ventilation structures are of concrete construction with a steel frame and diagonally placed panels wrapped around the outside. Reaching 50 meters in height the ventilation towers will become a new architectural landmark.

Height is a key factor in the ventilation system's design with an internationally utilised air dispersion model used to assess the design and height of the ventilation structure in achieving effective and safe distribution. This considers several existing factors including air quality, local weather and conservative assumptions about vehicle emissions and types.

The ventilation system works by drawing in fresh air from the tunnel entry, which is then pushed through the tunnel by the movement of vehicles and jet fans.

Before the tunnel exit, air is pushed up and out through a ventilation structure and into the atmosphere where it mixes with fresh air. There are no emissions from the tunnel portals where vehicles enter and exit.

The tunnel ventilation structures and associated in-tunnel systems have been designed in accordance with the stringent air quality standards that are in place to protect the health of communities and drivers using the tunnels. The Victorian Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has issued an approval for the establishment of the WGTP tunnel ventilation system which was informed by the Environment Effects Statement process in 2017.

Information on tunnel ventilation and air quality can be found online at:  
<https://bigbuild.vic.gov.au/library/west-gate-tunnel-project/fact-sheets/tunnel-ventilation-and-air-quality>

The EPA approval and assessment report can also be found online at:  
<https://www.epa.vic.gov.au/for-community/current-projects-issues/west-gate-tunnel-project/west-gate-tunnel-project-wa-and-ees>

### Southern tunnel exit in South Kingsville

Work to build the West Gate Tunnel's around 50-metre-tall ventilation structure on the West Gate Freeway, between Newport railway and Millers Road is ongoing with a focus on building the walls of the structure.







These works include placing reinforcement steel and pouring concrete, and installing a large temporary formwork system required for the wall pours. Once the walls have been built, the steel frame and architectural panels will be lifted and attached to the outside of the concrete walls.

These works will continue into early 2024.

### Northern tunnel entry and exit in Yarraville

We will start to build the ventilation structure at the northern tunnel entry and exit on Whitehall Street within the next few months. To do this, we'll set up a temporary crane on site. Once the crane has been built, work will begin to construct the concrete walls of the structure. When completed the ventilation structure will stand around 50 metres tall. Works include pouring concrete to form the walls of the structure as well as installing precast concrete panels. Once the walls have been built, we will begin placing the steel frame and architectural panels on the outside of the concrete walls.

## What to expect and when

	Impact	Date
	Occasional nightworks (9pm to 5am) at the northern tunnel entry and exit and southern tunnel exit. These works include vehicle movements and deliveries of pre-cast concrete panels.	July 2023 to mid 2024
	Visual changes as the new ventilation structures begin to take shape. These works are to build the walls with the cladding and other finishing works to take place after the concrete structure is built.	July 2023 to mid 2024
	Truck movements in the area. Southern tunnel exit, trucks primarily accessing site via the West Gate Freeway and Cawley Road. Northern tunnel entry and exit, trucks primarily accessing site via Whitehall Street.	July 2023 to mid 2024
	Minor noise from construction works.	July 2023 to mid 2024
	Occasional lane closures on local Yarraville roads.	July 2023 to mid 2024
	Night-time lighting at the northern and southern tunnel entry and exits. Lights will be pointed away from homes.	July 2023 to mid 2024

**Northern tunnel entry and exit ventilation structure after completion.**



*Artist impression*

**Southern tunnel exit ventilation structure after completion.**



*Artist impression*

## Upcoming local pop-ups

We will be out in the community at various locations to discuss these works further. Join us at our community pop-ups:

- Edwards Reserve on Friday 11 August between 8:00am and 12noon
- The Avenue Reserve on Tuesday 15 August between 8:00am and 12noon
- Footscray Hockey Centre on Friday 18 August between 8:00am and 12noon
- Fogarty Avenue on Tuesday 22 August between 8:00am and 12noon.

Our team will be available to answer any questions you may have about the ventilation structures.

Refer to our events webpage for ongoing scheduling of events during the year – <https://bigbuild.vic.gov.au/projects/west-gate-tunnel-project/community/events>

If you can't make it to our community pop-up events then we encourage you to contact us on **1800 105 105** or [info@wgta.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@wgta.vic.gov.au) to learn more.

## More detail on what you can expect during these works:

- Construction vehicles will be moving in and out of the area including excavators, concrete trucks, cranes and rollers
- Changes in traffic conditions may be experienced during these activities
- Water-spray trucks and road sweepers will be used around our worksites, keeping local roads clean during construction.

## Thank you

We appreciate our work can be disruptive and thank you for your understanding.




Works may be rescheduled in the event of unexpected impacts.

For updates or questions, please call **1800 105 105**, email us at [info@wgta.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@wgta.vic.gov.au), visit [westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au](http://westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au) or you can drop into our **Information Centre at 2 Somerville Road, Yarraville 3013 Monday–Friday 10am–5pm or Saturday 10am–4pm** for further information on the project.

Do you live or work near the West Gate Freeway? Stay informed on the latest works in the area – sign up and be a member of the West Gate Tunnel Project – West Gate Freeway Construction Updates Facebook Group. Visit [wgtp.qrd.by/freewayupdates](http://wgtp.qrd.by/freewayupdates) or scan the QR code to join.



[westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au](http://westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au)  
[info@wgta.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@wgta.vic.gov.au) | 1800 105 105  
West Gate Tunnel Project Info Centre  
Corner of Somerville Rd and Whitehall St, Yarraville VIC 3013

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