

Date of notice: 8 October 2021

Belconnen trunk sewer update

As you may be aware, we are building new sewer infrastructure to service the communities of Belconnen, Gungahlin and Hall. The project will also help us maintain public health and protect the environment. The new sewer is being installed within public land, parallel to Ginninderra Drive between the intersections of Ginninderra Drive and Copland Drive Melba, and Ginninderra Drive and Tillyard Drive, Charnwood.

The projects consist of:

- installing approximately 2.4km of sewer pipe (with a combination of trenching and underboring)
- installing 18 sewer manholes and four odour control units
- installing a 170m long pipe bridge to cross Ginninderra Creek
- installing four Odour Control Units
- restoring all impacted areas.



Start of sewer alignment adjacent to Ginninderra Drive, Melba

COVID-19 Update

In August 2021, all construction activity on the Belconnen trunk sewer projects were paused due to the COVID-19 situation within the ACT. Although construction work of this nature is now permitted to proceed, this particular project will need to be suspended for a longer period due to the need to utilise specialist interstate contractors that are subject to ongoing border restrictions.

We will provide a revised date for recommencing construction work once we receive advice that work on the project may resume.

We apologise for the delay and appreciate your cooperation and support while we manage our works in line with health advice. The health and safety of the Canberra community and our workers remain our top priority.

Progress to date

Prior to the COVID-19 pause, we were able to complete the following:

- establishing temporary work compounds and access tracks
- laying over 600 meters of new sewer pipe between Kingsford Smith Drive and Companion Crescent
- relocation of existing stormwater pipes which are over 1.8m in diameter
- the large entry and receipt pits (6 metres deep!) for the underbore machine were excavated
- site preparations on the four Odour Control Unit sites
- the sewer crossing of Companion Crescent, Flynn.



1.8m sewer pipes arriving to the primary compound by truck ready for unloading and installing

Use of microtunneling (underboring)

Microtunneling is a form of trenchless pipe installation, typically used for crossing roadways, railways or areas where surface disturbance is not feasible. A 'launch pit' and 'receive pit' are dug on either side of the microtunnel section.

A drilling machine is lowered into the launch pit and will begin drilling towards the receive pit guided by a laser. The drills are designed to push through changing ground conditions including clay, rock and shale.

There are two microtunnels being used on this project:

- under Kingsford Smith Drive
- through a 200m area of sensitive flora and fauna adjacent the Delaney court playground in Melba.



The launch pit dug out and ready for the microtunneling machine to start underboring

Odour Control Units

Odour Control Units - OCUs are a vital part of the sewer network as they protect the sewer pipes from corrosion and reduce odour through filtration and ventilation. Ventilation using an OCU extends the life of a sewer by reducing the amount of maintenance that the pipeline needs allowing more efficient management of the existing network.

The filters used in the OCU and ventilation stacks absorb gases such as hydrogen sulphide, which is a common source of odour from sewerage systems. There are four OCU that will be constructed within public lands in Latham, Florey, Evatt and North Latham.

We are still seeking feedback regarding how the OCU buildings will be painted. Please contact us using the details below. We use a range of different techniques to paint or finish our infrastructure ranging from graphic art through to simple painting. We have received some great feedback to date including mural art and local indigenous themes. We look forward to hearing more of your ideas!

Did you know?

- The pipe being installed for the new sewer is made from glass reinforced plastic and is delivered in 13-metre lengths. Each length weighs two tonnes and requires the use of cranes to lift and position into place. The pipe is being laid at depths varying from two to six metres deep.
- To cross Ginninderra Creek, a 170-meter pipe bridge will be built to support over 30 tonnes of pipe and infrastructure and has been designed to withstand future flooding events.
- 526 trees will be replanted across the pipeline alignment once construction is finished.
- Once completed, the new sewer line will have capacity to service additional growth in line with the ACT Planning Strategy, with all loading treated at the Lower Molonglo Treatment Plant

Yours sincerely

Lisa Quinn

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Manager Customer Advocacy and Experience

SCAN ME



How to contact us:

Phone Diona's Community Relations team on 1300 131 338 or Visit www.iconwater.com.au/bts or Scan the QR code