

Frequently Asked Questions

Pipe Bursting & Wonthaggi Sewer Upgrades

Q: What does this project involve?

A: Upsizing sections of pipe for the Wonthaggi sewer network to provide increased capacity to service growth, meet environmental health and safety standards and replace old and unsafe manholes.

South Gippsland Water will replace sewer pipes in 3 locations:

- McKenzie Street (easement adjacent to the Wonthaggi Secondary College grounds) – 154 meters.
- Graham Street in the vicinity of and within the grounds of the Wonthaggi Park Lane Holiday Park – 759 meters.
- Murray Street (Between Bilson Street and Moyle Lane) – 409 meters.

Q: What is the timing of these works?

A: The contract was awarded and signed in February 2020 with works due for completion by December 2020.

The contractor is mobilising to site during late February 2020 - with initial activities involving setting up work zones and pipe laydown areas.

The first sections of pipe to be completed will be the section in McKenzie Street, followed by Graham Street and then Murray Street towards the middle of 2020.

Q: How much is South Gippsland Water spending on these works?

A: The total value of this project is over \$1M to be completed by December 2020.

Over the next three years nearly \$9 million dollars of investment is planned for Wonthaggi's sewerage system and treatment facilities to ensure they meet standards for reliability and protecting the environment.

Q: Why is South Gippsland Water doing these upgrade works?

A: Recent planning and modelling work by South Gippsland Water has identified and prioritised pipes that need to be upsized to cater for Wonthaggi's development and population growth.

In recent years Wonthaggi has been one of South Gippsland Water's fastest growing towns at 4% per annum. Without these upgrades, Wonthaggi's sewer system will likely experience compliance issues with respect to Environment Protection Authority (EPA) standards and risk sewer spills during wet weather and storm events.

Q: What is being replaced as part of this project?

A: Approximately 1,322m of pipe is to be replaced (most installed prior to 1973)

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Earthenware pipe is being replaced with larger diameter polyethelene pipe (PE) ranging in size from 150mm diameter to 400mm diameter.

Most work is occurring on pipes approx. 1.5m to 3m below ground, with the deepest section being 6m deep (section within the easement running through the Wonthaggi Park Lane Holiday Park).

Manholes will be replaced/repaired as part of the project including at least 4 new manholes already identified as being required.

Q: What is 'Pipe Bursting'?

A: 'Pipe Bursting' is a trenchless construction method where the old pipe is kept in place underground and a new larger diameter pipe is forced through the old pipe, breaking it apart and laying the new pipe in its place.

For Wonthaggi the contractor will be using a pneumatic hammer action to force the pipe bursting head through the old clay/earthenware pipes. As a result, the process will be noisy and needs to be carried out during the daytime.

Image: Pipe bursting and the bursting head used in the sewer upgrade along Ramsey Boulevard, Inverloch in 2014



Q: Will the works involve digging up the roads or footpath?

A: For the most part, this technology involves less excavation, as it does not require deep trenches the entire length of the pipes to be replaced.

It does however, require excavations and pits to be dug at every manhole along the length of pipe to be replaced. This will be where the pipe bursting head enters and exits the sewer during construction.

In most cases these excavations will be in easements, the roadside reserve or footpath areas.

For customers and businesses directly affected in terms of driveway access, the construction crews will work with individuals to maintain access when/where it is needed.

Footpath access will be maintained as much as possible.

Any roads or footpaths damaged or dug up during construction will be reinstated to Bass Coast Shire standards upon completion of works.

Q: Will roads remain open to traffic during works?

A: Yes, Murray Street, McKenzie Street and Graham Street will all remain open for the duration of work. However, some traffic management may be required to direct traffic around workers and machinery at times.

Q: Will my water or sewer services be interrupted?

A: There should be no service disruption to water services as a result of these works.

For sewer services, there will be limited service disruptions. For most of the works, the contractor will operate by-pass pumping, diverting sewer flows around the work zone.

Q: What times and days will crews be working?

A: Contract work times have been set as 7am-5.30pm weekdays, typically there will be no work on weekends.

Q: Will there be any odour as a result of these works?

A: The pipe bursting process requires sewers to be open and for diversion pumping of sewer flows around the works zones. As a result, there is the potential for some smell within the work area.

Q: Will parking in the Murray Street shopping area or Wonthaggi Secondary College be affected?

A: Yes, the works will impact on parking.

Murray Street: There will be a number of excavations along Murray Street. Works will also involve machinery to be parked within the parking bays along Murray Street. As much as possible, the contractor will limit the space taken up by construction or excavation. The contractor will also maintain footpath access and access into the Woolworth's supermarket car park.

Wonthaggi Secondary College: Works will be arranged to occur outside of peak school traffic times as much as possible. The contractor will not obstruct access to the entrance for the Wonthaggi Secondary College or occupy parking spaces within the school property, although some parking spaces on Miners drive adjacent to McKenzie Street may be taken up.

Q: Who should I contact if I have further questions or want to discuss the project further?

A: South Gippsland Water - Project Representative Chris Edwards 1300 851 636

Or: Harris Civil Pty Ltd - Josh Harris 0438 660 770

E: josh@harriscivil.com.au

Updates will be posted to the South Gippsland Water social media profiles:

Facebook: [SouthGippslandWater](#)

Twitter: [SthGippsWater](#)

And the Corporation's website - <http://www.sgwater.com.au/projects/renewels-replacement-projects/>

Works Area Maps – See over page

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McKenzie St – Works Area



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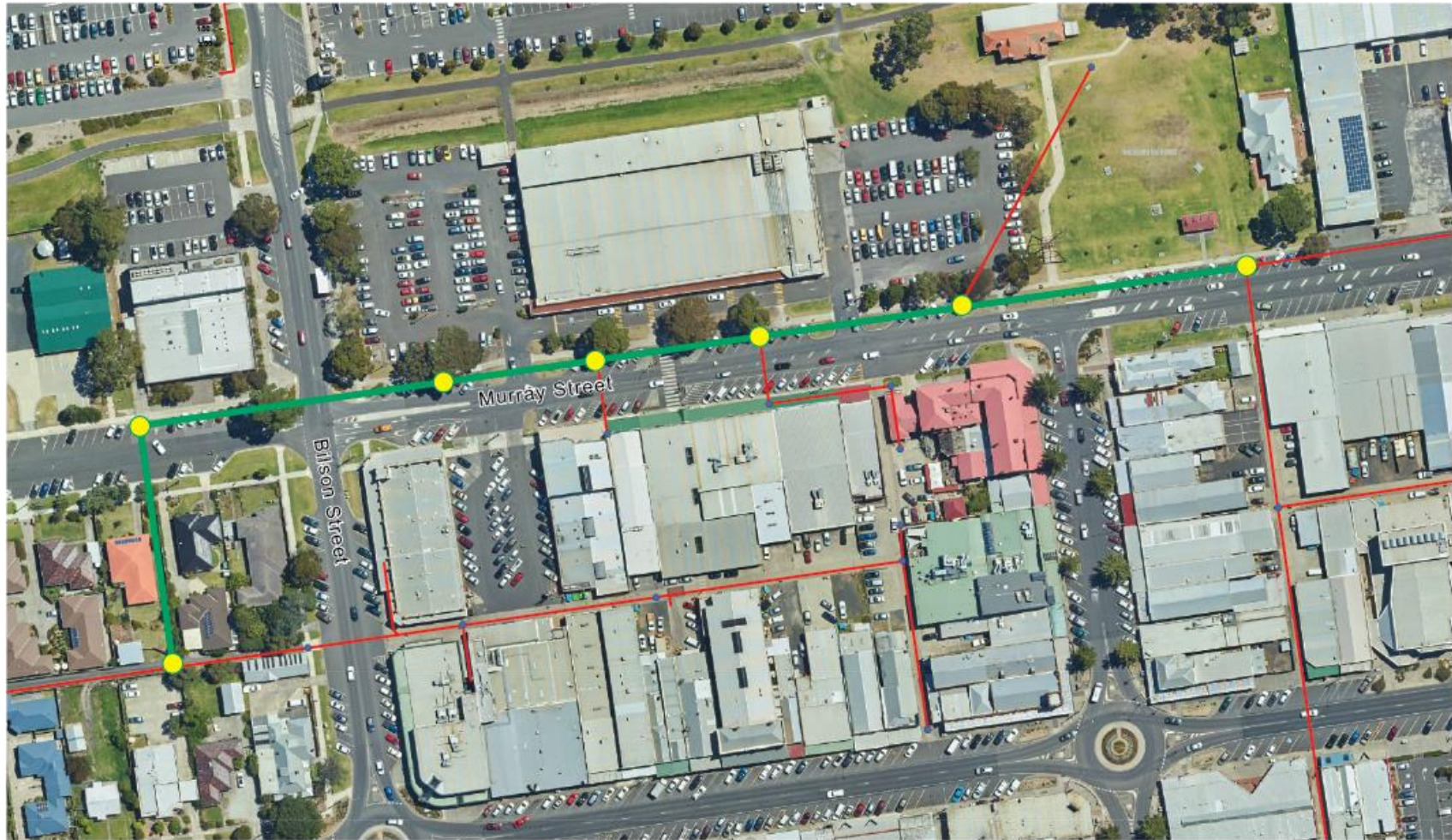
Graham Street – Works Area



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Murray Street – Works Area



Key: — Existing Sewer Pipe — Sewer Pipe Upsized ● Manhole/Excavation