

Monday 15th June 2020

Sewer Pipe Extension for Watt St, Wonthaggi

Commencing later this month, works will begin to install 500m of new sewer pipeline running along the front of South Gippsland Water's depot in Watt Street, Wonthaggi. The existing Watt Street sewage pump station pipeline is being extended to free up sewer capacity in central Wonthaggi. This is part of a suite of sewer upgrades planned for Wonthaggi, with South Gippsland Water already investing some \$750,000 on the network in the last six months alone.

South Gippsland Water's Managing Director, Philippe du Plessis said that, "Recent planning and modelling work has identified and prioritised sewer network improvements 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% each year."

Mr Du Plessis went on to say "The sewer main between Watt Street and central Wonthaggi has been the site of issues in the past and redirecting flows from the Watt Street Sewage Pump Station will prevent sewer spills and increase overall capacity. Protecting the health, liveability and environment of Wonthaggi and ensure reliable services are maintained".

The new pipe is being installed using horizontal directional drilling, avoiding the need to excavate the entire 500m length. Instead, small pits will be dug for the purpose of drill entry/exit points. The works will not disrupt services to properties in Watt Street. Normal operation of the Watt Street sewage pump stations will continue for the duration of construction, which is estimated will take around 3 weeks. Local residents may notice traffic management in place to direct traffic around the work site and drilling machine, however road and property access should not be impacted.

Contractors will be onsite from Monday 15th June, to identify all existing underground infrastructure such as other pipe and cables in the area, before construction begins. Construction contractor Fulton Hogan will be completing the works, with South Gippsland Water overseeing the project. Any customers or community who would like to know more or have concern regarding the works, are encouraged to contact the Project Representative Chris Edwards on 1300 851 636.

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