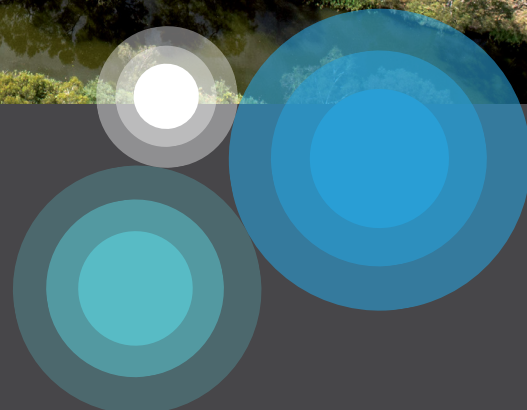




# MRM to North Western Sewer Connection Project Community Update – March 2023



Melbourne Water manages an extensive network of underground pipes and sewers to treat our city's sewage and protect the health of our environment, our communities and our families.

With our city continuing to change and grow, we need to make improvements and innovations to ensure our sewerage system doesn't reach capacity and so more sewage can be treated. That's why we're building a new 1.2 kilometre sewer in Maidstone – providing a secure and reliable service for more than 86,000 people over the next 100 years.

The new sewer will increase the capacity of our sewerage system and protect the Maribyrnong River from sewage spills during high rainfall events, keeping our city healthy today, tomorrow and for generations to come.

## CONNECTING SEWERS ✓

Approximately  
**24 million litres**

of sewage will be transported each day from 36,000 properties in Taylors Lakes, Sydenham, Tullamarine, Airport West, Essendon West, Keilor East and Avondale Heights.

The new sewer will connect into the larger North West Sewer (NWS) which will then transport sewage to the Western Treatment Plant located in Werribee.

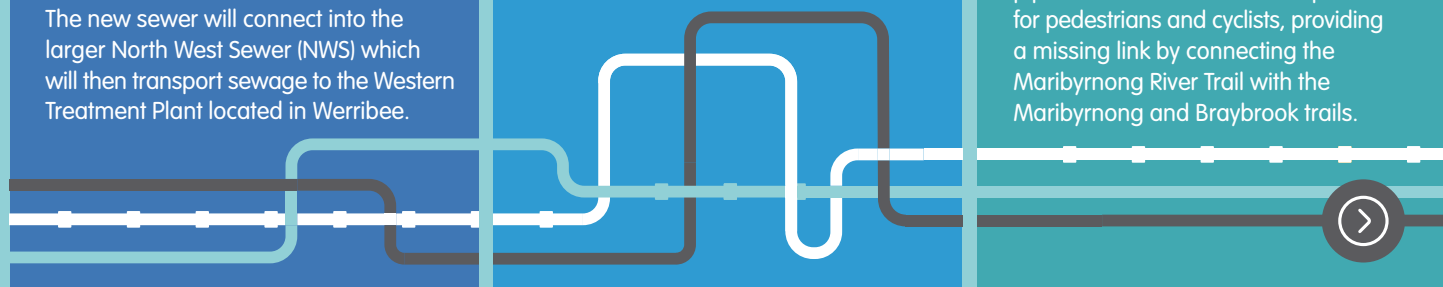
## NEW SEWER ✓

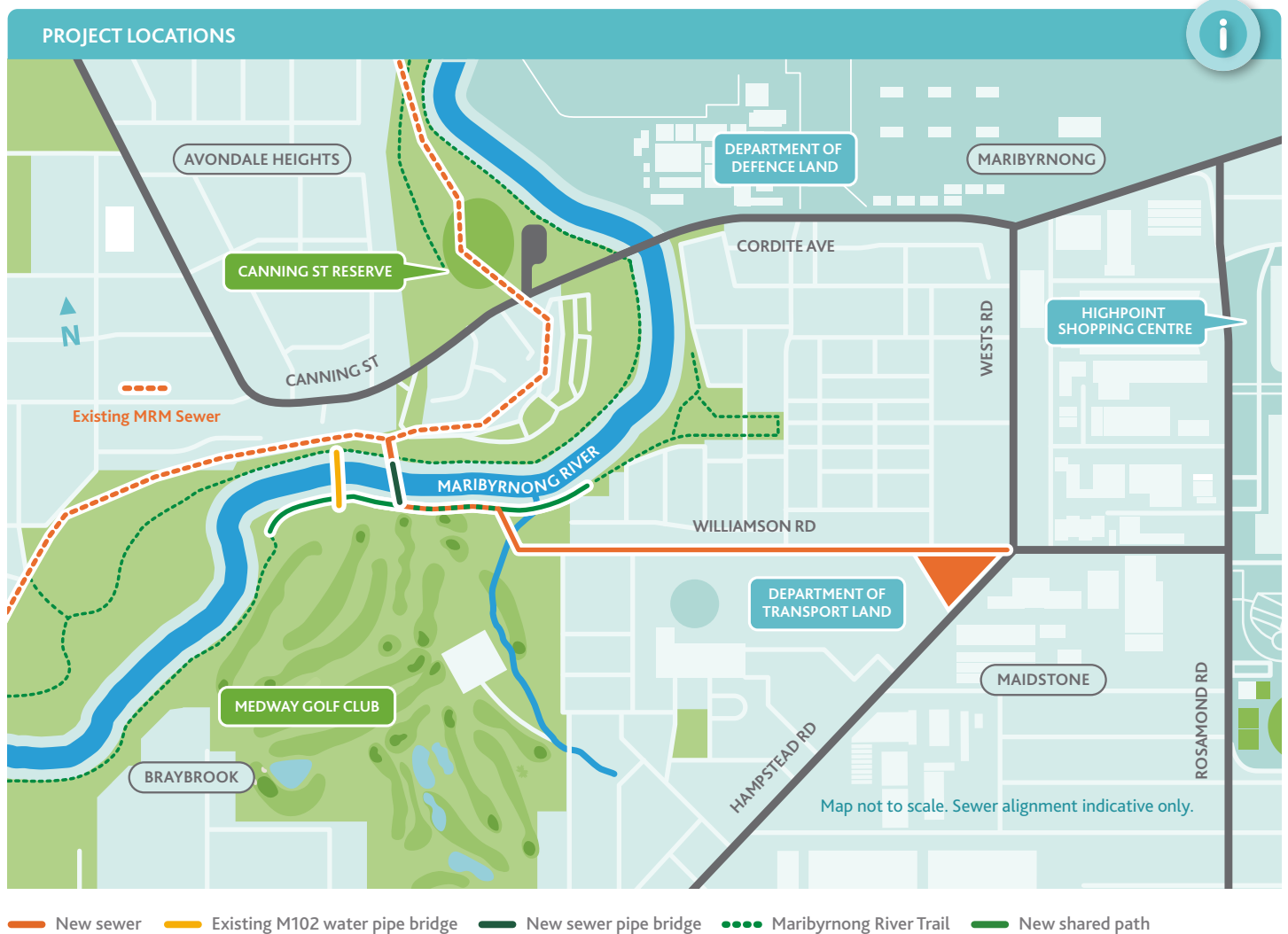
We're constructing a new  
**1.2 kilometre sewer** utilising tunnelling and open-cut trenching construction methods.

## NEW BRIDGE ✓

We're constructing a new  
**80 metre pipe bridge** across the Maribyrnong River.

This bridge will carry the new sewer pipe and double as a shared path for pedestrians and cyclists, providing a missing link by connecting the Maribyrnong River Trail with the Maribyrnong and Braybrook trails.





## What this means for you

- Approximately 1 km of the Maribyrnong River Trail will be closed between Canning Reserve and the existing M102 water pipe bridge in Avondale Heights for approximately eight months, commencing in March 2023
- A northern work site will be established along this section of closed trail, with construction vehicles entering and exiting through the existing car park at Canning Reserve, Avondale Heights
- The southern work site has been established between the rear of Medway Golf Course and along the Maribyrnong River to the existing M102 water pipe bridge. Construction vehicles enter and exit via Lomandra Drive, Maidstone
- You'll notice more vehicles and workers in the area. Workers will be onsite between 7am and 6pm Monday to Friday and 7am to 1pm on Saturday
- All pedestrians and cyclists will be detoured off the Maribyrnong River Trail at Canning Reserve and Grimes Flat (Barbara Crescent, Avondale Heights)
- There will be reduced parking at Canning Street Reserve to help facilitate the river trail detour route and construction vehicle access. Alternative parking can be found at the sports oval during this time
- Signed detour routes will be established prior to the river trail being closed
- The existing M102 water pipe bridge will remain open while these works are underway. You can access the bridge from Grimes Flat, Avondale Heights or Cranwell Park, Braybrook
- Residents close to the construction zones will continue to receive more details on what to expect.





## VEGETATION IMPACTS

At Melbourne Water, we understand the value of trees and plants to local communities. The design of the bridge and pipe alignment has gone through a careful design process to avoid as much tree and vegetation loss as possible.

We've been working with our service provider Safety Focused Performance Joint Venture (SFPJV), ecologists and arborists and local councils including Maribyrnong City Council and Moonee Valley City Council to avoid as much tree and habitat loss as possible.

To allow access for large construction vehicles through this area, we will be undertaking vegetation trimming and removal to widen the track and increase overhead clearance (impacted trees on map over page). As well as track widening, we will need to clear trees where the new bridge will be constructed. These works will start to take place in March 2023.

An independent arborist has assessed the areas requiring vegetation removal. Every tree has been considered to avoid as much canopy loss as possible. The trees being removed include a variety of indigenous, native and exotic trees and vary in age and health.

A Tree Management Plan and Tree Protection Plan have been prepared to ensure trees and native vegetation growing within the nominated construction zones are not negatively impacted.

Planning permits for all impacted trees, shrubs and ground cover vegetation have been provided by Moonee Valley Council, Maribyrnong City Council, as well as the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA).

A qualified wildlife handler will be onsite as these works are undertaken to ensure any wildlife are safely relocated.



## Vegetation reinstatement

Wherever possible, logs and vegetation material from lopped trees will be mulched or kept for re-use as part of the reinstatement works. Extensive weed removal has already been undertaken during the initial stages of these works and will continue throughout the construction phase. On completion of the installation of the new sewer pipeline, bridge and pathway connections, extensive re-planting of native grasses, shrubs and trees will be undertaken to further transform the river valley and improve habitat quality for all. Melbourne Water will replant and re-vegetate the area to a higher level than what was previously there.

● Vegetation removal ● Tree removal ● Tree impacted

### VEGETATION IMPACT



## Leaving a long-lasting legacy

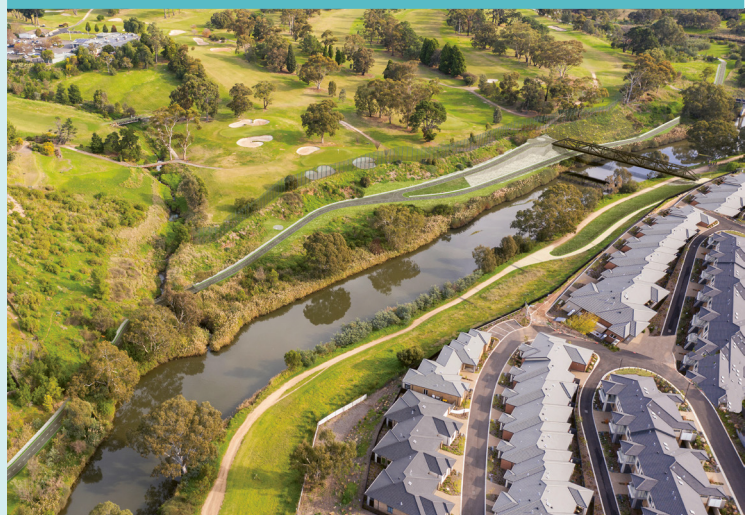
As part of this project, Melbourne Water is working closely with Moonee Valley and Maribyrnong City Councils to deliver long-term benefits for the Maribyrnong River and the community.

Benefits will include opening an inaccessible section of land on the southern side of the Maribyrnong River and a new shared path for the community to enjoy continuous views and access along the river.

A new pipe bridge will be built over the Maribyrnong River for use by pedestrians, cyclists, wheelchairs and prams. This will create a key link in the western active transport corridor.

Impression of new sewer pipe bridge and shared user pathways (right)

### A CONNECTED FUTURE



### MARIBYRNONG RIVER FLOOD REVIEW

You may be aware Melbourne Water is supporting an independent review of the flood event that occurred on 14 October 2022. The Maribyrnong River Main (MRM) to North Western Sewer Connection Project is an essential sewer utility project and our works at the southern and northern banks are not related to the flood review. Scan the QR code to find out more about the flood review.



### MORE INFORMATION

If you would like more information about the MRM to North Western Sewer Connection Project, contact the project team at:



1800 712 434



MRM-NWSCConnection@melbournewater.com.au



www.melbournewater.com.au/MRM

Scan the QR code below for current project information



To access the TTY and Interpreter Services: TTY 133 677  
Interpreter 131 450

