

## Media Release

### Essential upgrade for century-old Williamstown sewer

- Upgrade works for century-old sewer that services the Williamstown, Newport and Spotswood communities.
- Project to protect environment and health of Melburnians.
- Community encouraged to participate in consultation activities in late 2016.

Melbourne Water will start work to upgrade the century-old Williamstown Main Sewer in early 2017 along its entire 4.4km length between Pasco Street, Williamstown and Scienceworks in Spotswood.

Melbourne Water Principal Project Manager Nestor Ioannou said the upgrade works is an essential part of Melbourne Water's proactive asset renewal program and steps will be taken to minimise disruption.

"More than 7,600 households and businesses in Williamstown, Newport and Spotswood rely on the sewer which is 100 years old. The upgrade will ensure it continues to protect the environment and provide a reliable service for another 50 years," Mr Ioannou said.

"It's always challenging to complete a project of this nature in built-up areas, but it's vital that we upgrade it before it starts to fail.

"The sewer is located between eight and 15 meters underground. Rather than digging the entire length up, disruption will be minimised by using innovative technology to upgrade the sewer from the inside, section by section."

"Work will be conducted at each manhole around the clock and there will be increased noise and trucks in the area.

"So that works are completed safely and efficiently there will be changed traffic conditions for motorists, cyclists and pedestrians and some on street parking spaces will be temporarily unavailable.

"Melbourne Water encourages people to attend community information sessions that will be held later this year. These sessions are an opportunity to learn about the project and discuss options to minimise disruption," Mr Ioannou said.

The project is expected to take around 18 months to complete.

#### **Keeping the community informed**

The local community will be kept informed through letter drops to households and businesses and through newsletters and information sessions.

For more information on this project or to register your interest, please visit [melbournewater.com.au/williamstownsewer](http://melbournewater.com.au/williamstownsewer), telephone 1800 813 242 or send an email to [williamstownsewer@melbournewater.com.au](mailto:williamstownsewer@melbournewater.com.au).

Interpreter services are available on 13 14 50.

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