

Central Geelong Flood Reduction - Gheringhap Street Drain Project

Central Geelong is growing rapidly and existing infrastructure needs to be updated and improved to enable this growth.

The installation of a new storm water drain underneath Gheringhap Street, in central Geelong, will minimise the effects of flooding during significant storm events.

The drain will connect to the existing network near Johnstone Park, improving the capacity to dissipate flood water and will include a new treatment system and outfall to Corio Bay.

Central Geelong Flood Resilience

Flooding is a recognised problem for central Geelong, with four significant rain events in the past 17 years - 1999, 2005, 2010 and 2016.

As a result the City of Greater Geelong (CoGG) commissioned a detailed assessment for the CBD, to investigate and quantify the flood risk, and consider how this risk could be reduced. Detailed flood modelling highlighted the areas where flood depths and extents posed a significant risk to pedestrians, vehicles and CBD buildings.

The most effective option was found to be the inclusion of an additional main drain along Gheringhap St from below Johnstone Park to Corio Bay (Figure 1).

Constructing this drain will significantly reduce the frequency of flooding and the length of time surface flood waters impact the CBD following major storm events

Reducing the flood risk in the CBD will benefit local businesses, residents, visitors and developers.

Prior to being discharged into Corio Bay the storm water will go through a filtration system, reducing the amount of rubbish making its way to the bay.



Figure 1: Alignment of the Gheringhap Street drain

Project Overview

The design and construction of a new 1800mm diameter stormwater drain along Gheringhap St will run for approximately 450 metres from a junction pit below Mercer St to a new outfall into Corio Bay.

The construction method of 'micro-tunnelling' was selected because it provides the greatest cost-benefit, shortest duration and the least amount of disruption to the local community, particularly Gheringhap Street users and occupants.

Micro-tunnelling requires the use of specialised machinery to bore an underground tunnel and then push through each section of pipe to create the 450 meter long drain. The main benefit of micro-tunnelling is that the majority of the existing street above ground remains undisturbed.

The alternative construction method was 'open trenching' however this would have caused significantly more disturbance as essentially the entire street would have been dug up and closed for the duration of the project, interrupting traffic, essential services and access to buildings.

Subject to final budget approval, site set up and construction works are planned to take place between December 2018 and December 2019. During this time traffic management plans will be in place to minimise the impact on road, cycle and pedestrians users in the area.

CONTACT DETAILS

Revitalising Central Geelong Partnership Team
The Workshop, 108 Moorabool St, Geelong 3220
www.revitalisingcentralgeelong.vic.gov.au