

BULIMBA-HAMILTON SIPHON RENEWAL PROGRAM



25 July 2024

Project Update

Following our project update earlier this month, we'd like to provide you with some more detail on the installation of the temporary bypass pipeline for the Bulimba-Hamilton Siphon.

As we have shared in previous notifications, a break occurred in one of the pipes in the siphon in January this year causing wastewater to enter the tunnel. To repair the pipe and continue the pipe replacement works in the siphon, we need to divert wastewater flows from the siphon through a temporary bypass pipeline.

This will ensure wastewater can continue to be transported from the southside to the northside of the river while the siphon is out of operation.

About the temporary bypass pipeline installation

The installation of the temporary bypass pipeline across the bed of the river from Bulimba to Hamilton will be a complex engineering job and will take approximately four months to complete.

Approximately one kilometre in length, the temporary bypass pipeline will connect into the wastewater network at Riverview Terrace in Hamilton and Bolan Street in Bulimba, where a temporary pump station will be built and be operational in eight months.



How is the temporary bypass pipeline being built?

The pipe will be installed from a barge on the river using an 'S Lay' method which involves 20 metre sections of pipe being welded together on the barge, and gradually lowered and secured on the bed of the river.

The barge is 55 metres long and 17 metres wide and has been used for the construction of the new Kangaroo Point Bridge. Starting near the Brett's Wharf Ferry Terminal in Hamilton, the barge will move diagonally across the river to the Bulimba Barracks site, gradually lowering sections of pipe and moving around 120 metres each week.



How long will the work take?

Preparation works for the temporary bypass pipeline have begun on a drydock at Morningside. Work on the river is expected to start in September and we expect the installation of the temporary bypass pipeline to be completed in December. Works will be from **6.30am-6.30pm Monday to Saturday**; however, the barge will be lit and manned 24/7 for safety and security.

What do I need to look out for?

River users should look out for the navigational buoys around the barge which will indicate what side river traffic should pass on. There will also be reductions in speed limits in the area.

Hamilton riverside footpath users should look out for some temporary above-ground pipe work next to the riverside footpath opposite Riverview Terrace in Hamilton. This pipe is necessary to ensure flows continue to move through the network to be treated.

Riverside residents and businesses may notice increased noise from time to time during the pipeline installation, and we apologise for any disruption this may cause. We know sound travels further over water which is why works are scheduled from 6.30am to 6.30pm on Monday to Saturday to minimise any impacts.

Once the temporary bypass pipeline is installed, will the emergency relief overflow structure still be needed in wet weather?

Once the temporary bypass pipeline is operational it will transport normal daily flows, and the emergency relief overflow structure will continue to be used to manage excess wet weather flows.

During periods of heavy rain, the emergency relief point will direct screened flows into the waterway at Morningside.

We're unable to provide a timeframe on how long the emergency relief point will be needed, however, like the overall project timeline, it has extended. We will continue to provide advice if a wet weather wastewater release occurs.

Committed to keeping you informed

The Bulimba-Hamilton Siphon is one of the city's most important, but hidden pieces of infrastructure. It will take several years to complete the project as replacing the pipes deep under the river is a complex job.

At this stage, we're unable to provide a confirmed timeframe for how long it will be until this part of the project will be completed, as we first need to assess the tunnel, pipes, and complexity of repairs once we can safely access the tunnel.

We thank you for your patience and understanding as we complete these essential works, and we will continue to provide you with updates on the project's progress.

Contact us

If you have any questions or concerns, you can get in touch with us at alerts@urbanutilities.com.au or call **1800 573 215**. You can also request a call back from a member of our Bulimba-Hamilton Siphon project team through this email address – just include your best contact number.

You can also continue to stay up to date with the latest project updates at <https://urbanutilities.com.au/BulimbaHamiltonSiphon> or scan this QR Code.



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