

LOWOOD-FERNVALE SEWER UPGRADE

We're constructing a \$45 million upgrade of the region's sewerage system.
Here's an update on how the project is progressing.



Membrane tank and bioreactor under construction at the Lowood Sewerage Treatment Plant site.

What's been happening?

We're about half-way through construction on the Lowood-Fernvale Sewer Upgrade, with structures now visibly taking shape.

Lowood Sewerage Treatment Plant (STP)

The membrane tank, shown above to the left of the bioreactor, is already 85% complete. This is where purification of the wastewater from the bioreactor will take place. The new service water tanks have arrived on site and the concrete slab has been poured for the aeration blowers.

Ferny Gully Sewerage Pump Station (SPS) and Fernvale sewer rising main

We have seen a big transformation at the Ferny Gully SPS. Backfilling of the site is already underway, in preparation for the above ground work.

The Fernvale sewer rising main, which will deliver sewage to the new Lowood STP, is complete and will shortly be connected to the STP.

More information on the progress of the SPS and the sewer rising main can be found overleaf.

Project Facebook group

Join the project Facebook group for local residents at:
www.quu.com.au/lowood-fernvale-group.

What next?

Upcoming work over the next three months includes:

Lowood STP

- Structural, mechanical and piping installation across the site.
- Pour concrete slab for switch room and sludge dewatering building.
- Commence construction of the pre-treatment area, aeration blower building, sludge dewatering and administration building.

Lowood sewer rising main

- Start of construction of the new sewer pipeline from Lowood to the new STP.

Ferny Gully SPS

- Pipework and mechanical and electrical installation prior to pre-commissioning.

Fernvale sewer rising main

- Connection and testing of the new pipe.



New service water tanks installed at the Lowood STP (Jan 2019)

Fernvale rising main connection

A major milestone was achieved prior to Christmas, when our contractor completed the 6.8km of sewer rising main from the Ferny Gully SPS to the new Lowood STP. In order to connect the new pipe to the STP, situated on the opposite side of Forest Hill Fernvale Road, we used technology called 'thrust boring', to avoid cutting across this busy road and disrupting traffic.

Visit the project website at www.urbanutilities.com.au/lowoodfernval sewerupgrade and go to the 'Photos and images' page to see a video of the thrust bore in action.



Left: Augers used to drill out the earth to make way for the pipe.
Right: Casing pipes installed under Forest Hill Fernvale Road and Project Manager, Jonathan Farrell, with the thrust bore machine (Nov 2019).

What is thrust boring?

Thrust boring uses an auger (above left), with a cutting head attached, which is placed inside a section of steel pipe called a casing. As the drilling is executed, the casing pipe is pushed through and the excess earth is transferred out of the pipe by the auger's blades. When the desired location is reached, the auger and cutting bit are removed and the carrier pipe is fed through the remaining casing. The image (above right) shows casing pipes in place, waiting for the carrier pipes.

Ferny Gully Sewerage Pump Station (SPS)

October 2018...



...January 2019

The images above, taken three months apart, show the progress made at the new SPS. All underground structures, including maintenance holes and chambers, are now in place and backfilling is nearly complete. Pre-commissioning is anticipated to commence in April 2019, subject to weather conditions.

Brisbane Valley Rail Trail

In February 2019, the new sewer rising main will be installed beneath the Rail Trail, prior to final connection into the Treatment Plant. In order to keep the Rail Trail open and safe for users, a temporary diversion will be in place for the duration of the open-trenching work. **The project team appreciates the patience and understanding of all Rail Trail users.**

More information?

For more information, call the project hotline on 1800 071 230 (free call, 24/7). See below for additional contact details.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 1800 071 230 (free call, 24/7)
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EMAIL Community.Feedback@urbanutilities.com.au
FACEBOOK www.quu.com.au/lowood-fernval group