

3 July 2017

Tunnelling in your area – Shaw Street, Bexley North

In the next two to three weeks, tunnelling for the New M5 will start in your area and will be carried out 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The New M5 tunnels will be excavated to around 12.5 metres wide with a height of around 7.5 metres. Tunnel excavation is carried out using roadheaders.

Tunnelling for the New M5 tunnels will take place from four main construction sites located at Kingsgrove, Bexley, Arncliffe and St Peters. In your area, the tunnelling sites are located at Bexley Road, Kingsgrove.

There will be 1 roadheader passing underneath the vicinity of your property. The anticipated tunnel advance rate is around 25 to 30 metres each week. Tunnelling will occur under individual properties for around a week for each tunnel.

The enclosed fact sheet provides more information on tunnelling. Please refer to the New M5 interactive map available at westconnex.com.au/newm5map for the indicative tunnel depth at your property.

Cross Passages

Cross passage tunnels, which connect the eastbound and westbound tunnels, are designed to house mechanical and electrical equipment for the tunnel operation and to permit the motoring public to cross to the other carriageway in the event of an emergency.

Cross passages are located throughout the tunnel around 120 metres apart and will typically be excavated around two to three weeks after the main tunnels in that area are complete. The time taken to construct a cross passage will depend on ground conditions and the type and length of the cross passage being constructed. A typical cross passage will take around one week to construct.

What to expect

In your area, the roadheaders will be approximately 10 to 20 metres underground and depending on the ground conditions, building type and existing background noise, it is possible that you will not notice the work underneath your property.

You will not be able to hear the excavation equipment, but ground borne noise generated by tunnelling activities may be experienced inside your property at shallower depths. Ground borne noise is created when vibration from tunnel excavation travels through the ground and causes the walls and floors of the building to faintly vibrate, creating audible noise.

You may notice a low frequency rumble up to about 45dBA when the roadheader is working beneath your property. By comparison, a normal conversation is about 60dBA and a refrigerator is about 50dBA. This could occur for a period of about one week, depending on the size of your property, geological conditions and how far away you are from the tunnel.

Structural or cosmetic damage to your property as a result of the tunnel construction or operation is extremely unlikely; however a free property condition survey is available to you as a record of the existing condition of your property. A post condition survey will also be completed. In the unlikely event any damage is caused to your property as a result of the project, repairs will be undertaken at no cost to you.

If you have a question about this work, please call **1800 660 248 (24 hours)** and ask to speak to a member of the New M5 community engagement team or email info@newm5.com.au.

Notification: 231

For more information

 info@newm5.com.au

 1800 660 248

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