

Mandurah Estuary Bridge Duplication Project

Construction works to start in the new year

The construction team will start works on site Tuesday 2 January 2024. The community will start to see activity on areas adjacent the existing bridge, as well as in the estuary.

Estuary works

Starting mid-January, for approximately one week, the team will undertake cone penetration testing (CPT) in the estuary. The testing is required to understand the soil properties below the estuary floor to assist with the detailed design of the piles which will support the new bridge.

A barge carrying the CPT rig will be launched from Mariners Cove boat ramp. Parking and access at the boat ramp may be congested on the days that the barge is being launched and collected. Traffic management will be in place during this time. Information will be provided to project subscribers nearer the time.

Site compound

During January, a site compound will be established on the north-east corner under the bridge. This area will be fenced, and contain a laydown yard, site offices and parking. Access under the bridge via the footpath will be restricted and pedestrians will need to detour via the lights at Leslie Street. The picnic table on the south-east corner of the bridge will also be closed during construction works. The playground and toilets will remain open and accessible.

To ensure safe traffic movements in and out of the compound, a section of the median along Waterside Drive, three car parking bays and the kerbing will be removed.

Clearing

Clearing will continue in the first week of January. Vegetation will need to be cleared to allow for the building of the new infrastructure, however the clearing will be limited exclusively to the areas designated for construction. The team will continue with geotechnical testing in these areas once the vegetation has been removed.

The team have walked through these areas and identified trees that if possible, will be retained. We have also used a fauna consultant to assess the area for fauna habitat. The area has been determined low risk as it was an urban environment and therefore unattractive to native fauna. The team will monitor the area during clearing and if any fauna is encountered it will be moved to a safe, appropriate area away from the works.

Water carts will be in operation to manage the dust during these works.

Out of hours works

Night works are planned to start Wednesday night 3 January, for a couple of weeks, along Mandurah Road on both sides of the bridge. The works will include road surveying and existing pavement testing. The works need to be undertaken at night to reduce the impact on the traffic. To allow the work to be done safely, there will be lane closures. Noise will be kept to a minimum.

In the Community

Smoking Ceremony

In early December, the Bindjareb people, led by Elder George Walley held a Smoking Ceremony to cleanse the bad spirits and protect the construction team before they started works on the bridge. The Elders also shared stories of the area and their memories of growing up near the estuary.

The project team will meet regularly with the Bindjareb Reference Group to discuss incorporating Aboriginal heritage into the project and providing advice and guidance into engaging Aboriginal employees and businesses.



Information event

The community was invited to an Open House event held 5 December 2023 to come along and find out more about the project. More than 130 people attended the event, speaking directly with the design and construction teams. Another Open House event will be held later in the new year. Information and details about upcoming community events will be shared when dates are confirmed.



Further information

To stay up to date with the latest project information, please visit www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/mebd and subscribe for project updates or contact our Customer Information Centre on 138 138.