



Johns Road Upgrade: The Groynes to Sawyers Arms Road

part of the Western Corridor



Progress Bulletin 1 – March 2015

This is the first of our bulletins that will bring residents and businesses affected by these road works up to date with what is happening and the immediate plan ahead. We plan to produce these every three months or if there is a major change about to happen.

Site Clearance.

Site clearance to make way for the new four lane road has now been completed for most of the project. There were a number of large trees which required the use of stop/go traffic management to fell, which meant progress was a little slower than intended. As this phase of work has been next to the new road boundary it has involved a lot of liaison with affected residents and although we have tried to minimise any disruptions, we have appreciated your patience when work has affected your property.

The Groynes to Clearwater Avenue

Earthworks are well underway and the undergrounding of the over-head power and telecommunications wires in this section is complete apart from the removal of redundant overhead poles. New power and telecommunications cables have been installed and are now live. Unfortunately the existing fibre optic cable runs directly under the new lanes and this also needs to be moved and we are doing this now.

How are we building the Road?

To start with we had done some cement modification of the ground underneath the road. This involves mixing cement into the ground with a “milling machine” this forms a stronger yet still flexible base on which to build the new road.

**Cement modification
North of Clearwater Avenue**



The next stage is the road’s foundation layer which involves flattening out and compacting a mixture of crushed rock (aggregate). We are now ready for the next stage which is stabilising the road’s foundation layers with foamed bitumen. Foamed bitumen is a mixture of air, water and bitumen. When hot bitumen (160°C) is injected with a small quantity of cold water it expands to about fifteen times its original volume and forms a fine mist or foam. This expanded bitumen mist is mixed into the road’s foundation layer, effectively binds everything together - This makes the foundations stronger but still flexible.

Clearwater Avenue to Sawyers Arms Road



Clearance work is about 80% finished in this area and fencing is following on behind. We have started earthworks at the Sawyers Arms Road Roundabout end of the project - undergrounding of power and telecommunications cables.

There are two “Keystone Retaining Walls” being constructed along the boundary of two properties which are part of this section. These walls allow some of the hollows in the existing road to be filled in to provide a much smoother ride for the new road.

Construction of the new Keystone Wall at 445 Johns Road.

New Greywacke Link Road (Johns Road to Logistics Drive)

A lot has been happening on the new link road since the start of November last year. The site has been cleared; properties temporary fenced and good progress has been made on the earthworks from Logistics Drive through to the back of McVicars Sawmill. Work has now started on installing new utilities (power and phone cables). Drainage pipes and ponds are in place and we have extended the existing water main in Logistics Drive.



**New Greywacke Road Alignment
(Looking from Logistics Drive Intersection)**

Dust Control

Controlling dust is one of our main priorities onsite because we realise that it can be a nuisance to adjacent residents and is already a hot topic in this area.

We currently have two 30,000L and two 10,000L water-carts on a seven day a week roster which are used for most dust control issues. In addition to these, in areas where the site stripping has been completed but no further work will be happening for some time, a new product called Stonewall has been applied. This product is a liquid polymer which is sprayed on via a water-cart high pressure hose. When the liquid dries it glues the surface together not allowing any of the small particles to blow away causing dust. This product is both non-toxic and non-hazardous so it's safe and easy on the environment.

What's next?

Once we have finished moving the existing fibre optic cable, we will construct a temporary intersection at Clearwater Avenue just north of its current location. This will allow us to build half of the new roundabout.

We will also start building the new northbound lanes, including new concrete median island and wire rope barrier, from Gardiners Road to The Groynes. Once this section is completed we will move the traffic over to the new section of road and build the southbound lanes.

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