

Community Bulletin 2

10 December 2009

Harding Street Main Drain Emergency Works

As previously advised, the Pipelines Alliance on behalf of Melbourne Water began work to repair and rehabilitate a section of the Harding Street Main Drain in mid-November.

Initial works took place near the drain outfall at the Merri Creek and then moved into the grounds of Coburg Senior High School. During the course of the project they will continue towards the corner of Alva Grove and Urquhart Street.

Emergency works

Following the heavy rain on Tuesday this week, a section of decking of the old drain near the School's café area partially collapsed.

Emergency excavation works were required to clear the resulting blockage, ensure the drain continued to operate and did not pose a safety or flooding risk to residents or nearby buildings.

The emergency works required the removal of a number of trees within Melbourne Water's easement to allow access for equipment and the replacement sections of pipe. Installation of a new concrete pipe is now underway up to the damaged section.

Inspections of the upstream section of the drain have been undertaken and show that the rest of the old structure is in very poor condition and at risk of collapse, particularly if we receive further intense rainfall over coming days. For this reason it has been considered necessary to remove vegetation in the immediate vicinity of the drain to minimise any further risk of failure. Removal of this vegetation has occurred earlier than originally planned.

Next steps

The Pipelines Alliance will ensure the drain and work site are safe and do not pose any risk to public safety. We are also working with Moreland City Council to determine the most appropriate actions as a result of these events and will keep the community informed of developments.

If you have any enquiries, please call Wes Turnbull on 8417 7662.