

Warkworth Growth Servicing Wastewater Pipeline Project

Ground investigations – North Branch Sewer

Watercare will soon be undertaking ground investigations to inform design and construction of the Warkworth North Branch Sewer, which forms part of the wider Warkworth Growth Servicing Wastewater Pipeline Project.

The overall project involves construction of a wastewater conveyance system between Warkworth Showgrounds and Lucy Moore Memorial Park that will contribute to reducing wastewater overflows into the environment and cater for population growth from new developments in the area.

Our contractors for this work, McMillan Drilling, will be investigating several locations within the road corridor between Warkworth Showgrounds and Shoemith Reserve. As part of these investigations, you may notice our staff using the following equipment:



Figure 1
Vacuum truck or hand digging to identify and avoid underground services



Figure 2
Drilling rig used to collect core samples. The rig may be supported by a four-wheel drive ute and a truck with a water bowser covering an area of approximately 15m²

How will these investigations affect you?

- Site works will involve machine boreholes using drilling rigs, hand augers, and test pits. Service location using a vacuum truck may take place ahead of any investigation work. Temporary traffic management installations will be setup within the road and footpath as required. Noise and vibration will be generated during the investigation work, however levels will be kept to a minimum and in accordance with Auckland Council requirements.
- **Where:** Investigations will take place in or adjacent to the road corridor between Warkworth Showgrounds and Shoemith Reserve. No access to residential properties is needed.
- **When:** Works will take place from December 2023 to January 2024 (weather dependant), with each investigation taking up to seven days depending on the required drill depths.
- **Day-time Works:** Working hours will be between 9am to 4pm during the day involving shoulder closures along Great North Road. This will be required for investigations taking place within the berm or adjacent park land.
- **Night-time Works:** Working hours will be between 8pm and 5am where investigations are required within the live traffic corridor to reduce disruption. This will involve a single closure along Great North Road between Showgrounds and Shoemith Reserve, as well as some pedestrian footpath restrictions near the intersection.
- **Who:** McMillan Drilling will be undertaking works on site, with support from our design partner Beca.

Borehole groundwater testing and piezometers

In some locations groundwater testing will take place in the borehole after drilling to further understand the permeability of the underlying bedrock. This could include water pumping tests and placement of groundwater monitoring sensors. These tests will typically take an hour or two. Each test will be supervised by a geologist. Special meters, called piezometers, may also be installed in some boreholes to monitor groundwater levels and water quality. These may include a flush mounted box or a small data recording device as shown in Figure 3.



Figure 3

Future works

Additional site investigations are expected to take place in the first half of 2024. This may involve further geotechnical sampling and buried service locating within between Warkworth Showgrounds and Shoemith Reserve, as well as targeted investigations in Elizabeth St and Baxter St. We will provide further information once these dates have been confirmed.

Any questions?

Regular updates and traffic notices can be found by visiting the project webpage: www.watercare.co.nz/warkworthgrowth. If you have any questions or concerns about regarding the ground surveys and what they entail, please contact us through this email address: WarkworthNWpipeline@water.co.nz

For general information on your water or wastewater services please visit: www.watercare.co.nz or telephone 09 442 2222.

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