

# St Marys Bay separation project

## Questions and answers for residents

September 2020



### Overview

#### What is the purpose of this project?

The project will reduce the amount of combined wastewater and stormwater overflows and clean up local waterways in St Marys Bay and the Waitematā Harbour. We need to separate wastewater and stormwater pipelines in the local network and on private properties.

#### Who is responsible for this project?

Watercare and Auckland Council have a joint initiative called the Western Isthmus Water Quality Improvement Programme, which will help reduce overflows and clean up local waterways.

#### Who is funding this project?

The project is jointly funded by Watercare and Auckland Council's Water Quality Targeted Rate and work within the project scope will take place at no direct cost to property owners.

#### Who are our contractors for the project?

We have engaged design consultants GHD and construction partner Fletcher Construction to be involved on the project from design through to construction under Watercare's enterprise model which ensures early involvement of our construction partners during the design of the project.

#### Why does this area require separation?

When the properties were built in the early 1900s, they were built with a combined stormwater and wastewater network. Over time, with population growth, wet-weather overflows have increased affecting water quality, therefore, an upgraded network is required.

### Investigation stage

#### Why are we doing these investigations?

These investigations will inform the design of the new pipelines and private drainage to create separate networks.

#### How are these investigations different to previous investigations in the area?

We have completed some preliminary investigations of private drainage, but we now need to undertake the design and apply for any consents that may be required.

#### What do they involve?

Our contractors need to access the outside of some private properties to look at aspects of property drainage, topography, and in some cases more in depth investigations. Property owners will receive a letter from Watercare if they require this. We will also be undertaking other surveys of the network in the area. This could involve taking ground level readings, aerial photographs, and scanning of the road using a 360-degree GoPro camera.

#### What will happen after the investigations?

Once we have completed investigations, we can start the design of the new network and apply for any consents that are required. Once the permissions are in place, we will work toward construction including a programme for the timing of the work. Construction is estimated to start mid-2021 and take approximately three years to complete.

## Private property drainage separation

### Private property drainage is usually at the property owners' expense, is this the case here?

If separation of stormwater and wastewater is required under this projects' scope, no, this is a unique, one-off situation where the work required will be at no cost to the property owner if within the project scope. The project is jointly funded by Watercare and Auckland Council's Water Quality Targeted Rate.

### My property has been identified as requiring separation, but I thought it was already separated. What are the next steps to record this?

We have the as-built plans and we may need to do a visual inspection to confirm which properties require separation. If you think this is incorrect, please contact us so that we can complete a visual inspection of your property and inform you if separation under this project is required.

### I have other issues with my private drainage and house pipes, will this project also cover this?

Our team will be identifying the work that is covered by the project in order to create the separate network. Any other private drainage concerns outside the project scope will be the responsibility of the property owner.

### Why is my private property drainage the interest of Watercare and Auckland Council?

Watercare and Auckland Council aren't only interested in the public network, we also need to make sure that private property drainage that feeds into our networks are compliant and up to standard so that stormwater doesn't flood the wastewater network. It is everyone's responsibility to make sure that private networks don't pollute the environment. This includes ensuring private drainage that feeds into the public networks are up to standard.

### What is the extent of work required on my property?

The extent of work on private property is unique for every property. We will discuss what is required with property owners and keep them informed at every stage of the project.

## Construction stage (to update after design is complete)

### What are we building?

We are separating the combined network so that stormwater and wastewater have separate pipelines. This requires a new public wastewater pipeline which will mostly be constructed in the road, but also through a small amount of private property, extensions to the current combined pipeline so that it can be used as a stormwater pipeline and also private drainage will be separated.

### When will construction start and how long will it take?

We are currently in the design phase and will know more about how long it will take to do the work and what the schedule is once the design is complete and permissions are in place. We hope to have this in place to start construction mid-2021. Due to the extent of work including on private properties, the project may take up to three years as we work our way through the catchment.

### Will there be traffic implications?

Yes, there are likely to be implications on traffic and resident access during construction of the pipeline in the road. We will know more about the effects when the advanced design and traffic management plans are completed close to construction. Effects on residents due to work on or near to their property will be notified in advance of the work occurring.

### When you do work on my property, how will you reinstate any areas required for construction?

We will reinstate to the same condition (like for like) as before construction at the completion of any work on your property.

### Who do I contact for more information?

If you have any further questions about the project or the investigations, please email us at [StMarys@water.co.nz](mailto:StMarys@water.co.nz).

Alternatively you can visit [Watercare's website](#) and search in projects 'St Marys Bay'.