



New water reservoir in Marsfield

Project update: October 2022

As you know, we're building a new water reservoir in Marsfield to service the growing community. Our work will ensure we continue to provide clean and reliable water every day.

Since our last update, we've been busy gathering more site information and preparing more details about the new reservoir and how it might affect you.

We have completed more site investigations and continue to develop our detailed design, in preparation for construction to start in early 2023.

We are committed to listening to your feedback and keeping the community updated as we progress our plans for construction.

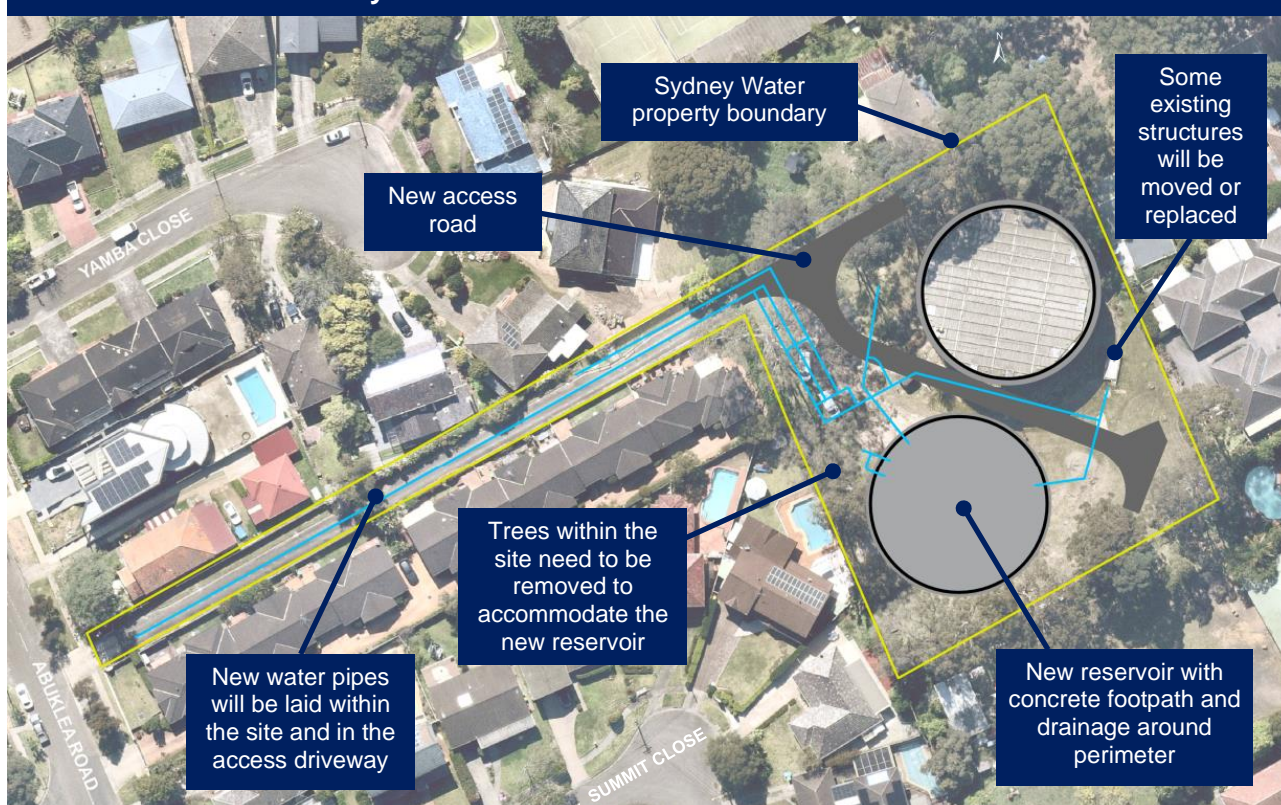
What are we building?

We will build the new reservoir next to our existing reservoir at 37 Abuklea Road. In addition to the new reservoir, we'll install:

- new water pipes along the access driveway to our site, to connect the reservoir to the existing water network.
- a gauge-house for the electrical equipment that will operate the reservoir.
- a water quality facility, to treat water with small amounts of chlorine and ensure it passes our quality standards before reaching your tap.

The map below shows the location of the new reservoir and water pipes. We will provide more information about the size and location of the gauge-house and water quality facility in the coming months as our design progresses.

Key features of the new reservoir in Marsfield



Why is a second reservoir needed?

We have 247 water reservoirs across Sydney, the Illawarra and the Blue Mountains that help us supply about 1.5 billion litres of drinking water to over 5.3 million people every day.

Our existing reservoir at Marsfield cannot service the expected growth in the area. Adding a second reservoir will provide water services to an additional 700,000 people in the Prospect North and Ryde drinking water catchments. The second reservoir is one of several projects that aim to service growth in these catchments.

Can it be any smaller?

The new reservoir will be about the same size as the existing structure. This size is required to provide the water capacity needed to service the expected growth. The new reservoir needs to be the same elevation and height as the existing reservoir to meet technical requirements, so it can't be lowered further into the ground.

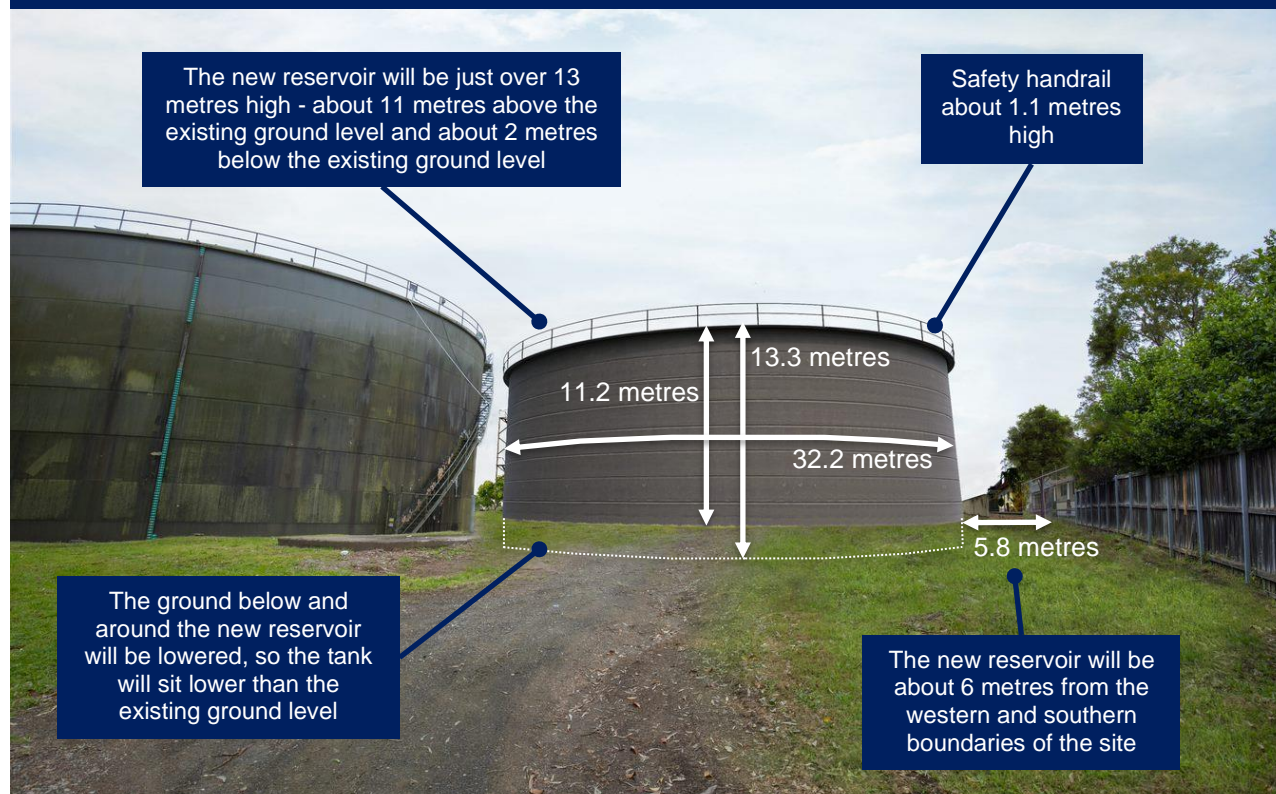
Why this location?

The existing reservoir was built on this site in the 1960s as it is a natural high point in the area. Reservoirs are usually built on hills or high points, so the water stored in them can easily flow downhill to surrounding homes and businesses.

Sydney Water owns the land at 37 Abuklea Road and original planning for this site included provision and space for this second reservoir, anticipating a future need. Its location meets the technical requirements for water pressure to provide quality drinking water to surrounding suburbs.

We considered other positions within our site. However, the selected location is the only place where the new reservoir fits while providing enough room for other supporting structures and pipes. This position allows full access to the two reservoirs for future maintenance. It also reduces the construction and operational risks of having two reservoirs very close together.

Indicative view of the new reservoir from within the Sydney Water site, looking south



What will it look like?

In response to community feedback, we've prepared some artist's impressions using our latest designs, to help show what the reservoir will look like from various locations.

At the moment, the artist's impressions show the untreated grey concrete surface. There is an opportunity for the community to have a say on what the outside of the reservoir will look like.

Many of our reservoirs are painted green to help them blend in with the surrounding environment. Some have wooden or metal cladding designs on the outside. Others have artworks painted on them and are a visual feature of the neighbourhood.

In the coming months, we'll show you examples of what the outside of the reservoir could look like and listen to your feedback. We are open to all ideas and will consider these as well as Sydney Water's own requirements and standards.

Indicative view of the new reservoir from two locations in Summit Close, Marsfield



Indicative view of the new reservoir from Yamba Close, Marsfield



Indicative view of the new reservoir from Agincourt Road, Marsfield



Shadowing

After the new reservoir is built, our closest neighbours may experience some additional shadowing over parts of their property.

We are meeting with affected property owners now to explain the extent of any shadowing at various times of the year.

How was the project assessed and approved?

The project to construct the second reservoir has been approved under Division 5.1 of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979. Sydney Water is a statutory State-owned corporation and classified as a public authority, and a determining authority, under the Act.

A Review of Environmental Factors (REF) was prepared to assess the potential environmental impacts associated with the project and identified safeguards that avoid or minimise potential impacts.

You can read the REF on our website at:

sydneywater.com.au/about-us/our-publications/reports-publications/environmental-reports-approvals

Tree removal and offsetting

We need to remove trees and vegetation from within the Sydney Water site to accommodate the new reservoir. We recognise that the removal of these trees and construction of the new reservoir will change the visual outlook for some residents.

Once our work is complete, we'll offset the tree removal at a 3:1 ratio. Given the limited space available within the site, it is likely that most of the trees to be replaced will need to be planted outside of the site. We will liaise with City of Ryde Council and local Bushcare groups about the location and species of trees to be replanted.

Managing construction impacts

We expect construction to start in early 2023 and take about 18 months to complete, weather and ground conditions permitting. We know our work can be disruptive, so we'll make every effort to reduce any impact this work may have on you.

The work will be done in stages, with different types of activity and impacts throughout the construction period. The work stages include:

- site establishment (vegetation removal, earthworks and building retaining walls)
- reservoir construction (concrete footings, delivery of prefabricated reservoir pieces, assembly using a crane, installing wall cladding, roof and stair tower)
- installation of new pipes and realign existing services
- installation of water quality facility and gauge-house (including demolition of existing structures as required)
- commissioning and testing
- restoration, planting and demobilisation.

Our work hours



We will work during standard daytime work hours, from **7 am to 6 pm Monday to Friday** and **8 am to 1 pm on Saturdays**. We won't work on Sundays or public holidays. If we ever need to work outside these hours, we will notify you in advance.

Noise



There will be noisy periods as we do this work. At times, there will be noise from the digging and use of machinery including cranes, scaffolding, concrete trucks, excavators and other heavy plant and equipment.

We will use noise blankets to reduce noise impacts on our neighbours. We'll keep noise to a minimum, avoid unnecessary loud noises and follow all mitigation measures in the construction environmental management plan. This includes working with our closest neighbours to agree on respite options for our most disruptive periods of work.

Truck movements



There will be frequent vehicle movements in and out of the site from Abuklea Road. Truck movements will vary each day, but our traffic controllers will help keep traffic flowing safely and minimise disruption to local traffic.

Vibration



Some of the equipment we need to use causes vibration. We will follow all mitigation measures in the construction environmental management plan to manage vibration impacts.

We will do dilapidation assessments for adjacent properties before we start work and again once we're finished, to ensure no damage is caused and to provide peace of mind for our closest neighbours.

Dust and mud



We will dig and remove about 5,000 cubic metres of material from the site as we make room and build the new infrastructure – this will create some dust.

We will manage dust by regularly using a water cart to wet down our work area, the access driveway and stockpiled material. We will cover stockpiles when not in use and inspect our work areas often to make sure they are tidy. We'll organise a regular street sweeper to make sure mud isn't tracked off our site onto Abuklea Road.

Visual impact



Properties around the site will notice a change in visual amenity during our work. Some of our equipment and machinery will extend above the fence line, so you will be able to see things like elevated work platforms, cranes, scaffolding and the new reservoir structure as it is built.

Fencing, shade cloth and noise blankets around our site will help provide some privacy for our closest neighbours.

Traffic and parking



We'll aim to minimise our impact on local streets around the site. We are investigating parking options for our project team and crews to avoid causing parking congestion.

Drainage



The drainage conditions of the site will be adjusted during our work to accommodate the new reservoir. New drainage features will be installed to manage runoff and ensure that water is diverted safely into the local stormwater system.

Construction compound



We will set up a temporary compound area during the work, for storing equipment and amenities for our crews. We will fence the area off to keep the work site secure and the community safe. We're investigating options for the compound location and will provide more information once that's confirmed.

What are the next steps?

Sydney Water and the project team are committed to listening to your feedback and to keeping the community updated as we progress our plans for construction. We will continue to share more detailed information about the site layout, construction impacts, tree removal and the location of above-ground structures as we finalise our design.

We want to work with our neighbours to reduce impacts as much as possible. We also welcome your feedback, particularly about what the outside of the reservoir will look like.

We want to meet our closest neighbours

Please reach out to us if you would like to arrange a meeting so we can explain the project in more detail and answer any questions you might have.

Where do I get more information?

If you would like to organise a time to meet, or want to know more, please contact our community engagement team at confluence@sydneywater.com.au or call **1800 943 119**.

We speak your language

Interpreter Service 13 14 50

Arabic • Chinese • Greek • Italian • Korean • Vietnamese • Hindi • Punjabi

إذا كنت تحتاج إلى مترجم، يرجى الاتصال بالرقم أعلاه.

如果您需要傳譯員的協助，請致電以上的號碼。

Αν χρειάζεστε διερμηνέα, τηλεφωνήστε στον παραπάνω αριθμό.

Se vi serve un interprete, telefonate al numero indicato sopra.

통역사가 필요하시면 위의 번호로 전화하십시오.

Nếu quý vị cần thông dịch viên, hãy gọi đến số trên đây.

यदि आपको दुभाषिए की सहायता की ज़रूरत है, तो कृपया ऊपर दिए गए नम्बर पर फोन करें।

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਦੋਭਾਸ਼ੀਏ ਦੀ ਮਦਦ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਹੈ, ਤਾਂ ਕ੍ਰਿਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਉੱਤੇ ਦਿੱਤੇ ਨੰਬਰ 'ਤੇ ਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ।