

Refresh Vaucluse and Diamond Bay Project – Newsletter

Sydney
WATER

September 2026



What's happening at Eastern Reserve and Diamond Bay?

In August 2026, Sydney Water selected Abergeldie Complex Infrastructure (Abergeldie) as the delivery partner to build a new underground pump station at Eastern Reserve and the supporting infrastructure for Eastern Reserve and Diamond Bay works. This important project will use the final design, which was improved based on community and stakeholder feedback.

Works will involve:

- building a new underground pump station at Eastern Reserve
- microtunnelling to install the new gravity wastewater pipelines to Diamond Bay to connect the Diamond Bay ocean outfalls and existing wastewater network to the new pump station at Eastern Reserve
- open trenching and installing a new pressure pipeline along Oceanview Avenue to Old South Head Road to connect the existing Bondi wastewater network with the new pump station
- upgrading the existing wastewater pipes on Old South Head Road between Hamilton Street and Northcote Street to receive additional wastewater flow from the Eastern Avenue pump station.
- upgrading and installing new infrastructure such as vent shafts and maintenance holes.
- Restoration and landscaping of the construction areas post construction.

Staging the works allows us to better manage impacts and keep the community informed throughout each phase of the project.

Work areas

Works area 1 includes works within Diamond Bay and Eastern Reserve with site establishment scheduled to commence from 24 September 2026, and construction at both locations anticipated to start in late October 2026 and take approximately 18 months to complete.

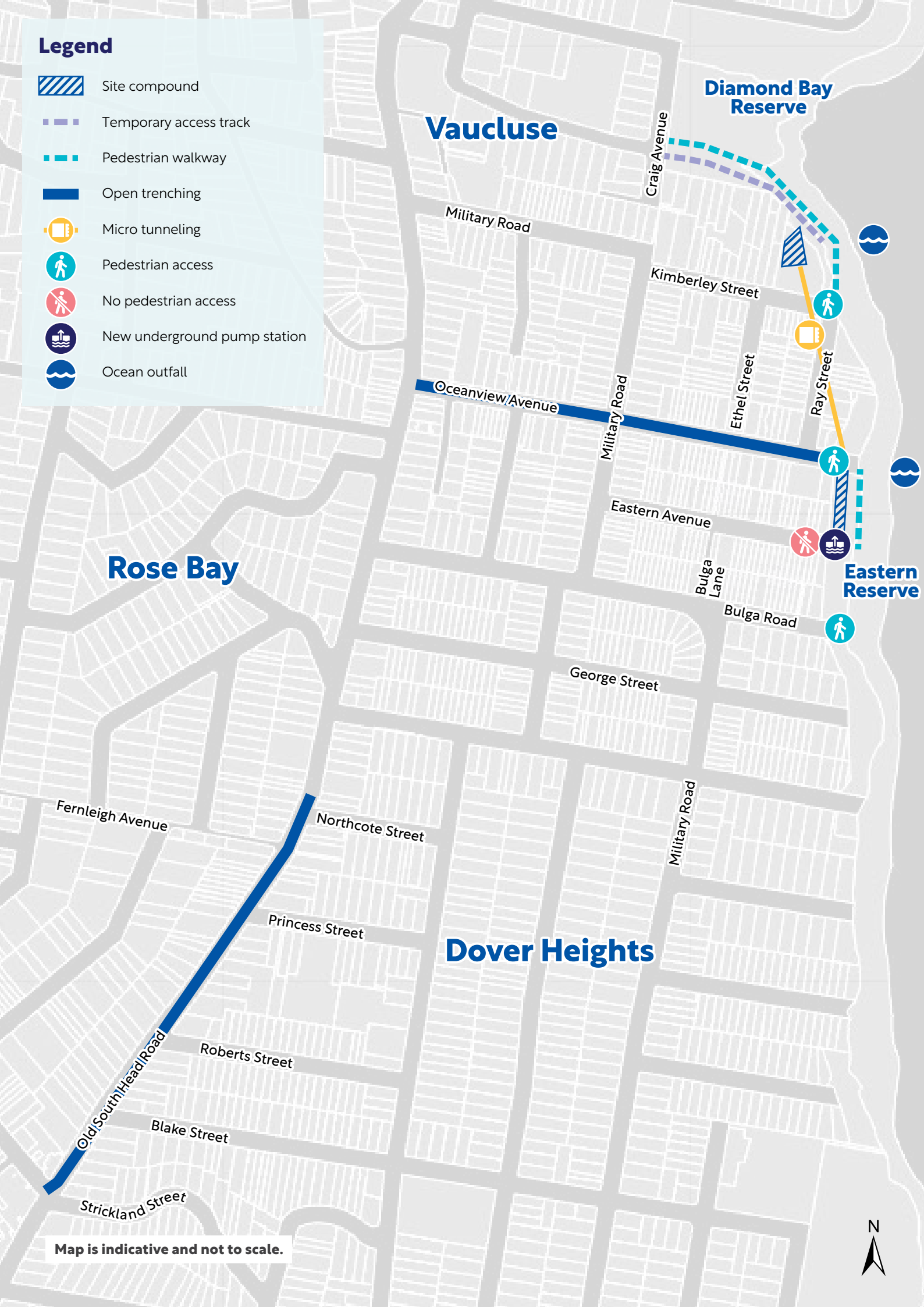
Works area 2 includes works within Oceanview Avenue in Dover Heights and Old South Head Road in Rose Bay. Site establishment and construction activities are expected to begin in mid 2027, with the overall project anticipated to be completed by mid 2028.

Project overview

Below the cliffs of Vaucluse and Diamond Bay, untreated wastewater flows directly into the ocean. It's time for change and works continue to ensure this iconic area of Sydney gets the blue backyard it deserves. Sydney Water is committed to protecting the environment and delivering a permanent solution to the impact this has on our marine environment. As part of the Refresh Vaucluse Diamond Bay project, we are building new infrastructure to divert these wastewater flows to the Bondi Water Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF).

Legend

-  Site compound
-  Temporary access track
-  Pedestrian walkway
-  Open trenching
-  Micro tunneling
-  Pedestrian access
-  No pedestrian access
-  New underground pump station
-  Ocean outfall



Map is indicative and not to scale.



1 Vent shaft and light

2 Vent shaft and light

3 Switchboard

4 Floodlight

5 Gate

6 Valve pit

7 Electrical pit

8 Pump well

9 Bollards

10 Induct vent

11 Electrical junction box

12 Pump out valve

13 Water pressure valve

Artists impression of Eastern Reserve

Community engagement

Since 2018, Sydney Water has worked closely with the community to help shape the Refresh Vaucluse Diamond Bay project. Our engagement program has included providing updates at Dover Heights Precinct and Vaucluse/Diamond Bay Precinct Committees, distributing newsletters to more than 13,000 properties, hosting community information (pop up) sessions, webinars and online consultations, undertaking door-knocking activities, and meeting directly with residents and stakeholders.

Community feedback has been instrumental in informing the project's development, with hundreds of submissions received throughout the consultation process. This feedback led to significant refinements to the original proposal, resulting in a design that better integrates with the local environment, reduces visual impacts and preserves valuable open recreational space for the community.

As construction progresses, we remain committed to keeping the community informed. We will continue to provide regular updates and work closely with residents and stakeholders, particularly those directly affected, to minimise disruption wherever possible.

Planning Approvals

Sydney Water publicly exhibited the project's Review of Environmental Factors (REF) in June 2020 following extensive planning, technical investigations and community consultation.

After considering community feedback, a Decision Report was approved in December 2020, confirming the project could proceed with appropriate measures to manage environmental and community impacts.

In 2024, Sydney Water prepared a Review of Environmental Factors Addendum (REFA) for additional works, including wastewater pipeline amplification on Old South Head Road between Hamilton Street and Northcote Street. Following approval and publication of the REFA in June 2026, these works can now proceed.

Project timeline

NOV 2018

Government commitment

JUN 2020

Review of Environmental Factors displayed

APR 2022

Diamond Bay design consultation

APR 2024

Diamond Bay concept design consultation

MAY 2024

Parsley Bay construction started

APR 2025

Diamond Bay concept design consultation

JUN 2026

Review of Environment Factors Addendum for design changes

AUG 2026

Diamond Bay contract award

SEP 2026

Site establishment

LATE 2026

Parsley Bay complete

MID 2028

Diamond Bay complete

Did you know?

About

89%

of the Vaucluse Peninsula's wastewater is currently discharged to the ocean via the Vaucluse coastal outfall off Christensen Park.

This project will help change this by diverting these flows to the Bondi Wastewater Treatment Plant, where they will be treated before being safely released.

Diamond Bay & Eastern Reserve site establishment

Sydney Water is preparing for site establishment at Eastern Reserve and Diamond Bay Reserve as part of the Refresh Vaucluse and Diamond Bay program in late September 2026.

Mobilisation and site establishment occur before any physical works begin and involve the contractor getting the site ready so construction can start safely and efficiently. This includes bringing people, equipment, facilities and controls into place.

Over the coming weeks, the community will see a series of updates, notifications and engagement activities designed to keep residents informed and supported before our works begin.

To manage any impacts during the construction phase, Abergeldie will develop a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) which includes mitigation measures to manage: dust, noise, vibration, sediment and run-off, traffic management in and around the worksite, site deliveries and lay down areas, construction working hours, pedestrian management, drilling works, vegetation protection and spoil management.

The CEMP will include erosion and sediment control plans prepared by the project's Erosion and Sediment Control Specialists, which will be put in place to mitigate sediment run off. To minimise the impacts to flora and fauna we will work closely with the project's ecologist and arborist where possible.

Starting in early September, we will visit properties near the reserves. We want to understand your needs, share project updates, and learn how we can minimise disruptions for you.

We will send you regular updates to explain what to expect and how we will manage disruptions for the duration of the project and minimise community impacts.

You can sign up for regular email updates or contact our community team on **1800 641 349** or at vaoclusediamondbay@sydneywater.com.au.

If you live around Oceanview Avenue & Old South Head Road (Works Area 2), you will see these same early activities starting in your area ahead of the main works in mid 2027. We will keep you updated until the project is finished.

Upcoming community engagement events

As site preparation commences at Eastern Reserve and Diamond Bay, the community is invited to attend drop-in information sessions where they can learn more about the project, ask questions, and view maps, timelines and design details.



Community information drop-in session

Date: Wednesday, 14 October 2026

Where: Diamond Bay Bowling Club,
709 Old South Head Road, Vaucluse

Time: 6pm to 7pm

Vaucluse/Diamond Bay Precinct Committee

Date: Wednesday, 21 October 2026

Where: Diamond Bay Bowling Club,
709 Old South Head Road, Vaucluse

Time: 7pm to 9pm

Get in touch

Our community engagement team can be contacted via:

 **1800 641 349**

 vaoclusediamondbay@sydneywater.com.au



Scan QR code for our project website, where you can subscribe to email updates