



Thornleigh Pipeline Duplication community update

February 2025

Sydney Water is delivering a transformative investment to ensure our water, wastewater and stormwater systems meet the needs of our customers now and in the future. New infrastructure, amplifications and upgrades will ensure the resilience and reliability of our water supply for generations to come. The population is expected to increase in northern Sydney from 1.6 million currently to 2.04 million by 2031, and 2.26 million by 2046.

Our investment will ensure we can continue to provide safe, reliable and affordable services to customers as the region continues to grow. One of the ways we are doing this is by duplicating the 1.4 km drinking water pipeline between Thornleigh Reservoir (on Quarter Sessions Road) and the Thornleigh-Wahroonga Water Pumping Station (on Dale Close).

Our work will increase the resilience of local drinking water supply and ensure we can continue to give you clean and reliable water as the area continues to grow.

What does the project involve?

The proposed pipeline will start at Thornleigh Reservoir in the south-east corner of the site. It will then be tunnelled around 1.2 km to the south side of Zig-Zag Creek at Thornleigh-Wahroonga Water Pumping Station.

The new pipeline is the same diameter (180cm) and will run parallel to the existing pipeline. Like the existing pipeline, it will run under private properties and cross local roads between 14 and 38 metres below ground level.

Approximately 160 metres will be trenched within the Sydney Water owned Thornleigh Reservoir site and the remaining 1.2km of the pipeline will be tunnelled using a small tunnel-boring machine. The tunnel-boring machine uses a 'trenchless' construction method to reduce the impacts on the environment and the community.

The map overleaf shows the existing pipeline location and the new pipeline alignment.

What stage is the project at?

Last year, we consulted on the Review of Environment Factors (REF) and gained valuable feedback from the community on the project. We have outlined the main themes raised and our responses overleaf. Responses to the feedback we received can be found in the Decision Report for the REF, which has been published at www.sydneywatertalk.com.au/thornleighiom. The recommendation is for the project to proceed with additional mitigation measures.

Ironbark Joint Venture, a partnership between Bouygues Construction Australia and Rob Carr Pty Ltd will deliver the project on behalf of Sydney Water. Site establishment will commence in February 2025, with major construction expected to start later in the year. This will take around two years to complete.



Upcoming investigation work

To help us plan these upgrades, we need to carry out investigation work in the area from February 2025 and expect this to take three weeks to finish, weather permitting. Our working hours are Monday to Friday from 7am to 6pm, and Saturdays from 8am to 1pm.

Work has commenced within Sydney Water's grounds at Thornleigh Reservoir on Quarter Sessions Road, Westleigh and will soon start at Thornleigh-Wahroonga Water Pumping Station on Dale Close.

Activities include site surveying, service locating, soil sampling, and groundwater assessments.

In order to plan work, surveying will be carried out using a drone. This will allow the collection of accurate geospatial details to refine the pipeline design. Please note the use of a drone over the work area, including private property, is not intended for the general collection of information - only for geospatial data - and will be treated confidentially.

There will be some noise and dust from the digging and machinery at the reservoir but we will make every effort to reduce the impact this work may have on you.

Ironbark Joint Venture will be establishing site compounds at Thornleigh Reservoir, and Thornleigh-Wahroonga Water Pumping Station (on Dale Close) from Monday 10 February 2025.

This will include:

- delivery and installation of offices and portable facilities
- delivery of materials and plant
- creation of access roads, and car parking and associated earthworks
- installation of hoarding around sites and acoustic barriers around generators to reduce noise impacts
- concreting of site areas
- clearing of trees and vegetation around our work sites
- trimming of some street trees to allow for larger vehicles to access the site
- parking and minor traffic changes to Edmundson Close and Dale Close. We will provide additional details of these changes to impacted residents. Private property access will be maintained throughout the project.
- work around Edmundson Close and Zig Zag Creek to allow for heavy vehicle access, including road and pedestrian path modifications.

In addition, we need to undertake pot holing work on Giblett Avenue and Edmundson Close, and within the Thornleigh- Wahroonga Water Pumping Station site. This work is planned to start early February and will take approximately three days per site, weather permitting. The pot holing work will help us identify the location of underground utilities. To carry out this work, there will be temporary traffic changes, with traffic controls in place around designated pot hole work areas to guide motorists and pedestrians. Please follow directions from the traffic controllers and signs.

We aim to minimise community impacts by:

- fencing our work site for safety and security
- using quieter equipment where possible
- turning off equipment when not in use
- taking deliveries during quieter periods
- covering loads and any stockpiles
- using a watercart where necessary to reduce dust.

What's happening next?

Once we establish our site compounds, Ironbark Joint Venture will begin excavating pits at the Thornleigh Reservoir and Thornleigh- Wahroonga Water Pumping Station sites so that tunnelling can commence in the coming months.

If you would like to know more about the work, please contact the community engagement team at thornleighiom@sydneywater.com.au or call 1800 112 480.

Your feedback

Sydney Water would like to thank the community for the feedback and questions in response to the REF. Below is a summary of our response to the main themes raised as part of this consultation. For more detailed responses, please view or download the Decision Report at

sydneywatertalk.com.au/thornleighiom.

- **Impacts from vegetation removal associated with the access road at the reservoir** – The existing internal access road on Sydney Water land, near Quarter Sessions Road, will need to be widened to 6 metres, and this will require some vegetation removal. There is no suitable option closer to the embankment that would allow heavy vehicle access. This includes the side slopes that connect the road surface to the surrounding land area. Although some vegetation trimming and removal is unavoidable, we will ensure that the impacts are minimised.
- **Noise and vibration impacts** - We will use hoarding equipment around sites and acoustic barriers around generators to reduce noise impacts. We will keep the community informed about what to expect throughout the work.
- **Impacts to the Edmundson Close walkway** – The safety of the local community and our workers is a top priority. To ensure work can be carried out in a safe manner, we will need to change some local access. The construction contractor will prepare a traffic and pedestrian management plan around work sites. Temporary adjustments will be required to access around Edmundson Close. Once construction is complete, pedestrian access to the Edmundson Close walkway will be available again.

- **Impacts to flora and fauna** - To allow safe access to the site, some vegetation removal south-east of Thornleigh Reservoir is required. This will require some vegetation removal south-east of Thornleigh Reservoir. We have minimised vegetation removal by making the launch shaft and surrounding storage area as small as possible. We will minimise vegetation removal where possible.

Community sessions

You can meet the project team at one of our two community sessions.

Venue	Address	Date and time
Sanctuary Gardens Clubhouse	The Sanctuary, Westleigh NSW 2120	Tuesday 18 February 2025, 6pm - 8pm
Thornleigh Squash Club	6 Duffy Avenue, Thornleigh NSW 2120	Wednesday 19 February 2025, 3pm - 5pm

Stay in touch

We are committed to keeping the community informed throughout the life of the project. If you have any questions, you can contact the project team via:

Call 1800 112 480

Email thornleighiom@sydneywater.com.au

Visit sydneywatertalk.com.au/thornleighiom



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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।