

MOUNT MORGAN WATER PIPELINE PROJECT

FAQs

+ Has a tender been awarded?

Yes, the contract has been awarded to Haslin Constructions Pty Ltd.

+ Why was Haslin chosen as the contractor?

Haslin are experts in water and wastewater infrastructure and come with a number of large-scale projects under their belt, which is especially important given the size and nature of the project and the need to deliver the pipeline as quickly as possible.

+ Will the contractor be using local labour and suppliers?

Haslin are committed to sourcing local labour, suppliers, materials, and sub-contractors as much as practical.

+ What does the project mean for the community?

The Mount Morgan Water Pipeline Project will provide a long-term and secure water source for the Mount Morgan community. The project will bring an end to water carting and will significantly reduce the need for water restrictions in the future. The pipeline will also support jobs and growth in the community. While the pipeline construction is underway, residents will see an increase in movement and works in the township and along the pipeline route.

+ When will the project start?

The project is underway and the first pipes are expected to be laid in January 2024.

+ When will the project finish?

The project is anticipated to be completed in September 2025, however Council will provide further updates on that timeline as the project progresses. We understand the impact water restrictions have on the community and we want to see the project delivered as quickly as possible.

+ What is the schedule of works for the pipeline construction?

We are currently working through a program of works with Haslin to ensure the project is completed as quickly and as effectively as possible.

+ Has the cost increased?

Similar to many major projects across Queensland, the cost of delivering the pipeline has increased due to rising material costs and labour pressures. As a result, Council has secured an additional \$30 million from the Federal Government to deliver the project and meet its commitment to constructing a permanent water supply to the town.

+ What is the total cost of the project now? Who is paying for it?

The project is jointly funded by federal, state and local governments:

- State Government: \$40.4 million
- Federal Government: \$30 million
- Council: \$17.8 million
- **Total: \$88.2 million**

The \$17.8 million balance funded by Council includes:

- The cost of associated projects such as the upgrade of the Old Capricorn Highway Pump Station,
- New storage reservoir at Lucas Street; and
- The widening of the Razorback.

+ How do you know costs won't blow out further?

Significant due diligence has been done and Council have entered into a firm price contract to deliver the project.

+ Will there be closures on the Razorback? What are the plans for water supply to the town during this time?

The Razorback will be upgraded however the specific details are being worked through with Haslin. The community will be given notice if and when any road closures on the Razorback occur.

+ What will happen to the Razorback once the water trucks stop running?

As part of the project, roadworks will also be carried out to improve road safety and visibility by widening the road at the top of the Razorback.

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+ Will water bills go up to cover the cost of the pipeline construction?

No – the cost to construct the pipeline will not impact water and sewerage rates for residents. However, general increases may or may not occur irrespective of the project.

+ What materials are being used for the pipe?

The pipeline will be a combination of DICT (ductile iron concrete lined) pipes and HDP (high density polyethylene) plastic pipe. The pipes will be laid mostly underground, approximately one metre below ground.

+ Where does the alignment for the pipeline go?

The alignment will use the existing road reserves along the following roads:

From Lucas Street pump station along Lucas Street > Johnson Road > McEvoy Road > Four Mile Road > Moonmera Road > Razorback Road > Creek Street > Old Barea Road > Barea Road > East Street extended > crossing the Dee River > Black Street > and finishing at the South Reservoir.

Further minor adjustments may be made during the construction phase to avoid existing underground services.

+ Will the pipeline go through private properties?

No – the revised pipeline will not go through any private properties.

+ Can I connect my water supply to the pipeline?

No - the pipeline will be from Gracemere to Mount Morgan South Reservoir and is a Trunk Main point to point high water pressure pipeline. Trunk mains like this are designed to only transport large volumes of water at high pressure, and residential properties cannot be connected to this type of main.

+ Will Council keep trucking water to Mount Morgan until the pipeline is completed?

Yes - Council has made a commitment to provide Mount Morgan with drinking water and will continue trucking water to the community until the pipeline is finished and the taps are turned on.

+ What is the cost of carting water to Mount Morgan?

Council is currently paying over \$5 million per year on water carting.

+ Will restrictions remain in place?

Current water restrictions will remain in place until the pipeline is complete and water is turned on. Any recommencement of utilising dam water will be subject to various considerations such as rainfall, dam capacity, water quality etc.

+ What happens if my driveway is impacted during construction?

The contractor, Haslin, will liaise with property owners directly if they expect driveways or property access will be impacted.

+ What will the impacts to traffic be during construction?

There will be some impacts to local traffic however the aim is to keep disruptions to a minimum. Additional traffic guidance will be in place where relevant.

+ Are the Mount Morgan pipes being supplied to the Fitzroy to Gladstone pipeline?

No – the Fitzroy to Gladstone Pipeline is a separate project and their pipeline has different sized pipes. The Fitzroy to Gladstone Pipeline has no impact on timeframes or supplies for the Mount Morgan Pipeline.

+ Why are you building a pool when the community is on water restrictions?

Because we are building a pipeline, it doesn't mean we can't seek funding for other community projects too. The Mount Morgan Pool upgrade is being funded through the State Government's Resources Community Infrastructure Fund which provides money for enhancing existing facilities or building new ones. We are extremely proud of securing this funding to finally deliver a new aquatic facility for Mount Morgan. Once complete, the pool will be filled via water carting and thanks to no more leaks, a brand-new filtration system and rainwater harvesting, the new pool will be far more water efficient.