

EPL 21278 - Community agreement summary for upcoming evening and night-time piling

January 2021

Work has recently started on James Craig Road to build the entrance to the future M4 tunnels. From January 2021, bored piling will start in preparation for construction of the tunnel portal walls to begin. Most of the bored piling will be carried out during standard daytime construction hours.

The project is shortening the overall construction program and duration of daytime bored piling by carrying out some of this work during the evening and night periods between the hours of 6pm to 7am Monday to Friday and, 6pm to 8am Friday to Saturday through a community agreement. Residents who will be impacted by the works were consulted with during the community agreement process in accordance with JHCPB's Environmental Protection Licence (EPL 21278) Conditions L4.11 and E1. Agreement was reached with a substantial majority of impacted residents to allow for the works to proceed out of hours. Further information about the work including a map showing the proposed location of piling, is provided below in "Outline of community agreement construction work". Evening and night-time piling is proposed to start in February 2021 and continue for up to three months.

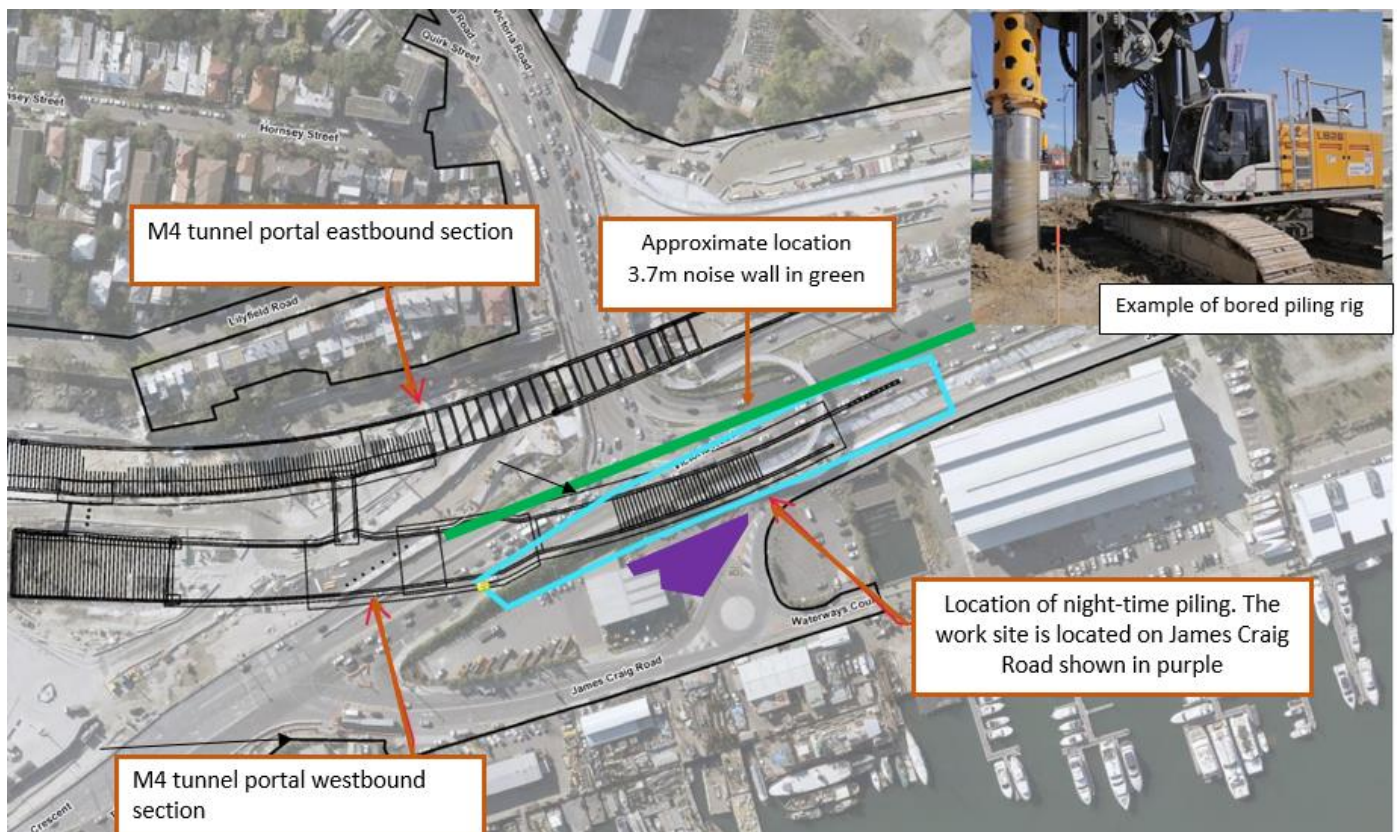
Considerable effort has been made by the project to reduce the noise impact from evening and night-time piling work including changing equipment types, using an alternative cleaning method for the piling head (shaking the material from the drilling head is usually the loudest activity), optimising acoustic measures around the work area to include engineered noise walls and moving the location of equipment away from residents.

Outline of community agreement construction work

Bored piling is a common construction activity used to strengthen the ground prior to structures being built above. The activity involves inserting steel cages into bored holes in the ground, and filling with concrete. Bored piling to construct the walls of the future M4 tunnel entrance will commence January 2021.

The piles will be constructed in the area highlighted blue in the map below between James Craig Road and the Western Distributor. A total of 253 piles are required for this wall with approximately 90 piles proposed to be constructed at night between the hours of 7pm and 6am Monday to Friday and 6pm Friday to 8am Saturdays.

Equipment to be used during the work includes but is not limited to bored piling rigs, concrete agitators, cranes, light vehicles, 14 tonne excavators, concrete pump, lighting towers and hand tools.



Piling during the evening and night

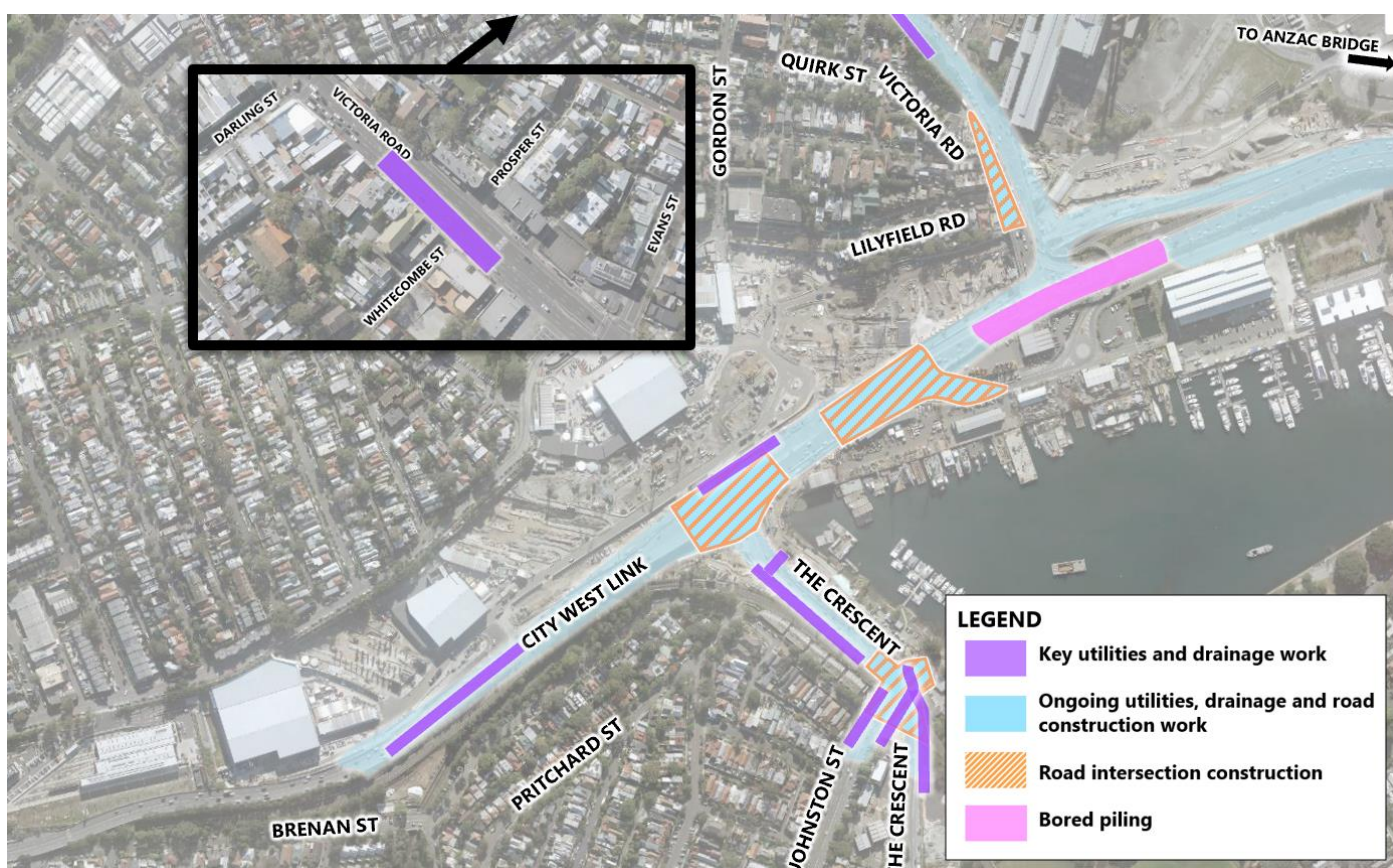
A maximum of two piling rigs will be operating concurrently on the Western Distributor close to the intersection with Victoria Road. Various measures have been taken to reduce noise from evening and night-time piling including:

- using a soil bucket to clean material from the piling head. In this way, there will not be any banging noise as the machines release material.
- constructing a 3.7m noise wall on the northern side of the piling pad. This wall will also provide noise attenuation for daytime piling activities
- locating the concrete agitators (required to discharge concrete into the piling cages) inside a compound on James Craig Road below the Western Distributor.

Other night work

In the weeks prior to, during, and proceeding evening and night-time piling, regular night work will continue on Victoria Road, The Crescent and City West Link and may be heard by residents on Lilyfield Road. Work will continue to be scheduled up to three nights per week (up to two consecutive nights at a time) and up to 10 nights per calendar month, between Mondays and Fridays.

The below map shows the key evening and night work activities scheduled for the area over the next three months, until February 2021. There is currently no out-of-hours work scheduled to take place on weekends during this time. In line with a recent order by the NSW Government (*Environmental Planning and Assessment (COVID-19 Development – Infrastructure Construction Work Days) Order 2020*) to encourage social distancing on site during COVID, work not including high impact activities, may occur on Sundays and public holidays between 8am and 6pm. Prior notice will be provided to residents if work of this nature is required.



During the proposed evening and night-time piling, regular day and night-work will continue inside the Rozelle Rail Yards, on Victoria Road and City West Link. It is expected that some of these activities will continue to generate high levels of noise, with the proposed evening and night-time piling work being in addition to this.

The expected impacts

The noisiest activity is expected to be the concrete agitator located on James Craig Road discharging concrete into the piling cages. While predicted noise levels from evening and night-time piling are relatively minor and indicate an increase of only a few decibels above current noise levels, the levels are predicted to be higher than we are permitted to generate in this area under our Environmental Protection Licence (EPL).

Noise levels at the external façade of your property from the proposed work are expected to fall between 50dBA similar to a floor fan operating, and 60dBA which is similar to an air conditioning unit working outside your property.

During the proposed evening and night-time piling, regular day and night-work will continue inside the Rozelle Rail Yards, on Victoria Road and City West Link. It is expected that some of these activities will continue to generate high levels of noise, with the proposed evening and night-time piling work being in addition to this.

During the first four weeks of evening and night-time piling, the project would carry out extensive noise monitoring to validate the predicted noise levels.

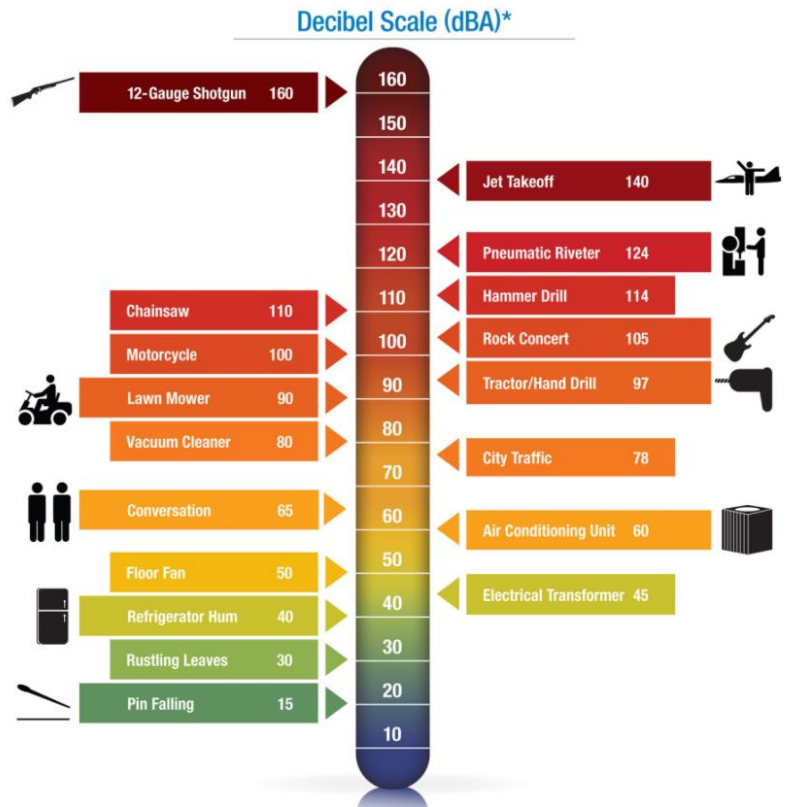


Image from: ACT Deafness Resources Centre 2020