Project information sheet June 2024

Fairfield Park Underground Wastewater Storage Tanks

Hamilton City Council is progressing with the installation of underground wastewater storage tanks in Fairfield Park to improve our network resilience and project nearby properties and the environment.

Whakataki Kaupapa – Project Introduction

Hamilton City Council has assessed the feasibility of wastewater storage locations and methods in eight areas of Hamilton City. This involved identifying a list of prioritised sites for wastewater storage. The assessment process included initial research, site visits, and engagement with Mana Whenua.

It is proposed that a 4,000 m3 underground storage tank be installed within Fairfield Park. In the longer term, a second tank of 2,000 m3 will also be installed. The construction phase is some years away but Council is working on the planning, design and formal designation of preferred sites.

We are meeting with landowners, key stakeholders and the community to obtain feedback on the proposed underground tanks and understand any concerns.

Te Kaupapa - Purpose

We need our wastewater network to work well to support a growing city and protect our people, our environment, and meet our regulatory obligations. Wastewater storage tanks serve as vital infrastructure that enables the temporary retention of wastewater during peak demand periods. The risk of overflow during wet weather events is high. Our wastewater network is reaching capacity in some areas and needs additional capacity installed at strategic points throughout the city. We need to make improvements to keep our systems safe and reliable for our community.

Whaipainga – Benefits

Wastewater storage tanks enable the temporary retention of wastewater during peak demand periods. These storage tanks are invaluable in mitigating the impact of heavy rainwater influx into our wastewater system, consequently diminishing the potential for environmentally harmful overflows or encroachment upon nearby properties.

Safeguarding the environment and neighbouring properties from wastewater overflows stands as a paramount concern for Hamilton City Council. Wastewater storage tank systems are important infrastructure for our broader network management strategy.

These tanks will help when there is heavy rain and it flows into our wastewater system, so we don't end up with untreated wastewater on roads, in people's property, or the Waikato River.

Hamilton City Council
Te kaunihera o Kirikiriroa

Why Fairfield Park?

The footprint for underground storage tanks requires a large area for construction and installation of the tanks. Fairfield Park has been chosen because there is ample space for construction in this location and is likely to have the least impact to the wider community. In addition it provides easy connections into the existing network. It also means that no property acquisition required. Below is a map of the proposed location of the two tanks.

What will this mean for the long term use of Fairfield Park?

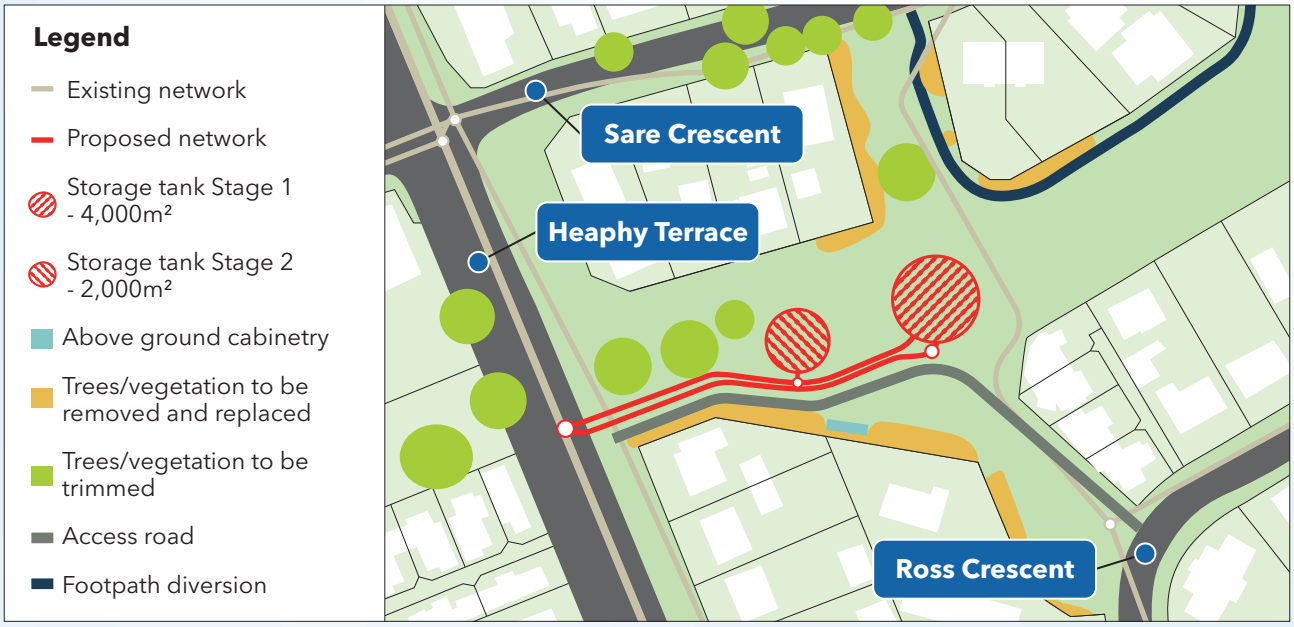
Underground storage tanks are able to accommodate other uses on top such as sportsfields, carparks, playground or community facilities. This means that once installed and construction is completed, the existing activities within Fairfield Park will be able to continue with minimal disruption. There are some access panels to the tanks for maintenance purposes but these have been located to have minimal impact on park activities.

What impacts are there to Fairfield Park during construction and how long is construction for?

Construction is planned for 2028/29. During the approximately eighteen-month construction period areas of the park, such as areas of open space will be unable to be used. We will minimise impact to the park as much as possible, avoiding walking tracks and pathways. We will also keep the community and key stakeholders informed about construction timeframes and potential impacts

How can I get involved?

If you have any questions or feedback on the proposed underground storage tanks please contact the project team on info@hcc.govt.nz or phone 07 838 6699.



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