



Gasworks Arts Park Contamination Management

August 2021

City of Port Phillip is committed to the ongoing management and response to the soil contamination at Gasworks Arts Park. The site was once part of the former South Melbourne Gasworks and as such is contaminated with the by-products of coal gas production.

The Victorian Government is managing the contamination investigations and associated works at Gasworks Arts Park. The Victorian Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has deemed the site safe for ongoing use as a public park, and it will remain open to the community while further investigations and works to manage the contamination take place.

What's happening?

A key focus for the investigation has been preparation of the soil Contamination Management Action Plan (CMAP) and undertaking groundwater investigations at the park and surrounds.

The CMAP is expected to be finalised in the second half of 2021, at which time it will be made available to the community for feedback.

Further investigations of the site's contamination status will continue to be conducted throughout 2021 as the CMAP and groundwater remediation action plan are further developed.

What's next?

The most recent groundwater investigations at the park identified several 'hot spot' areas of contamination. These need further investigation to determine if any work to remediate groundwater contamination is required.

A ground penetration radar (GPR) survey of the eastern portion of Gasworks Arts Park was undertaken in February 2021. The results of the GPR survey have helped to identify where historical gasworks infrastructure remains below the ground surface and therefore where contamination is also likely to be present.

The results from the survey have been reviewed and target areas within the eastern portion of the site have been identified for further soil investigations. These investigations will commence on 9 August 2021, via small exploratory excavations. The works will be undertaken by an environmental consultant engaged by the Victorian Government and will be completed across a five-day period, involving as little disturbance to the park as possible. Temporary fencing will be erected around a selected area of the park to allow for the works to be undertaken safely. The temporary fencing will remain in place for a short

time after the works have been completed to support lawn reinstatement.

Based upon the GPR survey results and understanding of the area, it is likely the investigations will encounter materials that are contaminated and odorous. The environmental scientists conducting these investigations will monitor the odours at all times and endeavour to keep any impacts to site users to a minimum throughout the duration of the works.



Park Plan development

Council is developing the draft concept design of the Park Plan alongside the CMAP. We expect to have the draft available for community feedback in late 2021.

Albert Park College trial use of Gasworks Arts Park

Following a Council resolution on 17 March 2021, Albert Park College has been granted approval to extend the trial use of Lemnos Square and Gasworks Arts Park for the full 2021 school year. This approval comes with conditions of use, which include:

- park use only on school days during recess and lunchtimes
- no access to public amenities within theatre and café complex
- no ball sports
- no infrastructure to be installed
- teacher supervision
- path network must always be used when moving between campuses
- no exclusive use
- no impact on others.

More information

To unsubscribe from our mailing list please click on the unsubscribe link at the bottom of this email.

Find out more information about this project, including community engagement on the Park Plan, by contacting Council using the following methods:

Email us with your enquiry

Gasworks Arts Park Webpage

Contact ASSIST on 9209 6777

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