

MEDIA RELEASE

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Replacing 500m of water pipeline in Main Street, Bairnsdale

Site work is expected to get underway next week (from Monday 26 June) on an East Gippsland Water project to replace 500m of old water pipeline along Main Street in the centre of Bairnsdale.

The section of pipeline targeted dates from the early 1900's and runs under the footpath on the north side of Main Street, between Pyke Street and Bailey Street. Replacing the pipe will help ensure the reliability and efficiency of the local water supply network well into the future.

Contractors operating on East Gippsland Water's behalf are expected to complete the project in three to four months.

East Gippsland Water's Managing Director, Bruce Hammond, said, "We appreciate that the centre of Bairnsdale is a busy thoroughfare and every effort will be made to ensure inconvenience to businesses, shoppers and motorists is kept to a minimum. With this in mind the project has been scheduled to take place during one of the quieter periods of the year for traffic.

"The work will be carried out in sections to minimise the impact on access to the footpath, shops and car parking spaces. In addition, trenchless technology will be used in place of open excavation wherever possible to install the replacement pipeline underground. Where interruptions to the water supply may be required, any affected businesses will be notified in advance.

"We would like to thank everyone likely to be affected by these works for their cooperation, with relevant local businesses contacted about the works well in advance."

This initiative is part of a \$12 million program of investment in capital projects that the water corporation is committed to for the current financial year across the East Gippsland region.

Customers with any queries about the Main Street works should contact East Gippsland Water on 1800 671 841.

Ends