Tamarama stormwater recycling system

Council is constructing a new state-of-the-art underground stormwater recycling system in Tamarama Park to improve water quality at Tamarama Beach, whilst conserving mains water and saving money. The system is very similar to the ones already in place at Bondi Park and Bronte, and will involve associated works to improve the look and feel of Tamarama Park.

What will the system do?
The system will collect, treat and recycle polluted stormwater that would otherwise flow into the beach.

How does the system work?
The system will capture runoff water from our homes, streets and businesses for treatment and recycling.

Once collected, the system will remove large pollutants like sediments and litter from the water. Water will then be directed to a 170 million litre underground storage tank (roughly the size of two average swimming pools) where it will undergo a UV filtration and disinfection process to remove any fine particles and bacteria.

The recycled water will then be clean and ready to use for irrigating the park, flushing toilets in the amenities block and for planting and Bushcare activities. Any remaining filtered water will be discharged into Tamarama Beach.

What are the benefits of the system?
- Improving water quality at Tamarama
- Reducing pollution at Tamarama Beach
- Saving at least 14 million litres of drinking water each year
- Keeping our parks green
- Improving irrigation at Tamarama Park and reducing our reliance on mains water
- Providing recycled water for Council’s water trucks to keep our street gardens green

What will the recycled water be used for?
The system is expected to produce at least 14 million litres of clean recycled water, which we’ll use for irrigating the park, improving our local bushland through Bushcare activities and flushing toilets in the park.

Where will the system be built?
The recycling system will be housed underneath the park, on the upper side of Tamarama Park.

How long will construction take?
Construction will commence in July 2015 and is expected to be completed by November 2015.
What will works involve?

- Excavation of a section of the upper part of the park
- Installation of a 170 million litre tank underneath the park
- Re-turfing of the park
- Aesthetic improvements to the base of the waterfall including the removal of concrete, bank stabilisation and plantings
- New Tamarama Park promenade seating
- Automatic irrigation system for upper park
- New park furniture installed
- Restoration of native vegetation in Tamarama Park
- Free public Wi-Fi installation
- Resurfacing of path above park
- Investigation into controlled lighting solutions which is sensitive to local residents’ needs

What will the impact on the park be?

The impact on the beach side of the park is expected to be minimal, as the system is being constructed on the upper side of the park. There will be some impact on the promenade at the beach whilst new seating is installed, but we will work with the contractors to ensure the impact on public open space is kept to a minimum.

Will works impact on Sculptures by the Sea?

No, works will be carried out in the upper gully so there will be no direct impact on the coastal walk and beach during Sculptures by the Sea. The new promenade seating should have been installed, so there will be no impact on access between the beach and park.

Who is carrying out the work?

An external contractor, SAS Water Solutions Pty Ltd will carry out the works. Council staff will work closely with the contractor to ensure the work is completed as quickly as possible and minimise the impact on the surrounding area.

What will it look like when it’s complete?

As it is an underground system, the system won’t be visible when it is complete. Access lids will be installed so that the system and underground tank may be accessed by maintenance crews, but these will be securely locked. The system will be covered over by turf once construction has been completed.

The remaining works will provide improved public seating and aesthetic for the beach promenade.

Where can I get more information?

- Watch the Bondi stormwater video on Council’s YouTube channel
- Contact Corey Fox, Council’s Water Projects Coordinator, on 9369 8086 or email corey.fox@waverley.nsw.gov.au

How the system works

Water re-use

- **CAPTURING STORMWATER**
  - An underground pit and screened sediment basin is designed to divert and filter stormwater flows from existing drainage line and capture pollutants.

- **STORAGE TANK**
  - 170 kilolitre underground storage tank – roughly the size of 2 average swimming pools

- **FILTRATION AND DISINFECTION**
  - Filtration and UV treatment of harvested water to remove fine particles and pathogens

- **EXCESS FILTERED WATER**
  - Excess filtered stormwater is discharged at Tamarama beach