



Lyttelton Tunnel Fire Protection Upgrade Project



Work on a new \$28.7 million fire protection system for the Lyttelton Tunnel is expected to be completed in April/May 2019. Once operating, the system will improve safety for tunnel users on a route that's an economic lifeline for both Canterbury and the South Island.

MANAGING TUNNEL TRAFFIC

Later this month, you'll need to plan your travel around three nights of back-to-back late night tunnel closures. These are essential to test the new fire protection system inside the tunnel.

Scheduled for Sunday 24 February, Monday 25 February and Tuesday 26 February. The tunnel will close between 11pm and 4am but will open to traffic for 10 minutes on the hour every hour between each test of the fire protection system.

The fire protection system is being tested in sections. During each test, 150 litres a second of water is released over a 90-metre section of the tunnel (10mm of water a minute) for 5 minutes. This water can then be cleared, so the tunnel is safe to open to traffic for 10 minutes every hour.

Tunnel access for emergency services will be maintained at all times. A 90-day schedule for single and full traffic lane closures is updated monthly and available at www.nzta.govt.nz/lyttelton-tunnel-lane-closures

While the fire protection system is being tested, we're taking the opportunity to carry out essential repairs on the Christchurch side of the tunnel. This will be less disruptive for tunnel users than doing this work separately. Drivers coming through the tunnel towards Christchurch will need to turn left onto SH76 Port Hills Road instead of continuing along SH74 Tunnel Road.

SUMNER ROAD RE-OPENING

Sumner Road and the Sumner Lyttelton Corridor are expected to re-open in late March. This re-establishes an important road link and dangerous goods vehicle route between Lyttelton and Christchurch. Since the closure, a result of the February 2011 earthquake, dangerous goods vehicles such as fuel tankers were allowed to use Lyttelton Tunnel. When the Sumner Lyttelton Corridor re-opens, these vehicles will no longer use the tunnel.

WHAT'S INVOLVED?

The project has seen the installation of a new deluge fire suppression system and the construction of a large reservoir to supply water for this system. The system is designed to contain a fire until emergency services reach the scene. Some earthquake strengthening of the tunnel portal buildings has been undertaken as part of this project along with communication equipment upgrades.

A new wastewater pipe is being installed to futureproof wastewater services in Lyttelton and the surrounding areas. Find out more about this work at <https://ccc.govt.nz/services/water-and-drainage/wastewater/wastewater-projects/lyttelton-harbour-wastewater-project/>

SOME KEY PROJECT STATISTICS

- 6km of deluge system pipework
- 2km of water supply pipes
- 2274 water sprinkler heads
- 40 new safety cameras inside the tunnel
- 70,000m of cable
- 1.4 million litres of water storage

WHAT'S BEEN COMPLETED?

Things are really pumping on this job, with the completion of a new pump house and stormwater system. The new wastewater pipe and water main for the new deluge system have been installed. Each pipe is 1.9km long and secured by over 3,900 anchor supports.

The construction team's focus is currently on finishing off the new reservoir. Each of its two tanks holds nearly 700,000 litres of water. This will provide a water source for the new fire protection system in the tunnel.

The team continues to install the pipework for the new fire protection system both in the tunnel, and in the ducts above the tunnel roof. Installation of the system along with the monitoring system are nearly complete.



Moving the last section of the new Lyttelton water main into position.



Reservoir nears completion above the Heathcote Portal.



Teams installing the new fire protection pipework inside the tunnel.



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- Call 0800 4 HIGHWAYS (0800 44 44 49)

Find out more about this project at:

- www.nzta.govt.nz/lyttelton-tunnel

For questions or feedback on the construction of this project, contact McConnell Dowell at:

- lyttelton@mcgroup.com
- Call 0508 MCD COMMS (0508 62326667)