

Consenting the Prince of Wales Reservoir – info sheet

Wellington Water has started a new phase in the development of a water reservoir that will improve normal operational service and seismic resilience of Wellington's water supply, and increase emergency water storage for central Wellington. This phase of the reservoir development involves seeking resource consents and completing the detailed design of the reservoir pipework. Funding for the detailed design and construction of the reservoir is not yet programmed.

The Prince of Wales Reservoir will be a highly-resilient, 35 million-litre concrete reservoir that will service the areas of Wellington's central business district, Newtown, Mount Cook. It will be built in Prince of Wales Park, Mount Cook and will be the largest reservoir in Wellington. Once construction begins, it is expected to take two years to build. The surrounding area will be landscaped and reinstated.

1974	1992	2002	2004
The need for a new reservoir in the CBD was recognised	A 20ML reservoir built in Macalister Park	More sites were investigated to cope for increasing population and emergency storage for the Wellington Hospital	Prince of Wales Park identified as one of 10 possible sites

>	2011	2012-13	2016-17	Date TBC
	Prince of Wales Park identified as preferred site	Early investigations and design, including preliminary design drawings, cost estimates and landscape design completed	Consultation, resource consenting, detailed design of pipework	Detailed design and construction of reservoir



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Why do we need a new reservoir?

The need for more water storage in central Wellington was identified in the 1970s. A new reservoir will improve the resilience of the city's water supply and provide more emergency water storage for critical services such as Wellington Hospital. It'll also expand existing water storage allowing us to carry out essential maintenance, repair and upgrade works of other reservoirs with minimal disruption to local water supply.

How will the reservoir improve the resilience of the city's water supply?

The new reservoir is part of ongoing work to improve the resilience of the region's water supply network and increase water storage in case of a disaster. All Wellington's bulk water supply pipelines cross major earthquake faults. Disruption to the city's water supply is likely in the event of a severe earthquake. The Prince of Wales Reservoir will be built to modern seismic standards and provide a secure water source in the event of disruption to normal water supplies.

How big will the reservoir be?

The reservoir will hold 35 million litres of drinking water - enough to fill 14 Olympic-sized swimming pools. It'll be approximately 67 metres across and have a water depth of 12 metres at the sides and 15 metres in the middle.

Why was the Prince of Wales Park chosen as the site?

After careful review of potential sites, the Prince of Wales Park ranked as the preferred site on economic, environmental, social, availability and cultural factors. All other options were also located in the Town Belt because the reservoir's top water level must be high enough to maintain adequate water pressure to users.

What visual impact will the reservoir have?

The reservoir will be buried and the area will be landscaped to match the existing landform as closely as practical.

How does the reservoir compare with others in Wellington?

It'll be largest reservoir in Wellington. The next largest reservoir is Macalister Reservoir, built in 1992, which holds 20 million litres of water.

Will I still be able to use the park during construction?

Site access will be restricted during construction. Paths through the upper section of the park where the reservoir will be located will be out of action during construction. However, detour walking routes will be available so people will still be able to get to and from work or school, or enjoy a walk through the park. The upper playing field will be out of use during construction and the lower field might also be impacted by construction, but this can't be confirmed until further investigations are carried out.

What opportunities will there be for me to have my say about the project?

We'll keep the community informed about progress via the website, letters, advertising, meetings and open days. The consenting process provides an opportunity for people to make a submission on the project.

How can I find out more?

For more information, visit Wellington Water's website, email or phone the project team.

This work is being carried out by Wellington Water on behalf of Wellington City Council and the Greater Wellington Regional Council.



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