

St Marys Bay and Herne Bay separation projects

Updated: January 2025

What were the original projects?

These projects were part of the earlier works that focused on separating the old, combined stormwater and wastewater pipes directing stormwater to the environment and wastewater to the Māngere Wastewater Treatment Plant via the Ōrākei main. The project included a new public wastewater network, storage and a new pump station at Point Erin as well as private property drainage separation and connections. Work has been progressing for the past 18 months on the design and approvals for the St Marys Bay separation works.

Why has a change in programme been proposed?

Like most infrastructure projects, the St Marys Bay and Herne Bay wastewater and stormwater separation projects have been heavily impacted by escalating material, labour and traffic management costs. These increases, coupled with further costs identified in the design stage to accommodate geotechnical risks, and further learnings taken from the recent separation project at Okahu Bay, put our most recent cost estimates for the project at \$278m, double the original forecast of \$136m.

This scale of change is unaffordable and as a result our team and Auckland Council have been exploring a new, more cost-effective way to deliver the same water quality outcomes within the agreed timeframe.

What is the new proposal?

Fortunately, an alternative more affordable option is available. This involves an extension of the Central Interceptor wastewater conveyance and storage tunnel from Tawariki Street in Grey Lynn to a new connection shaft in Point Erin. This will be supported by the new Herne Bay collector and a revised programme of sewer separation which will be managed by Healthy Waters moving forward.