Plans for transforming Victoria Street in Wellington city are close to being finalised and the plan in this edition shows changes made to the central and northern blocks following consultation. Improvements for cyclists in the southern block are still under discussion but will be available in time for our pre-Christmas update.

Preparatory work prior to Christmas will see the central and southern blocks from Ghuznee Street to Abel Smith Street operating with only two lanes during the day, but reopening to three lanes for peak after-work traffic from 4.00pm to 6.00pm. Please take extra care.

**Southern and central blocks: Bus stops remain, bus shelters back soon**

The two bus shelters between Ghuznee and Abel Smith Streets have been removed but people can still use the bus stops. The precise location of the stops may shift slightly south or north as works progress and we will use large moveable signs to mark where they are. This is a temporary measure and the shelters will be restored later in the project.

**Hydrovacs: noisy but necessary**

Hydrovac is the safe method of removing soil in places where there are underground ducts and pipes containing the city’s water, gas, electrical and telecoms services. This method uses a high pressure jet of water hosed into the ground to produce a loose slurry of mud which is sucked up through a tube into a container on a truck.

The essential services that people rely on are protected from damage and our workers’ lives are protected from accidental rupturing of dangerous cables.

However, the hydrovac is unavoidably noisy. We are using noise barriers to help reduce the impact on neighbours, passersby and vehicles.
The vision for Victoria Street

We’re transforming the southern end of Victoria Street between Dixon and Abel Smith Streets into a more attractive place which will be:

- A premier street within the Victoria / Cuba Streets Precinct
- A vibrant inner city neighbourhood that encourages commercial and residential development
- More efficient for vehicles and cyclists to use
- An enhanced pedestrian experience with public spaces and wider footpaths.

The street will be the site of new apartment complexes and the development of the Farmers/Deka site to include a new Whitireia and WelTec campus for more than 1000 students.

Works

Southern block between Vivian and Abel Smith Streets

Trolley bus poles on the eastern side of the street are being relocated and the Abel Smith Street traffic island will be removed. Preparatory work continues on the western, slip lane, side with the construction of a retaining wall.

Two southbound lanes will be open for vehicles and cyclists during the day. Three lanes will be open from 4.00pm to 6.00pm for peak after-work traffic. On-street car parks have been removed.

A walkway for pedestrians on the eastern (Crafters) side of the street will be marked with orange cones and signs with traffic supervisors to assist. Kerb ramps will be provided for wheelchair access. The western, (Hirepool) side remains closed to pedestrians except for access to properties.

- **Night work:** Potentially, some night work to relocate trolley bus poles may be required to avoid disrupting traffic and pedestrians. Affected residents will be contacted when we know more.

Central block between Ghuznee and Vivian Streets

Six trolley bus poles are being relocated at the southern end of the central block before Christmas.

During the day, this will require closing part of one lane and rearranging the route to have one northbound lane and one southbound lane. All lanes will be reinstated for peak hour after-work traffic from 4.00pm to 6.00pm. On-street car parks have been removed.

A pedestrian walkway on the western (Apex Rental) side of the street will be marked with orange cones and signs with traffic supervisors to assist.

- **Night work:** Evening work to install a trolley bus pole on the Vivian Street traffic island. This is not expected to cause disturbance.

Northern block between Dixon and Ghuznee Streets

No work this side of the Christmas-New Year break.

General work hours

Mon to Fri 7.00am – 6.00pm   Sat 8.00am – 2.00pm

Thank you for your patience while transformation works proceed.

Contact us

To comment or inquire about the project or to register for emailed updates, please contact info@memorialpark.co.nz. More information is available on Wellington City Council’s website: Wellington.govt.nz/Victoria.