

News

**Retaining walls: stage 2 construction starting**

23 June 2017

Colac Otway Shire has begun a program to construct 21 retaining walls across Wye River and Separation Creek. Construction began on Tuesday 20 June 2017 and will continue for approximately six months, subject to weather.

 The new walls will replace retaining walls located within the Council road reserve that were damaged in the bushfire. Council will be using non-combustible materials including steel I-beams and reinforced concrete sleepers for new structures to increase their resilience to future fire events.

**First and second stages of construction**

The contractor performing the scheduled works, Leprechaun Landscaping, commenced works in Separation Creek on Tuesday 20 June 2017. The first stage of construction comprised of three retaining walls within the road reserve in Separation Creek adjacent to the following properties: 11 Bass Avenue, Separation Creek, 32 Harrington Street, Separation Creek and 1 Mitchell Grove, Separation Creek.

These walls have been completed three weeks ahead of schedule, on Friday 23 June.

This was achieved thanks to good weather, local residents understanding the work requirements and the understanding of the other trade professionals working in the area. Thank you everyone.

**Stage two will begin on 27 June, with construction to continue for approximately three and a half weeks. This stage comprises retaining walls within the road reserve adjacent to the following properties in Karingal Drive, Wye River: 12, 14, 28, 31, 44-46, and 61 Karingal Drive.**

The 21 retaining walls will be constructed in stages of multiple walls. We will advise community members and stakeholders of each stage of works, approximately one week before work commences. All residents of the properties concerned will be contacted individually by phone prior to the commencement of works.

Residents involved are already aware of the retaining wall construction, having signed access deeds and chosen a wall colour in the past few months. In addition, we will also communicate the commencement dates and approximate duration of each stage of works via Facebook posts on[www.facebook.com/wyesepconnect](http://www.facebook.com/wyesepconnect" \t "_blank) and the website [www.colacotway.vic.gov.au/wyesep](http://www.colacotway.vic.gov.au/wyesep" \t "_blank)

**Traffic and safety**

Traffic management will be required during the construction period, with traffic speeds reduced from 20 to 10 kilometres an hour during the construction times of construction. Traffic management signage and barriers will be in place in each work zone.

Every intention is to ensure roads are kept open during the retaining wall construction period. Any changes will be communicated.

Each worksite is considered a safety zone during construction, from 7am-5pm Monday to Friday. The work zone contains multiple safety hazards and heavy dangerous mobile equipment and needs to be treated with caution.

Traffic management signage and barriers will be in place in each work zone. All drivers and pedestrians need to be escorted through the work zone by the Traffic Control Officer.

