

MICROTUNNEL METHOD

WHAT IS MICROTUNNELING?

The microtunneling process was developed to install pipes underneath highways, railroads, rivers and in environmentally sensitive areas. This concept was developed by the Japanese in the 1970s, but has been used in the United States since the mid 1980s. The process involves the following steps:

- One person above ground operates the microtunneling system using a computer to advance and steer the microtunnel boring machine (MTBM).
- The launching and reception shafts are excavated.
- Hydraulic jacks push the machine into the soil.
- Pipes containing dirty water or liquid carry excavated spoil to the surface.
- The jacks are retracted and the control cables are disconnected.
- A pipe or casing is lowered into the shaft and inserted between the jacking frame and the machine.
- The cables are then reconnected.
- This process is repeated until the MTBM reaches the reception shaft.

WHAT TO EXPECT DURING THE MICROTUNNELING PROCESS?

The equipment used for this process is loud and can cause vibration. The work can take a few weeks to be completed. Site fencing is usually installed during non-construction hours due to the shafts typically being too large to cover with metal plates. Road closures and lane restrictions are possible.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF MICROTUNNELING?

Microtunneling has many advantages, including the following:

- Can improve worker safety by eliminating the need to be in trenches.
- Protects the environment rather than destroys it.
- The process is cost effective.
- Allows deep installation of pipe under existing utilities.



<http://tunnelingonline.com/advancing-microtunneling/>



<http://www.hawaiibusiness.com/dont-let-the-name-microtunneling-fool-you/>

FACT SHEET



City of Atlanta
Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms

Atlanta City Council

Felicia Moore *President*
Carla Smith *District 1*
Amir R. Farokhi *District 2*
Antonio Brown *District 3*
Cleta Winslow *District 4*
Natalyn Mosby Archibong *District 5*
Jennifer N. Ide *District 6*
Howard Shook *District 7*
J.P. Matzigkeit *District 8*
Dustin Hillis *District 9*
Andrea Boone *District 10*
Marci Collier Overstreet *District 11*
Joyce Sheperd *District 12*
Michael Julian Bond *Post 1 at Large*
Matt Westmoreland *Post 2 at Large*
Andre Dickens *Post 3 at Large*

Kishia L. Powell
Commissioner
Department of Watershed Management



CITY OF ATLANTA DEPARTMENT OF
**watershed
management**

CLEAN WATER ATLANTA



DWM Customer Service: 404-546-0311
www.atlantawatershed.org/cleanwateratlanta

Clean Water Atlanta is a comprehensive program created to ensure clean drinking water, clean streams and a healthy environment for the City of Atlanta and its downstream neighbors. To learn more about Clean Water Atlanta please visit our website www.Atlantawatershed.org/cleanwateratlanta or call 311.