



# Waikato Expressway



## Hamilton Section

Update  
October 2010

### Quick facts

LOCATION:	The Hamilton Section commences at the Lake Road interchange connection with the Ngaruawahia Section in the north and runs southward, to the east of Hamilton, connecting to the existing Tamahere interchange south of Hillcrest.
CURRENT STAGE OF WORK:	Investigation and Design
ESTIMATED VALUE:	\$890 million
LENGTH OF SECTION:	21.8km
TARGET COMPLETION DATE:	2019

## Next phase of the Hamilton Section begins

**The next phase of investigations for the Hamilton Section of the Waikato Expressway is now underway, following the recent award of a professional services contract to Opus International Consultants (Opus).**

This contract is a key step in driving the development of this significant project and meeting the target completion date for the expressway.

The first phase of work was undertaken by Opus between 1995 and 2004. This phase led to the Hamilton Section being designated in the Waikato District Plan and the Hamilton City Plan in 2005.

The current phase of work is the secondary investigation and specimen design, which includes:

- Updating and extending the initial investigation work that was carried out in the first phase of the project, including detailed assessment of planning, traffic, road network connectivity, geotechnical, environmental and cultural issues.

- Securing of the resource consents required for activities such as construction earthworks, stream crossings and stormwater drainage.
- Preparation of a specimen design which reflects the outcomes of consultation and investigation.
- Preparation of the construction contract documentation for the tendering of a construction contract.

As part of the current phase of work, survey, geotechnical and other site investigations will be carried out. If you own or occupy land within the Hamilton Section designation, you may be contacted shortly to discuss access arrangements for this work and potential property purchase.

Discussions are already underway with major stakeholders regarding the key issues for the Hamilton Section. Access and connectivity around the expressway are particularly important aspects of the project, as the expressway will eventually form the 'urban fence' to the east of Hamilton City.

### Project Benefits

When complete the Waikato Expressway will be the key strategic transport corridor for the Waikato region, connecting Auckland to the agricultural and business centres of Waikato and Bay of Plenty. The Expressway will improve economic growth and productivity through more efficient movement of people and freight.

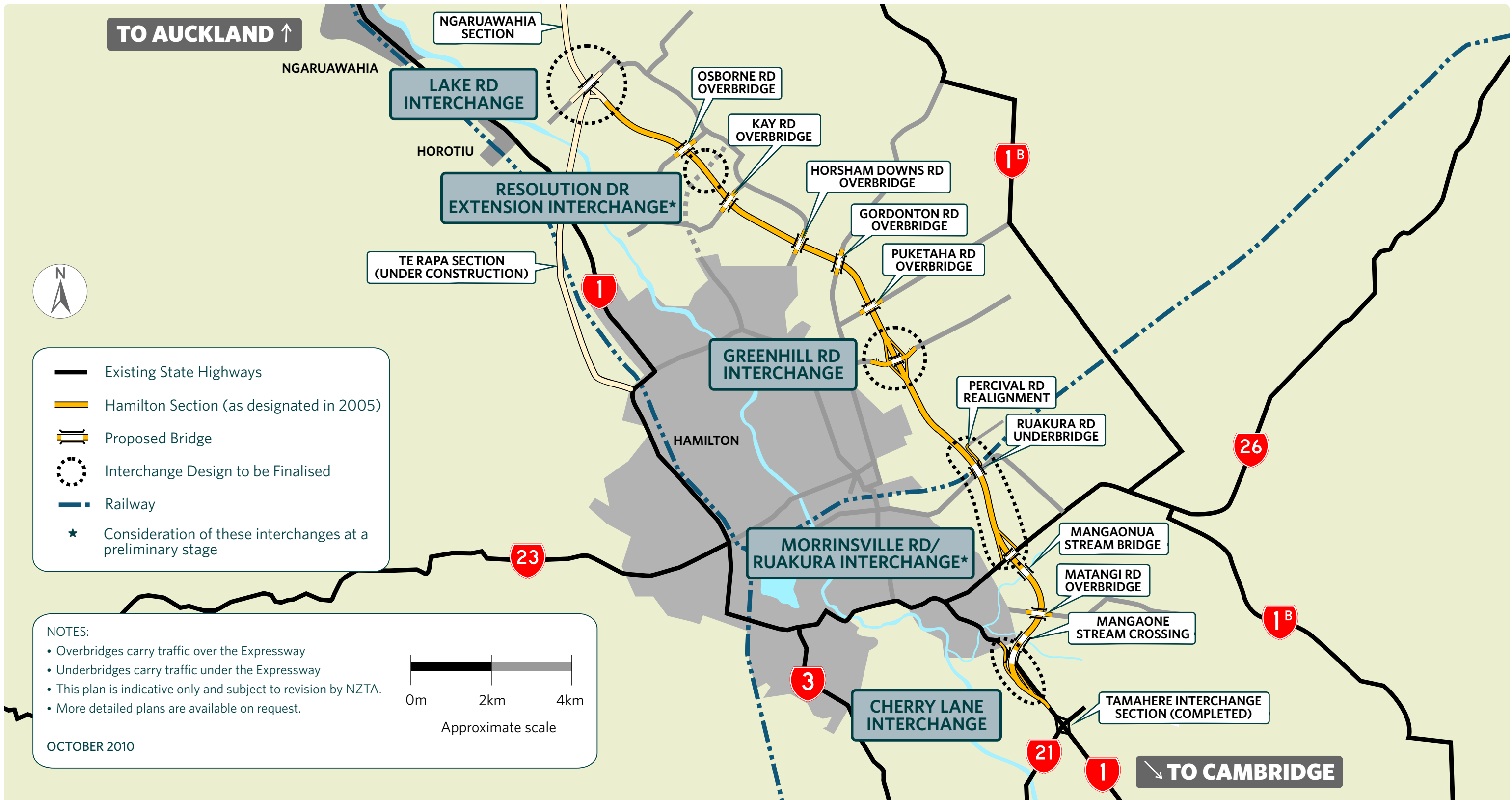
Other benefits of the Waikato Expressway include:

- reducing travel times between Auckland and Tirau by 35 minutes
- reducing significantly the number of fatal and serious injury crashes
- reducing fuel costs
- reducing traffic congestion within smaller communities like Huntly, Ngaruawahia and Cambridge
- increasing the highway's capacity and passing opportunities.

The Hamilton Section will:

- connect the Ngaruawahia Section of the Expressway, due for completion in 2014, to the existing Tamahere Interchange
- reduce traffic congestion and improve safety on Hamilton's local road network by significantly reducing the volume of through traffic including trucks.

This project is part of the larger Waikato Expressway programme of work. The Waikato Expressway is one of seven roads of national significance for New Zealand. When completed it will be 102 km long, running from the Bombay Hills to south of Cambridge.



## Hamilton Section Overview

The Hamilton Section will pass to the east of Hamilton City, commencing at the Lake Road interchange connection with the Ngaruawahia Section in the north and connecting to the existing Tamahere interchange south of Hillcrest. Construction of the Hamilton Section is planned to commence in 2015, with completion targeted for 2019.

More detailed maps and information can be obtained from the website: [www.nzta.govt.nz/projects/waikato-expressway](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/projects/waikato-expressway)

For a more detailed map indicating the distance from the current designation to a specific property forward the address to [brian.aspin@nzta.govt.nz](mailto:brian.aspin@nzta.govt.nz).



## What's happened to date?

The first phase of the Hamilton Section development was completed in 2004 and resulted in the designation of the Hamilton Section in both the Waikato District Plan and the Hamilton City Plan. The first phase also involved:

- consultation with affected landowners, tangata whenua, stakeholders and other affected parties
- an assessment of the Project's traffic, noise, landscape, stormwater, ecological, archaeological and social effects.

# Process and Indicative Timeframes

The programme for the Project's development and implementation is as follows:

- October 2010: Investigations to commence
- February 2011: First Public Information Day
- Late 2011: Second Public Information Day, which will enable the project team to share progress on the project and changes which have been adopted following the initial stage of public consultation. This information day will also enable stakeholders and affected landowners to provide input into the next stages of the project
- Mid 2012: NZTA lodges applications for resource consent and any alterations to the designation
- Late 2012: Waikato District Council, Hamilton City and Environment Waikato publicly notify the applications
- 2012-2013: Hearing of resource consents and potential alterations to designation



Possible bridge crossing of Mangaharakeke and Mangaone gullies in Tamahere (artist's impression of aerial view looking north).

## Opportunities for Input

In parallel with the investigations, NZTA and Opus will be consulting landowners, tangata whenua, stakeholders and other affected parties to gain full understanding of the issues that could affect the expressway design, and to identify anything that has changed since the first phase of investigations.

This will include developing further details of mitigation measures that formed part of the designation process, including ecological restoration, traffic noise mitigation, erosion and sediment control, landscape design, and protocols in case of accidental archaeological discovery. An Information Day will be held early in 2011.



For more information

For further information online visit:  
[www.nzta.govt.nz/rons](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/rons)  
[www.nzta.govt.nz/projects/waikato-expressway](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/projects/waikato-expressway)

## Our contact details

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