



NZ TRANSPORT AGENCY
WAKA KOTAHI

Kopu Bridge replacement

Project Update #1 – September 25 2009

The Kopu Bridge Replacement Project involves more than just replacing the bridge. It also involves around 2.5 kilometres of new approach roads, including a new link road to State Highway 26 east of the bridge and a new four-leg roundabout at the junction of SH25 and SH26.

Construction of the bridge was officially launched by Prime Minister John Key in July 2009 after the project was brought forward as part of the Government's \$500 million Jobs and Growth Plan. The project will cost \$47 million and is expected to be completed by Mid 2012.

Work to date...

- HEB Construction, which won the tender to build the new bridge, is currently establishing and fencing off offices and a work compound on the west side of Waihou river. Key staff will be based in these offices for the duration of the project.
- Land which has been purchased for the new road is also being fenced. A Thames-based contractor has been employed for much of this work.
- Work is continuing on submitting project plans and working alongside local Councils and others to deal with environmental and consent compliance matters.
- More than 1300 tonnes of steelworks for the bridge girders has been ordered from an Auckland-based company, D & H Steel Ltd. Pile casing manufacture has also been sub-contracted to a New Zealand company, Steelpipe NZ Ltd, also based in Auckland.
- An order has been placed for 750 tonnes of reinforcing steel.

In the near future...

- Over the next few weeks, wick drains will be installed on site. These drains will allow the swampy ground to settle more quickly as the new road is built. A 55-tonne crawler crane, currently being assembled on site, will be used to install the drains.
- Work will soon begin on cleaning out ditches and installing silt controls in preparation for the first stage of the earthworks.

To find out more about the project, go to www.nzta.govt.nz/kopubridge