



State Highway 20A to Airport improvements

PROJECT UPDATE

March 2018

Changes for SH20A's Landing Drive roundabout

The MHX Kirkbride Alliance began construction to upgrade the Landing Drive roundabout in February 2017. One year on and the team are close to completing the 8-laned, fully signalised intersection.

The Landing Drive roundabout is almost at capacity. A roundabout works best when there is a similar flow of vehicles on each arm of the roundabout. At Landing Drive, the strong north/south flow means the roundabout isn't working as it should. The solution is a new 8-lane intersection with permanent traffic lights which will improve traffic flow.

The team plan to have the intersection signalised in late May 2018 and in its final alignment in August 2018.

Before permanent traffic lights can be installed, our crews need to access areas within the intersection's lanes. We will put temporary traffic management in place to allow our crews to complete the work safely and, when practical, we will extend our work hours to help reduce the impact to traffic. To complete the planned upgrade we will build traffic islands and lay the final road surface.

Work is also underway to build the final section of the shared path that runs along the western side of SH20A. Once the shared path opens, users will be able to safely cross the new intersection using the signalised pedestrian crossing. As well as improving safety for cyclists, pedestrians and drivers, the upgrade will ensure a more reliable journey time for travellers to and from the airport.



An excavator operator prepares to lay topsoil in the northeast corner of the roundabout.



The roundabout in March 2018, just over a year into construction.

LOCAL ROADS

Over one mammoth weekend in December, the team laid new road surface along Kirkbride Road east. They repeated this west of the Kirkbride Road interchange in February 2018.

Starting at 8pm on Friday 16th February, crews planned to have the pavement laid and traffic management uplifted by 5am on Monday 19th. The team worked much faster than expected and finished on Sunday afternoon, with line marking completed by 8pm, 9 hours earlier than planned.

To lay the new pavement, the existing pavement had to be removed and a completely new 'black top' laid along parts of Kirkbride Road, Ascot Road and Richard Pearse Drive. The final paving followed weeks of preparation work and planning.

The team will install the new cycle lanes by building concrete separators and laying the green textured surface. There will also be work to raise manhole lids and to install signage. All of our work in this area will be finished this month.



The newly paved intersection with Kirkbride Road and Ascot Road.



An aerial view of the Kirkbride Road and Ascot Road intersection, before final paving was undertaken.

MONTGOMERIE ROAD WORKS

In September 2017 the Alliance opened the Kirkbride Road underpass on SH20A and closed the SH20A/Montgomery Road intersection for safety reasons. This allowed the team to begin building the new wetland where Montgomery Road had intersected with SH20A effectively creating a cul-de-sac. The new wetland will naturally treat the storm water runoff before it finds its way into the Manukau Harbour.

A team of earthworks experts dug out the wetland area and laid topsoil before the Christmas break. With new drainage installed and old services relocated, the team will begin planting in spring to give the new vegetation the best chance of surviving.

We plan to complete construction of the wetland area in late March 2018, when the team will begin to build the new shared path. The shared path will connect with the earlier section opened north of the Kirkbride Road intersection in August 2016 and will offer those wanting an alternative to driving to work a safe walking and cycling option.



Two excavators lay topsoil at the new Montgomery Road wetland area.



Contact us

For more information about the SH20A to Airport Project, contact Amanda Petherick, Stakeholder and Communications Advisor on sh20a@nzta.govt.nz, 0508 698 2742 or go to www.nzta.govt.nz/sh20atoairport.