

Meet the Project Manager



David Loe - Project Manager

David Loe is the man with the pressure. He has been doing this sort of role for the last 30 years but it doesn't really make it any easier or less stressful.

Leading a team of 350 staff is no cake-walk but he is ably assisted by a team of very experienced engineers who share the burden. Some of these you will meet in future newsletters.

David's day starts with team meetings at 7am. No two days are the same, whether sorting out technical queries, answering enquiries from the public or visiting some part of this 16km project. As this is a design and construct project, HEB and URS are diligently working on what David describes as back-to-front engineering. For instance, designing a bridge around what the

largest crane can lift (in this case 280T), rather than doing the design and then finding we can't lift that piece of the jigsaw.

The day sometimes doesn't finish till 8pm when there is a council meeting to attend or neighbours to meet, but that is all part of the mix. The exciting stuff is seeing the dumptrucks and paving crews do their thing - getting it built.

David is a civil engineer, educated in the UK and then relocating with his family to New Zealand in 1996. With a pharmacist wife David has two adult children currently studying in the US. The whole family have a passion for basketball and who can blame them - David is not the tallest at 6'6"!

Bats

Extensive monitoring has recently been undertaken along the length of the Cambridge Section route into the elusive long-tailed bats that have been identified as roosting in stands of mature trees on some parts of the Cambridge Section route.

The long-tailed bat is one of only two native land mammal species to inhabit New Zealand. It is a threatened species, with a classification of "nationally vulnerable". These bats typically roost in select mature native trees (eg kahikatea) and exotic trees (eg willow, pine, alder) that offer suitable roosting cavities such as split bark and tree knotholes.

Long-tailed bats emerge at dusk and they can be mistaken for late-flying fantails or swallows. They stick to a diet of flying insects such as moths, mosquitoes, midges and beetles.

A Bat Management Plan and tree felling protocols have been developed for this project to avoid effects on bats while roosting and to mitigate effects of the

loss of any roost sites, feeding and commuting habitats.

Bat monitoring will continue during and post construction to identify and assess changes in bat activity and behavioural patterns that may occur as a result of construction and operation of the Expressway.



Automated bat monitor.



Tree clearing is underway at Karapiro gully and an access track will be formed over the next few months. Select planting post construction of the Viaduct will create a native wetland and provide additional roost locations for bats.

You are Invited!

A Visitor Information Centre is being established at the project site office (129 Victoria Road) where information will be updated regularly to help keep you informed as the project progresses.

You are invited to join us for a BBQ at our Community Open Day to mark the opening of the Visitor Information Centre:

Public Open Day:

DATE:
Friday 8th November and
Saturday 9th November

TIME:
2pm to 7pm and 9am to 2pm

Visitor Information Centre
Open from Monday 11th November
Monday - Friday 9am to 3pm



Our contact details

For enquiries or information regarding the Cambridge Section of the Waikato Expressway.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ONLINE VISIT
WWW.NZTA.GOV.TZ/RONS
WWW.NZTA.GOV.TZ/PROJECTS/WAIKATO-EXPRESSWAY
WWW.NZTA.GOV.TZ/PROJECTS/CAMBRIDGE

NICOLA BOYES
Communications and Stakeholder Liaison Manager
Waikato Expressway
Phone: 07 958 7888
Mobile: 021 615 461
Email: nicola.boyes@nzta.govt.nz

KELLIE ELLIS
HEB Stakeholder and Communications Manager
Phone: 0800 WAIKEXP (0800 924 539)
Email: kellie.ellis@heb.co.nz



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Waikato Expressway

Cambridge Section

The Waikato's largest roading project the Cambridge Section of the Waikato Expressway will be open for public viewing in Cambridge from November 8 with the visitor centre up-and-running.

The final touches are currently being put on the visitor centre, at 129 Victoria Road, which will provide a focal point for the community to learn more about the project.

The centre will include displays of project information including the final detailed design, a project DVD a project animation.

There will also be a live video link from the Karapiro Gully where the 200m long gully viaduct will be built over the coming year.



Artist's impression of Karapiro Stream Viaduct

The community are invited to attend two open days at the new visitor centre to introduce the project and the team on;

Friday November 8
2pm until 7pm

Saturday November 9
9am until 2pm.

We'd love to see you there.

Following the community open days the visitor centre will then be open every week, Monday to Friday, 9am until 3pm.

Update on progress

Since we last updated you work on the Cambridge section has ramped up. The sod-turning event on August 30 saw a great turnout from local National MPs Lindsay Tisch and Louise Upston along with former Waipa Mayor Alan Livingston and Waikato District Mayor Allan Sanson. Waikato Regional Council Chairman Peter Buckley and Regional Transport Committee Chairman Norm Barker were also on hand along with a good turnout from residents around the Athlone Drive, Thornton Road area.

Since then the project team have been busy clearing and fencing the designation and working with Iwi, local and regional councils on the final detailed design for the project.

Enabling works have started with trees being cleared and less visible work like the relocation of services.

Some residents have been asking about the orange flags seen around the designation. These flags are to mark out the location of overhead power lines along the designation where work is underway to ensure our crews are kept safe.



Waipa Mayor Allan Livingston turns the first sod.



VIPs chip in to ensure the tight construction deadlines are met.

From this month on activity will start to increase on site to allow for set up of further environmental controls and the establishment of a haul road.

The set up of environmental controls will include earthworks operations to establish earth bunds and create ponds for erosion and sediment control. Establishing the haul road will involve stripping top soil and the formation of this 'temporary road' along the designation. This haul road will allow for construction traffic to move safely from one end of the designation to the other, minimising impact on local roads.

From November onwards HEB Construction will also begin conducting pavement trials at the northern end of the site and work will also begin in the Karapiro Gully in preparation for piling for the largest structure on the project the Karapiro Gully Viaduct.

You will be able to visit the visitor centre for a front row seat to works going on at the gully via a live video link which is being established.

Local roads

Temporary traffic signals will be installed shortly where the new haul road will intersect with Forrest, Watkins and Victoria Roads.

These signals will manage construction traffic and the travelling public to ensure everyone is kept safe.

There has been intermittent traffic management along the section and on local roads including stop/go traffic management on State Highway 1 between Discombe Road and Hautapu Road.

Traffic management will vary at points along the

designation as the project progresses to ensure the construction crews and the travelling public are kept safe.

The only road closure to date is along a section of Laurent Rd. Further road closures will be happen as construction progresses.

These closures will be well advertised ahead of time. People are also encouraged to 'like' the Waikato Expressway on Facebook www.facebook.com/waikatoexpressway to stay informed.

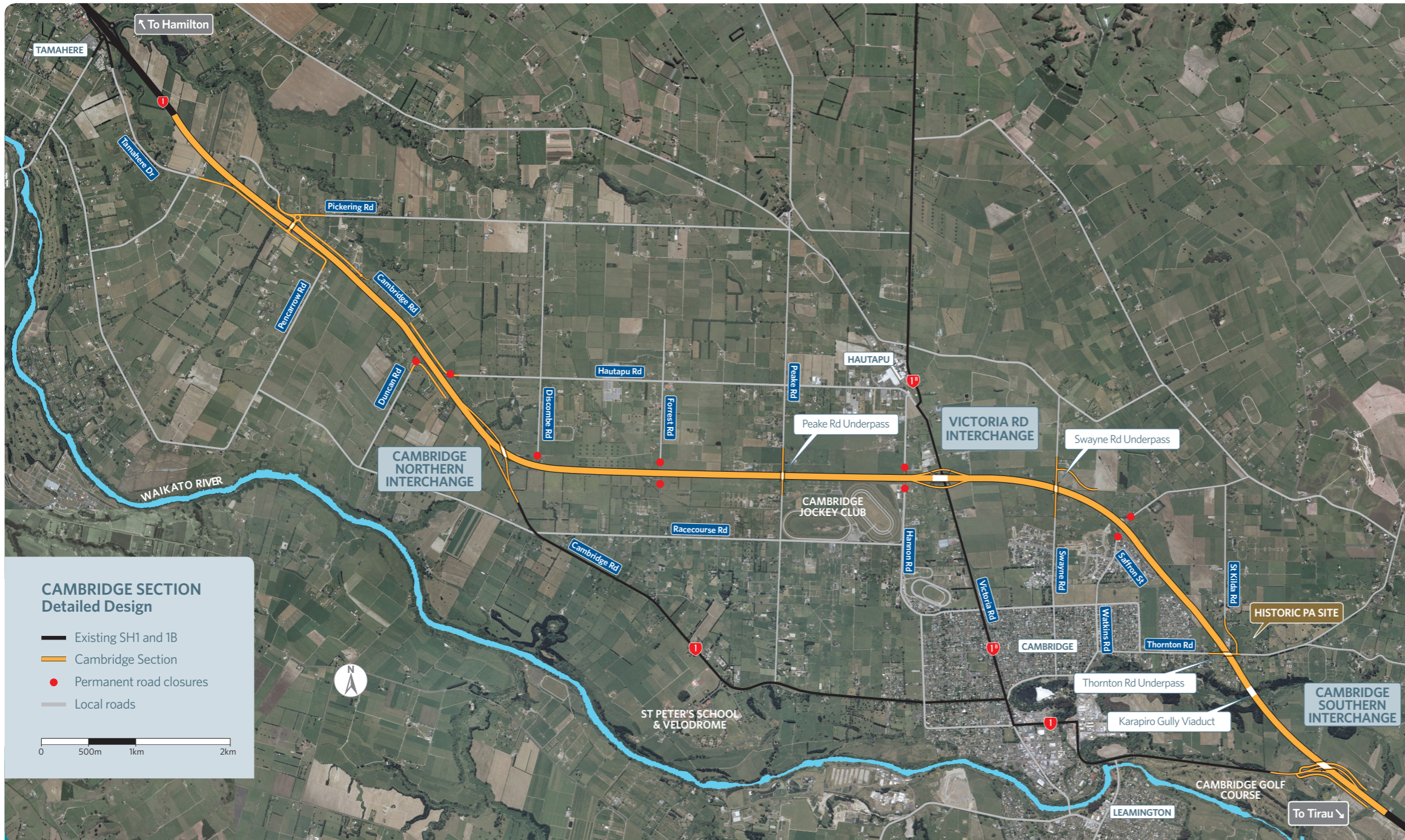
There is no traffic management in planned in coming weeks which are expected to cause any major delays.

Any road closures or traffic management which is likely to cause significant delay to motorists or local traffic will be signalled in advance.



For more information

Follow us on facebook:
www.facebook.com/waikatoexpressway



Detailed design

Since award of the contract in April 2013 HEB and URS have been developing the detailed design for the Cambridge Section. This has involved further ground investigations, detailed analysis, modelling and redesign of key features such as the Pickering Road Overbridge where innovative engineering has produced a design that uses the designated area more effectively, reduces the project's environmental footprint, saves time

and reduces project costs.

Details such as the landscape design and the selection of trees that will be planted along the alignment are being finalised in the next few months. Project planting aims to create visually distinctive nodes of both native and exotic trees. Plants will also be used along the alignment to screen the Expressway from the surrounding environment.



Exotic tree examples



Exotic tree examples



Native tree examples



Native tree examples

Detailed design of the eight bridges is also nearing completion and the bridge construction programme is as shown below:

January 2014 - June 2014	Pickering Rd Overbridge
April 2014 - June 2015	Northern Interchange
February 2014 - November 2014	Peake Rd Underpass
January 2014 - September 2014	Victoria Rd Interchange
January 2014 - January 2015	Karapiro Gully Viaduct
March 2014 - May 2015	Southern Interchange
April 2014 - August 2015	Swayne Rd Underpass
February 2014 - April 2015	Thornton Rd Underpass



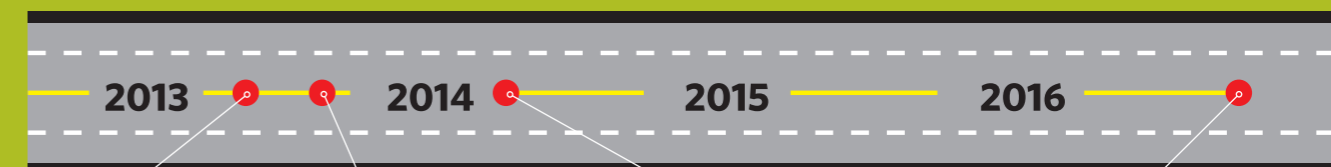
Artists impression of the Victoria Road Interchange.

This bridge will be the gateway to Cambridge and aims to foster a sense of place and arrival with the use of architectural walls, bridge and landscape plantings. This image is a concept design and subject to change as the design develops further.

Process and indicative timeframes



Work to be undertaken



April 2013
Award of Design and Construction Contract
Detailed design starts

September 2013
Enabling works start

January 2014
Construction starts off with earthworks

December 2016
Road open for use