



Project Update

Issue 04

December 2012

Southern Links

The current situation

Hamilton City Council (HCC) and the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) are progressing work on the Southern Links project to protect the final preferred network (shown at the May 2012 Public information days).

As a result of the feedback received from the May 2012 information days the following has been reviewed and confirmed by the project team:

- the width of the routes to ensure they are adequate to accommodate any mitigation measures
- the form of the Southern Links central interchange and the Southern Links connection to the Waikato Expressway
- allowance for future access around Hamilton airport
- refinements to key intersections on the network.

In the second half of 2012 the project team has undertaken an important review of the Southern Links project to ensure that all feedback to date has been taken into account and that the preferred network will deliver the best long term transportation outcomes.

Given the scale of the Southern Links project and the significant investment it represents for both the NZTA and HCC - along with the need to take into consideration input from stakeholders and affected communities - these reviews



Looking north from Oaklea Lane toward Southern Links connection point to Waikato Expressway

have taken longer than expected to complete. It should also be remembered that design or construction of any of the Southern Links network currently sits outside of the NZTA and the HCC's 10-year funding plan.

Also, since May 2012, the Peacocke Structure Plan has been made operative by HCC. Protection of the Southern Links urban arterial routes is an important part of giving effect to this Structure Plan. On Tuesday 11 December 2012, HCC resolved to proceed with the preparation and lodgement of the Notice of Requirement needed to protect the urban arterial routes in the Peacocke Structure Plan area of the city. Those routes are the parts of the overall Southern Links network for which HCC has responsibility. Prior to the Notice of Requirement being lodged for the NZTA parts of the Southern Links network, the NZTA Board will need

to approve the designation plan, a decision which is expected to be made in February 2013. Following the NZTA Board decision the project team will send out a newsletter that sets out more specific dates for the lodgement of the Notice of Requirement, the next steps for the project and how you can be involved.

As the Southern Links network will be located within three separate local authority areas - Waipa District Council, Waikato District Council and HCC - a Notice of Requirement will need to be lodged with each of these local authorities. The timing of the lodgement of the Notices of Requirement, and how long they will take to process, may be influenced by hearings that will be underway in 2013

for Waipa's Proposed District Plan and Hamilton's Proposed District Plan.

The lodgement of the Notices of Requirement will be an important step in providing route security and certainty for the community, landowners and stakeholders.

Current situation:

- The NZTA and HCC are proceeding with the Southern Links network protection project
- The network plan which was shown at the May 2012 Public information days remains unchanged
- Any formal network protection processes under the Resource Management Act would begin in the first half of 2013.



Looking north from Raynes Road towards Peacocke Structure Plan Area



For more information

For further information online visit
www.nzta.govt.nz/southern-links

Our Contact Details

Contact email: southern.links@aecom.com
Phone: 0508 STHNLINK (0508 7846 5465)
Southern Links Consultation Leader: Grant Eccles