

Project update

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Project investigation coming to a conclusion

The NZ Transport Agency's Maunganui-Girven intersection / State Highway 2 and 29 intersection improvement project is coming to the end of its investigation stage.

The purpose of the investigation has been to ensure that the best long term solution has been identified. The expected project benefits are; reduced congestion, quicker travel times and improvements to safety for all road users.

The story so far

A number of options were considered to address the anticipated long-term traffic volumes on this section of road. The Transport Agency presented the three most viable options to the public at the MGI Open Day in April 2013. Feedback on the options was then provided by local residents, stakeholders and businesses. Since the open day the project team have considered further the efficiency and safety of the traffic on State Highway 29 (SH29), and also taken into account the public feedback.

A refined option, Option 3a, has been developed which is a minor variation to the previously presented Option 3 (please see over for the Option 3 map). **The preferred option for the improvement project will be announced in the first quarter of next year (2014).**

Introducing Option 3a

Option 3a differs from Option 3 by removing the need for traffic to use Owens Place in order to access Truman Lane and Baypark.

- Provides direct access from the state highway to Baypark and Truman Lane
- The intersection at Truman Lane and SH29 will either be a roundabout or traffic lights
- \$5m to \$10m cost savings due to shorter SH29 bridge
- The environmental effects are similar to Option 3
- Removes the potential for fast through-traffic (rat-running) along Owens Place and Matapihi Road
- Alongside the other options, considerable work is being completed on Option 3a to fully understand the potential noise, vibration and visual impact this option will have to the area.



Feedback from the MGI Open Day

The MGI Open Day was held in April 2013. Approximately 356 people attended and 143 feedback forms were received. Additional feedback was also received from affected landowners and stakeholders groups.

General feedback

The project was widely supported, with the public viewing congestion at the Maunganui-Girven roundabout as a major concern that requires a long term solution.

Other feedback included:

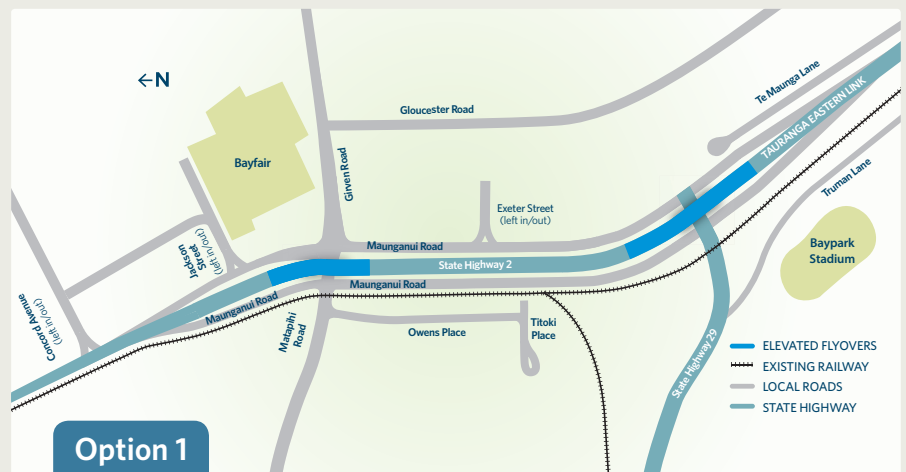
- Concern about the project's impact on residential property and how this will be mitigated
- Concern about the effects of vibration, noise and visual impacts, and how these will be mitigated
- Concern about the project's impact on local businesses along Owens Place

Feedback on the options

Public perceptions relating to the options presented at the MGI Open Day included:

- **Option 1** - has substantial housing purchase, is a short term solution with the railway line kept away from Bayfair Estate but does not solve the safety and traffic issues of the railway line adjacent to Maunganui Road.
- **Option 2** - railway line relocation will assist the operation of the intersection but it doesn't remove the railway crossing at State Highway 29. It means moving the railway line closer to Bayfair Estate and may not support the efficient traffic management required for major events at Baypark.
- **Option 3** - provides the best long term solution including the connection to Truman Lane but it requires the railway line moving closer to Bayfair Estate. Congestion at the Matapihi/Owens Place intersection could increase.

Options 1, 2 and 3



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