

Sod-turning ceremony kicks off project

The sod-turning ceremony on 16 May 2017 marked the official beginning of the Baypark to Bayfair (B2B) link upgrade project.

The event was attended by the Minister of Transport, local dignitaries, hapū representatives and community groups.

May also marked the month CPB Contractors were officially awarded the contract for design and construction.

The Design and Construct team are now developing the final design, and you can expect to see site offices established and relocation of existing services to begin relatively soon, with major earthworks for Stage Two commencing later in the year when weather conditions typically improve.

Stage One, the enabling works and the relocation of the East Coast Main Trunk Line railway line, was completed in December 2016. The new rail crossing on Mataphi Road is now past the Owens Place retail park and no longer directly impacts the flow at the Bayfair roundabout. Trains started running on the new railway line in November 2016.



L-R: Tauranga City Council Mayor Brownless, Hapu representative Wiremu Hiamoe (Ngati Tapu), Minister of Transport Hon Simon Bridges.



Introducing CPB Contractors

CPB has a well established reputation on projects in New Zealand, Australia and Papua New Guinea.

CPB Contractors is also the CIMIC Group's construction company, combining the construction track record and expertise formerly delivered by Leighton Contractors and Thiess.

CPB Contractors is delivering the following projects in New Zealand:

- Transmission Gully - Wellington
- St Lukes Interchange - Auckland
- SH16 Causeway Upgrade - Auckland
- Christchurch Hospital - Christchurch
- Southern Corridor Improvements Project - Auckland

The Baypark to Bayfair Link Upgrade is designed to reduce congestion and improve safety by separating local and state highway traffic. It will also support economic growth in the region by improving the route to the Port of Tauranga.

What to expect over the coming months

As part of the Design and Construct contract the team will progress the design and prepare the site before the construction phase begins.

July

- Initial site investigation and surveying will begin to gather information about the existing conditions of the area and to locate services, such as telecommunication cables and gas mains. Short-term temporary traffic management will be required for some of this work
- Site offices will be established within the project area

August

- Relocation of services will begin mid-August, near the Maunganui Road - Girven Road intersection and Owens Place

September

- Relocation of services along SH29A and Truman Lane will begin
- From mid-September, temporary traffic management will be installed. Two lanes will remain open on SH2 in both directions but the lane width will reduce and speed restrictions will be in place
- Vegetation removal northbound

Noise wall along Liftan Place. Mural by local artist Stu McDonald.


Design changes ahead

The final design for the project will see some changes to elements of the specimen design.

Two areas that are being reviewed are the Maunganui-Girven intersection and the proposed walking and cycling facilities.

Keeping you informed

If you have any questions talk to the Transport Agency

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