

New Baypark roundabout and road layout taking shape

The Bay Link project has reached a further milestone with the new Baypark roundabout and the new SH29A road layout starting to take shape (A). Kerb and channelling works are underway now that the earthworks and ground improvements in this area have been finished, and the centre of the roundabout is visible.

Project Manager John McCarthy says after months of service relocations, earthworks and ground improvement works in this area, it's great to see the new SH29A road layout emerging.

"With major construction projects like the Bay Link project, there is so much technical and prep work that needs to happen before the physical, above-ground construction can start, so to see this new road layout starting to take shape is rewarding."

Stone column ground improvements in this area will be finished next month (B) and the section of new road that will be the off ramp for SH2 traffic (near the house removal company), is nearing completion.

Meanwhile, stone column work is starting soon in area C with 144 stone columns being installed as part of stage one in this area. Several hundred more stone columns will be installed in area D to support construction of the new embankment ramps.

Later this month, we will be looking to move eastbound traffic on Maunganui Road onto the new lanes (E), to allow for ground improvements works to get underway in the central zone. We are also working towards having an alternative route for cyclists and pedestrians via Eversham Road.

The construction zones and our workers are working very close to traffic, and we want them to get home safe. Please slow down and adhere to the temporary speed restrictions in place throughout the project site.



An artist's impression of what the Bay Link project near Baypark will look like. Current work in this area is focusing on the new Baypark roundabout (A) and stone column ground improvement works (B, C and D).

Stone column work continues

Stone column ground improvement work is continuing in several locations throughout the site. Work will start this month to install 144 stone columns near Eversham Road and Exeter Street, as part of stage one of the stone columns in this area.

Nearby residents can expect some vibration during stone column works. We will make every effort to minimise the impact of noise and vibration during this work. Regular vibration monitoring ensures work is carried out within our consent conditions.

One hundred and thirty-one stone columns were recently installed on Maunganui Road near Girven Road, and stone column work is continuing near Te Maunga and Baypark. In total, 3,400 stone columns will be installed throughout the site.

Did you know

If you put the 144 stone columns end to end, they would nearly be the same length as the Tauranga Airport runway (1825 metres).



Stone column work is continuing near Te Maunga and Baypark.

A place of pathways – rail noise wall murals

The Bay Link project will include a number of carvings, pou, waharoa and other cultural representations, the designs of which will reflect the cultural values and historical significance of the area. These are being developed in partnership with the Bay Link Tangata Whenua Advisory Group – the hapū of Nga Potiki, Ngāi Tukairangi and Ngāti Tapu.

The concrete wall behind HomeZone, near Russley Drive in Matapihi, was installed to reduce the noise to nearby residential properties from the relocated railway line. It has also provided a canvas for local hapū to tell their unique story.

Designed by Ngāi Tukairangi and Ngāti Tapu, alongside local artist Stu MacDonald, the mural represents the significant historic places, people and resources of the hapū from Matapihi, and highlights their tribal uniqueness.

The painted panels on the rail noise wall centre around the three life principles of tangata whenua: Mana Whenua (harmonious integration with the environment), Mana Tangata (realisation of human potential) and Mana Motuhake (self-determination through absolute uniqueness).

The triangle niho taniwha pattern references the challenges and dangers we come up against along life's path, and the circular awhiwhio pattern references the people that surround us and help us through. The people surrounding us outnumber the challenges and dangers we face – just as the number of circular panels outnumber the triangle patterns. At a metaphorical level, this travel on life's path relates to the path travelled by iwi in history in this area.

Historically, this area was part of a corridor that iwi used to travel for trade, battle, seasonal harvesting and visiting whānau. The nearby historic freshwater spring and Horopia Stream (meaning: the washing of spears) that ran towards the sea from Matapihi were a place to rest from these travels.



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The rail noise wall mural behind HomeZone, near Russley Drive in Matapihi, represents the significant historic places, people and resources of the hapū from Matapihi.

Papamoa slip lane to close

The SH2 Papamoa-bound slip lane at the Te Maunga roundabout will be closed so that construction can begin in this area.

The existing slip lane is where the embankment for the new SH2/SH29A east-bound flyover will be built. The change to the road layout is likely to cause minor delays to road users, particularly in the afternoon peak. With such a confined construction area there are no alternatives. We thank you for your patience and apologise for the inconvenience.



Bay Link through the lens



It was a full house when Bay Link Project Manager John McCarthy updated Pacific Coast Village residents on the Bay Link project recently. More than 70 people attended the presentation.



Construction of the new lanes on Maunganui Road between Bayfair and Te Maunga continues.



The experienced Downer team on their specialised asphaltting machine lay the first layer of asphalt on Maunganui Road near Exeter Street.



Preliminary ground improvement work is continuing on Maunganui Road between Concord Avenue and Jackson Street with replacement fill being trucked in. Drainage works will start shortly. This work area is compact and close to the traffic lanes, so please take care through this area.



Matapihi Road widening near Golf 360 is continuing. A diversion is in place for pedestrians and cyclists using the underpass. HomeZone and Owens Place are open for business as usual.



The new Baypark roundabout and road layout is taking shape



The new road leading to the Te Maunga interchange and flyover.

Meet the team



Evo Lauten

CPB Contractors' Safety, Health, Environmental and Quality (SHEQ) Manager

Evo's role is focused on creating a safe working environment and fostering a safety culture for everyone involved in the Bay Link project. He ensures there is minimal impact on the surrounding natural environment during construction, and quality assurance on construction outcomes.

A self-confessed tree hugger, Evo has five years civil construction experience predominantly on Transport Agency projects including St Luke's Causeway, Transmission Gully and Southern Corridor Improvements.

Living in Tauranga, Evo makes the most of the region's indoor and outdoor recreational opportunities in his spare time.



Amanda Weatherley

NZ Transport Agency Communications and Stakeholder Manager

Amanda's focus is to ensure the community and road users are up to date with what's happening on the Bay Link project and how it may impact them. It's about telling the story through a number of channels, translating the complex engineering and roading processes into easy to understand and engaging ways.

She particularly enjoys being on site (in her pink safety boots) to see first-hand what's happening.

A Fellow of the Public Relations Institute of New Zealand (FPRINZ), Amanda is an award-winning communications professional. A keen sportswoman, Amanda plays hockey, and enjoys quality time with family and friends.

Committed to managing noise and vibration

The Transport Agency is committed to managing construction noise and vibration to avoid unreasonable effects on communities and individuals. As part of the Bay Link project we make every effort to minimise the impact of noise and vibration.

While nearby residents can expect some noise and vibration during the road construction and stone column works, our regular noise and vibration monitoring ensures this work is carried out within our consent conditions.

In addition to the regular monitoring and keeping neighbours informed of the construction activities that may affect them, some of the other things we do to reduce disturbance include (but are not limited to): adopting quieter techniques and processes where practicable, replacing vehicle reversing beepers with "squawkers" (broadband directional reversing alarms) at night, ensuring construction personnel are trained and well briefed on the behaviours expected of them, particularly on night works.

There are times when noisier work outside of normal hours is unavoidable. For example, resealing a busy road may only be undertaken at night when the road or lanes can be closed to avoid significant traffic disruption.

During the day, most people tolerate higher noise levels from temporary activities, such as construction – compared to permanent activities.

Therefore, noise limits for temporary works are higher during the day. However, at night the limits are much lower to prevent sleep disturbance.

In New Zealand there is no standard or limit for construction vibration. As a result, the Transport Agency uses the vibration limits within the German Standard and the British Standard to manage the effects of construction vibration. The vibration standards are conservative in their proposed limits to ensure vibration levels do not go above 'safe' vibration levels. As with noise limits, vibration limits that apply at night are much lower than during the day.

The Transport Agency's website has some FAQs on how we manage construction and maintenance noise and vibration to avoid unreasonable effects on communities and individuals. www.nzta.govt.nz/noise-vibration-faqs

If you have any concerns about noise and vibration on the Bay Link project, please contact us.

Keeping you up to date

As part of our no surprises approach, we want to keep the community and road users as up to date as possible.



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nzta.govt.nz/baylink



NZTAWaikatoBoP



NZTAwaibop

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