

Cycle and pedestrian grade-separated options at Bayfair

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency is currently investigating the feasibility of extending the existing Bayfair underpass in order to make a decision about whether to progress to detailed design.

Option 5, as it has become known, would see the existing underpass extended and a new bridge span added for the SH2 Bayfair flyover to take the pressure off the underpass.

To achieve option 5, the bridge structure, abutments and ground improvements would need to be retested and redesigned. Retaining the existing underpass structure also has complexities with ground improvements, relocation of services and buoyancy challenges given the high water table in this area.

A final cost would be determined at the detailed design stage - if the decision is made to progress to that stage.

Option 5 is one of 15 options the Transport Agency considered for a grade-separated pedestrian and cycling solution at Bayfair. In addition to option 5, we are also investigating the feasibility of an overbridge north of Concord Avenue (option 14).

We are progressing at speed to confirm the feasibility of option 5, especially given the time constraints and potential impact on the construction programme. It would be a case of one or the other - option 5 or option 14 - not both.

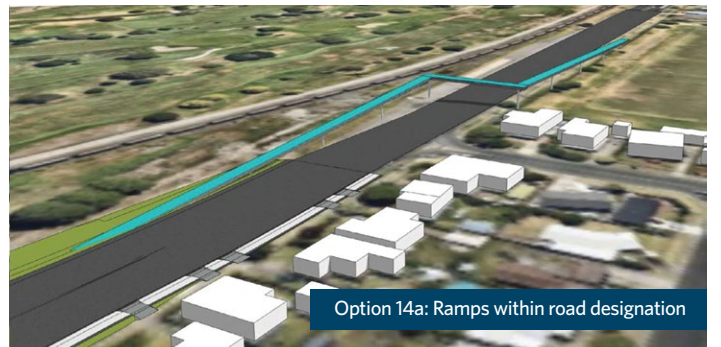
The Bay Link project will still include a signalised pedestrian crossing at the Bayfair roundabout, regardless of the outcome of the above options.

We will continue to work with our partners and the recently-established working group on progress over the coming months and keep the community updated. The existing underpass will remain open during December and will close early next year - even if option 5 progresses. Temporary signalised pedestrian crossings will be in place during this time.

Option 5: Extend existing underpass and provide a new SH2 bridge span



Option 14: Overpass north of Concord Avenue



Option 14a: Ramps within road designation



Option 14b: ramps into Links Avenue

The Bay Link project team would like to thank you for your patience and ongoing support throughout the construction project.

We'd like to wish you a safe and happy holiday season and remind you to please take care on the roads, whether you're travelling near or far.



The Bay Link construction site will be closed from midday Friday 20 December until 7am Monday 6 January 2020. The Bay Link 0508 222 4636 number will be operational throughout this time.

Temporary speed restrictions remain in place throughout the site.

New signalised Bayfair roundabout design being developed

When the Bay Link project is complete, the new Bayfair roundabout will provide a safe signalised crossing for pedestrians and cyclists through the roundabout.

There will be reduced volumes of traffic (especially trucks) using the roundabout once the flyover is complete, with more than 50 percent of the current traffic expected to use the new SH2 flyover.

We are still developing the final design of the signalised roundabout and are currently working with Tauranga City Council and the Bay of Plenty Regional Council to look at options for pedestrian, cycle and bus prioritisation through the Bayfair roundabout.

We are engaging with stakeholders and the community throughout this process and aim to present a preferred option next year.



Artist's impression of SH2 Bayfair flyover and roundabout. We are still developing the final design and looking at options for pedestrian, cycle and bus prioritisation through the Bayfair roundabout.

Bay Link working group established

We have set up a working group, made up of partners, stakeholders and community representatives, to establish better communication and greater visibility on the Bay Link project.

The first in a series of workshops with the working group was held on 14 November and covered the traffic performance modelling beyond 2040 and the long-list options investigated for grade-separated pedestrian and cycling access at Bayfair.

Technical detail was provided to the group on the 15 options investigated.

Two of these options were supplied by members of the community.

The Transport Agency is actively investigating two of the 15 options; the feasibility of extending the existing underpass (option 5) and an overpass north of Concord Avenue (option 14), in order to make a decision about whether to progress to detailed design.

Further workshops will be held on the detailed design for the Bayfair roundabout; and how public transport will be incorporated into the Bay Link project. A number of documents relating to the underpass are available on our website www.nzta.govt.nz/baylink

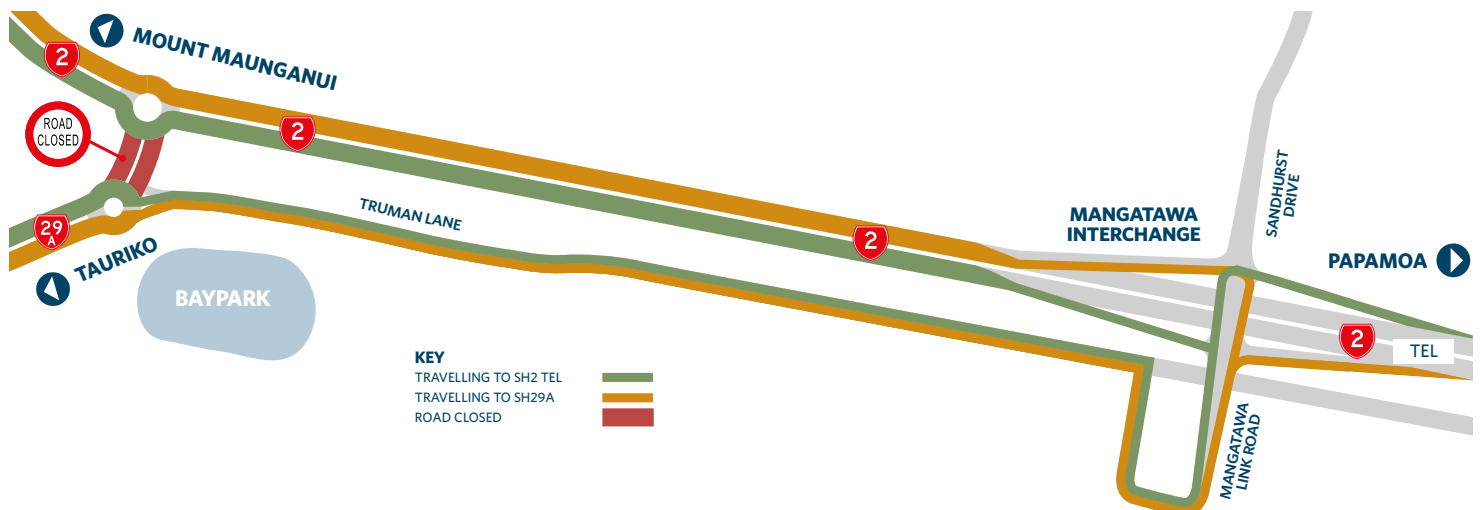
SH29A closure scheduled this month

As part of the stone column ground improvement work, SH29A between the Baypark and Te Maunga roundabouts is scheduled to be closed from 7pm Friday 13 December to 6am Monday 16 December.

Detours will be in place along Truman Lane and Mangatawa Link Road.

Please use alternative routes where possible or plan travel outside of these hours to avoid the detour.

This work is weather dependent, and if delayed will be carried out on the next suitable weekend.



Bay Link through the lens



A Benkelman Beam is used behind a weighted truck on a new section of Girven Road. Measurement is made by placing the tip of the beam between the dual tyres and measuring the pavement surface rebound as the truck is moved away.



Bay Link workers use a Benkelman Beam to measure the deflection of the sub grade level on a new section of Girven Road. Deflection is the degree to which a road formation moves under a known load and helps ensure the road will meet the requirements for the traffic load that will be using it once completed.



The first section of road widening work is nearing completion on Girven Road, between Gloucester Road and the Bayfair roundabout, including installation of a new water main, new concrete kerbing and footpath, and laying asphalt.



Temporary speed limits are in place throughout the Bay Link construction site for the safety of all road users and our construction workers. We thank you for your patience while we carry out the work in this area.



More than 850 stone columns have been installed in the work area east of the Bayfair roundabout. The stone columns in this area will help support the weight of the flyover that will be built on top. The stone column rig has now returned to near the Te Maunga roundabout.



The Bay Link project near the Bayfair roundabout at twilight.

Meet the team



Katie Berry

CPB Contractors' Stakeholder and Community Relations Manager

Katie is tasked with providing a link between the project and the surrounding community. Her role involves working alongside neighbouring residents, businesses and organisations to ensure that people are kept informed about planned work and that the impact of any work is well managed. She loves getting out of the

office to meet new people and seeing project milestones get ticked off.

Prior to joining the Bay Link project, Katie worked in senior communications roles in various sectors including healthcare, media, construction, education and housing.

Having moved to Tauranga in 2018, Katie spends her downtime exploring the Bay of Plenty and beyond. Her ideal afternoon is one spent at the beach with her family.



Paul Dalton

CPB Contractors' Construction Manager

Paul's contribution to the project is twofold. He is responsible for overseeing the project's design process and managing the designers to complete the design's finishing stages. As a construction manager, he also leads, assists and mentors the construction team drawing on his

more than 30 years' experience working in the construction industry. He particularly enjoys watching the team meet their production targets and deliver on agreed programmes of work.

Paul joined the Bay Link project in February, having immigrated to Tauranga from Cape Town, South Africa. He has worked for South African contracting companies on projects throughout Africa and the Middle East.

He's happy to now be putting down roots with his family in Tauranga and indulging his two favourite pastimes – motor racing and mountain biking.

Dotterels return to Bay Link site to nest

With the arrival of summer, we have been continuing to work with local hapū and the Department of Conservation in an effort to deter dotterels, one of New Zealand's rarest and at-risk birds, from nesting in the Bay Link construction site.

However, the construction site has once again proven popular with three pairs of northern New Zealand dotterels, tūturiwhatu, making themselves at home to hatch their three eggs.

Their nesting areas have been fenced off and cultural monitors are in place to ensure the kaitiakitanga (guardianship and protection) of the birds within the construction site.


DID YOU KNOW: There are only about 1,700 New Zealand dotterel left, making them more at risk than some species of kiwi. They nest in open sites, typically low-lying sand or gravel banks and sandbars. Once laid, dotterel eggs are incubated in the nest for 26 days until they hatch. The chicks remain around the nest area for about six weeks until they fledge and can fly away.



Earlier this year, a pair of northern New Zealand dotterels chose the Bay Link site to hatch and raise their two chicks.

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.

 0508 222 4636

 [nzta.govt.nz/baylink](https://www.nzta.govt.nz/baylink)

 NZTAWaikatoBoP

 NZTAWaibop

To see our weekly traffic notices, project overview, and to sign up to our regular newsletters go to www.nzta.govt.nz/baylink

To receive the regular newsletters by post text or call 0508 222 4636