

First bridge opens to traffic

Traffic is now using one of the two bridges that form the new Maungatapu roundabout.

Completed in June, the concrete bridge is 16 metres in length and is supported by 12 piles drilled 16 metres into the ground.



Maungatapu roundabout bridge one nearly completed

Visitors welcomed to the site

Maungatapu School has been running a writing competition about the Maungatapu underpass project.

Students taking part were encouraged to write a memoir, poem or narrative. To help them with their writing the students were invited to the construction site. Over a number of weeks the contractor took groups of students, teachers and parents around the site, explaining what was happening, how the various machines worked and how the bridges are built.



Maungatapu School students visiting the site



Maungatapu School writing competition prize winners and representatives from the School, Tauranga City Council, Fulton Hogan and the Transport Agency

Construction programme

Despite the asbestos discovery and removal causing initial delays to the programme the contractor has successfully placed the fill required on the Welcome Bay side of the project.

From now until spring 120,000m³ (over 4000 truck and trailer loads) of fill will be left to settle. Most of the site is now 'closed out' for the winter months. Other work will continue such as the Maungatapu roundabout pile drilling and replacing the stormwater and watermain pipes.

Activity on site over the next few months:

- Maungatapu roundabout pile drilling
- Pedestrian bridge - fully completed July
- Transpower pole relocation - late July
- Temporary traffic diversion as the second Maungatapu roundabout bridge is constructed
- Stormwater and watermain replacement

July 23-24

Traffic interruption

Motorists are encouraged to avoid State Highway 29A at the Maungatapu roundabout the weekend of Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 July.

Delays are possible as heavy machinery moves a high voltage power line.

Restricted traffic movement, and delays up to 12 minutes at a time, may be experienced between 7am and 6pm, both Saturday and Sunday.

This work is weather dependent and will take place the following weekend if delayed.

continued overleaf

Iconic pedestrian bridge opens

The pedestrian bridge, connecting Wickham Place and Maungatapu Road, was opened to pedestrians on Monday 27 June.

The bridge was built in Napier and transported to site in the early hours of Monday 14 June. It was then lifted into place by two large cranes. The bright red bridge is of steel construction, spanning 36 metres across what will be the new Welcome Bay Link Road.

Bridge facts

- Made of steel
- Weighs 34 tonne
- 4.9 metres wide and 4.5 metres high
- Length 36 metres
- Colour – Pohutukawa red



The steel bridge was delivered by truck from Napier



Two cranes lifted the 34 tonne steel bridge into place



The bridge was blessed and opened by Huikakahu Kawe (Ngai Te Ahi) and Lance Waaka (Ngati Ruahine)



Maungatapu School students, hapu representatives and the project team taking part in the bridge blessing

Any questions relating to the project please do not hesitate to get in touch:



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