

## A busy start to this year

Keeping the construction programme on track whilst arranging for the removal of the asbestos contaminated material found in late-2015 has kept the project team busy during the start of this year.

Fortunately, the removal of the contaminated material is complete with the site getting full clearance in mid-March.

Transport Agency senior project manager, John McCarthy said that throughout the removal every precaution necessary was taken to ensure there was no risk to the public.

“No dust or asbestos fibres were found in the air monitoring during the clean-up and now testing of the site has shown that all known asbestos has been cleared”.

Trucks removing contaminated material and importing new fill were creating up to a 15 to 20 second delay as the trucks left the site.

“We’ve received a number of complaints about the impact on the traffic flow around the site, especially in the morning peak between 7am and 9am. We acknowledge that while the delay wasn’t long it was impacting drivers further down the traffic queue”.

“We appreciate the patience from the community” says Mr McCarthy.

The project team would like to reassure the community that they are aware of the traffic flow challenge and are doing regular traffic monitoring to measure the time it takes to travel past the site.

“It seems the traffic flow can vary considerably; some days there can be no queue and other days it can be quite bad. The good news is the timings of the trucks leaving the site have been adjusted and deliveries over winter will be minimal” says Mr McCarthy.



Asbestos area near the Baden Powell Hall.



Asbestos removal underway. The material was loaded into fully lined trucks.

## Bridge beams installation

A major milestone on the project was the installation of the bridge beams on the western side of the underpass. The project team are aiming to have this section complete by May 2016 and will then move onto the eastern side later this year.



Image 1 and 2: Installation of bridge beams on western side of underpass

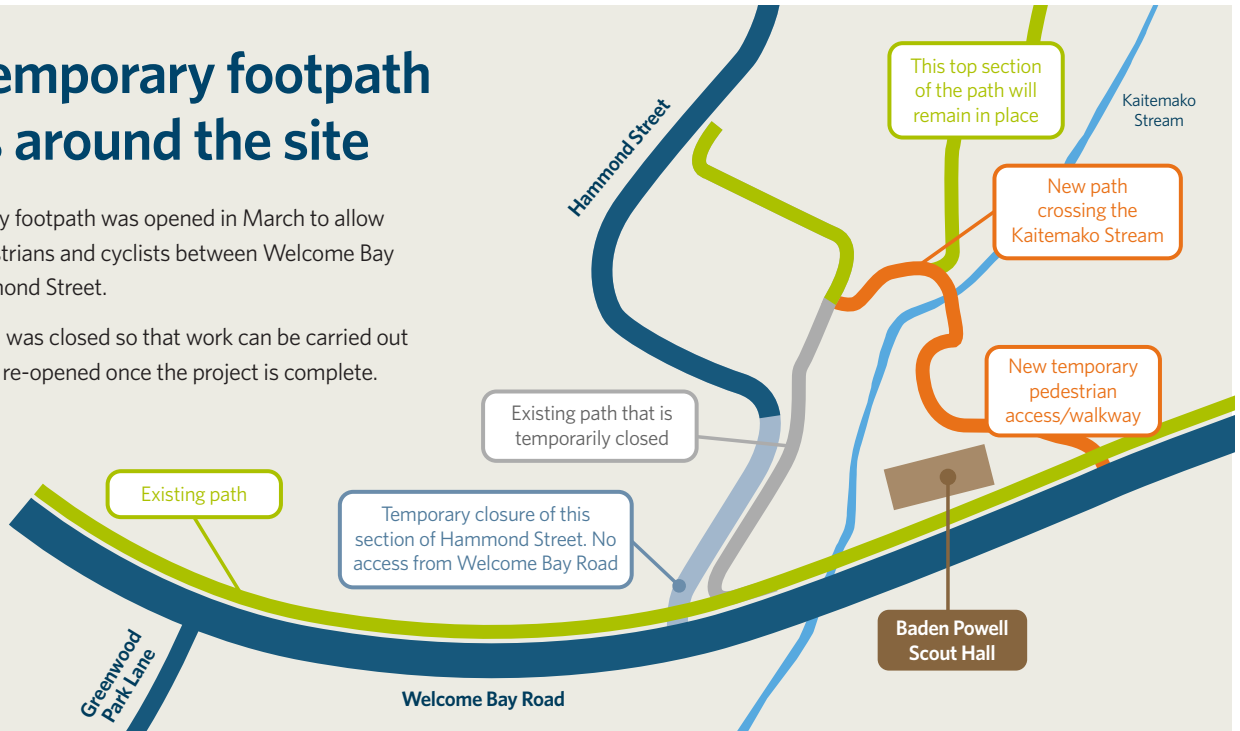


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## New temporary footpath access around the site

A new temporary footpath was opened in March to allow access for pedestrians and cyclists between Welcome Bay Road and Hammond Street.

The old footpath was closed so that work can be carried out nearby. It will be re-opened once the project is complete.



### Maungatapu underpass group presentations



Did you know our project team does group presentations?

If your group is interested in finding out more about the project please contact us at [hairinilink@nzta.govt.nz](mailto:hairinilink@nzta.govt.nz)

## Temporary stream diversion

The Kaitemako Stream plays a big role in the project. A key focus for the Transport Agency and project team is to minimise any environmental impacts during construction.

Diversion of the stream was required so preload (earth added to compact the ground underneath) could be placed in the area before the new culvert was installed. Once this phase of work is complete the stream will re-route through the new culvert.

Before the stream diversion could happen great efforts were taken to rehouse the different species living in the water. Over six nights in March, 1143 native freshwater fish, ranging from large eels (up to 800mm long) to small whitebait and giant bully species, were caught and released further up the stream in a new wetland area.



Stream diversion



Giant bully fish

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



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