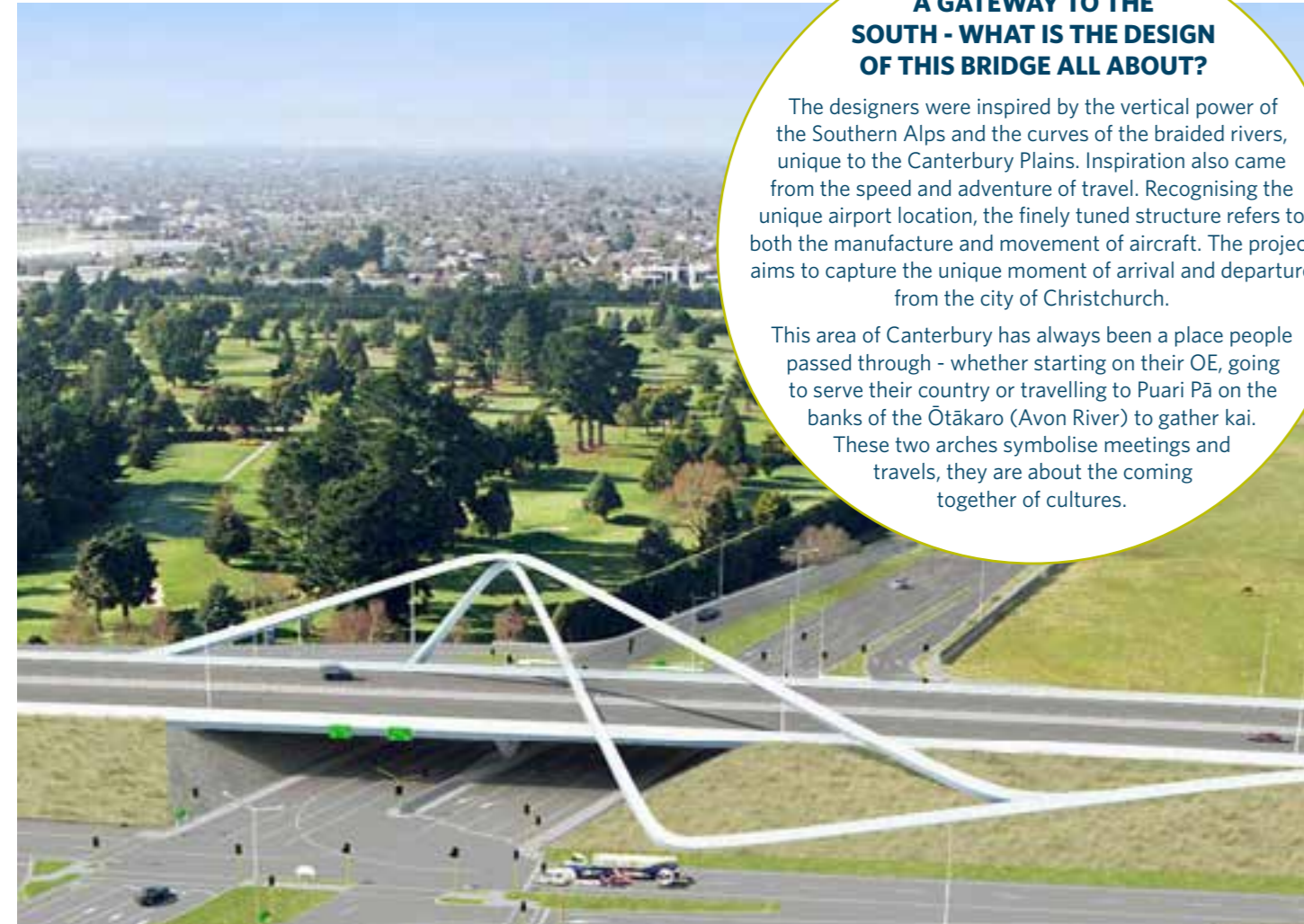


# THE RUSSLEY/MEMORIAL GATEWAY BRIDGE



## A GATEWAY TO THE SOUTH - WHAT IS THE DESIGN OF THIS BRIDGE ALL ABOUT?

The designers were inspired by the vertical power of the Southern Alps and the curves of the braided rivers, unique to the Canterbury Plains. Inspiration also came from the speed and adventure of travel. Recognising the unique airport location, the finely tuned structure refers to both the manufacture and movement of aircraft. The project aims to capture the unique moment of arrival and departure from the city of Christchurch.

This area of Canterbury has always been a place people passed through - whether starting on their OE, going to serve their country or travelling to Puarī Pā on the banks of the Ōtākaro (Avon River) to gather kai. These two arches symbolise meetings and travels, they are about the coming together of cultures.

The intersection of Memorial Avenue and Russley Road (SH1) is the gateway to Christchurch City, Canterbury and to the South Island of New Zealand for many travellers.

The Christchurch gateway bridge is one of the first things travellers, and locals returning, will see when entering the city from the airport. This bridge will be a powerful gateway symbol for Christchurch and it is hoped it will form part of the future identity of the city.

A partnership of the NZ Transport Agency, the Christchurch City Council and Christchurch International Airport Limited ran an urban design competition to develop the design concept for this bridge.



Building the slip lanes at the Russley/Memorial intersection

## PUBLIC SAFETY INFO

At all times during construction, the public (including cyclists and pedestrians) will have access through the area.

We ask that members of the public who wish to discuss any issues onsite or have access to the site, approach one of the project team (someone in a hard hat and high-vis vest) before entering any active work zones. In many instances there will be hazards such as open excavations and/or heavy equipment working in these areas. Our project team has a target of zero harm to anyone on-site, both workers and members of the public, and we ask for your assistance with this.

**i** For questions or feedback about this project:

**Phone:** McConnell Dowell and Downer **03 359 0700 (24 hours)**  
NZ Transport Agency 03 964 2800

**Email:** russleyroad@nzta.govt.nz

**Web:** nzta.govt.nz/russley-road/

**f** www.facebook.com/nztasouthisland

**t** www.twitter.com/nztacwc

Check for traffic delays on **www.tfc.govt.nz**

You can request project updates via email on our website or by sending us an email

## Part of RoNS

The government has prioritised seven transportation projects throughout New Zealand that meet the Roads of National Significance principles. These projects will support New Zealand's economic growth and productivity by moving people and freight faster, safer and more efficiently. The Christchurch Roads of National Significance programme is a package of projects on the Northern, Western and Southern Corridors.

## WHAT IS BEHIND THE BLACK PLASTIC?

The area behind the black plastic covered fence was once a landfill site and we are using the fencing and other protocols to ensure any possible contaminants don't spread. When we work in this area we remove all contaminated material we come across and dispose of it appropriately.

# 1 Russley Road Upgrade

part of the Western Corridor

August 2015



## PROJECT UPDATE

Since our last newsletter, this project has been through the Resource Management Act approvals process with Environment Canterbury and the Christchurch City Council. The designation and consents are now in place for the project. Construction kicked off in April with a blessing and sod-turning event. We are currently carrying out enabling work (site clearance and moving pipes and cables), building the Russley/Memorial slip lanes and road widening in the Harewood Road area.

## PROJECT NUTSHELL

- Work has started and McConnell Dowell and Downer are the contractors for this work. their first task is to prepare the road side for construction.
- While we will do our best to keep traffic flowing through this worksite, if you are heading to the airport be prepared for possible delays - **Check for delays on www.tfc.govt.nz**
- Work will be staggered along the project length to reduce the overall impact on traffic at any given time
- Access to the Airport and along Russley Road and Memorial Avenue will be maintained at all times for motor vehicles, cycles and pedestrians
- We will keep you informed via signage and other media as road layouts change.
- We expect the project to be finished in 2018.

**i** If you have questions or feedback about construction of the project: Phone McConnell Dowell and Downer on 03 359 0700 (24 hours) or email russleyroad@nzta.govt.nz.

## PROJECT BENEFITS

- The project will reduce congestion and improve travel time predictability on the Western Corridor.
- The new expressway-standard design, including a raised central median and side and central barriers, will improve safety.
- The project design includes improved cycle and pedestrian facilities.
- The intersection changes will improve safety for all road users.
- The project will support economic growth and create jobs.
- The environment will benefit from improved stormwater management and landscaping.

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The existing two-laned Russley Road (SH1) between Harewood Road and Avonhead Road is being upgraded to a four-lane median separated expressway. A median will separate on-coming traffic, selected main road intersections will be improved and access at some roads will be reduced to improve safety and efficiency.

## Traffic management

The traffic management set up will change during the project.

We will use signage and also intend to produce update notices during the project to keep the public informed of current traffic management. Two-way traffic will be maintained along Russley Road at all times.

While we will make every effort to keep traffic moving through the work site, delays are possible. If you are planning a trip to

the airport or other time critical destination please plan for possible delays. Real time information on congestion in this area (and in the rest of Christchurch) can be found at [www.tfc.govt.nz](http://www.tfc.govt.nz).

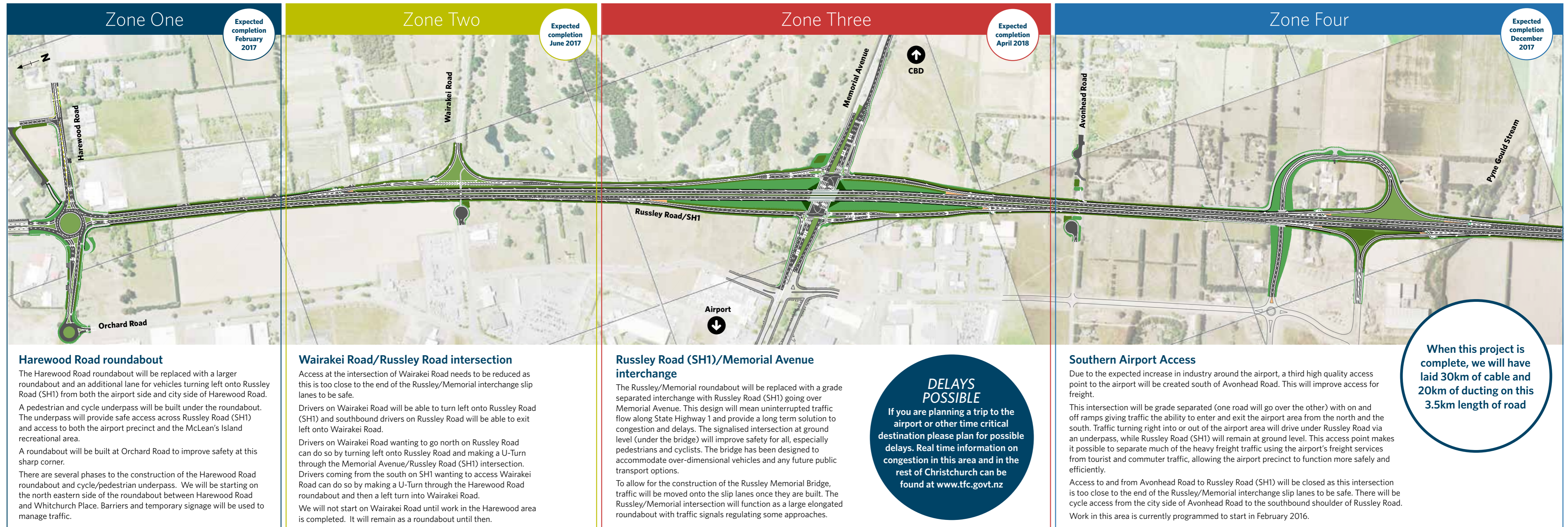
Please be mindful that road layouts will change as the project progresses, follow all on-site signage and drive to the conditions.

## What will happen first?

Work will be staggered across the four zones of the project to reduce the overall impact on traffic at any given time. However you will see our crews working all along Russley Road, as there are multiple phases to the project.

Just now we are getting the site ready. This includes the removal of existing vegetation within the new road alignment, relocation of boundary fencing where required, relocating overhead

telecommunications and power lines underground and moving all existing underground pipes and cables away from the new alignment. Construction has begun at Harewood Road roundabout (zone one) and Memorial Avenue roundabout (zone three). Harewood Road roundabout work will begin with the construction of the cycle/pedestrian subway. At the Russley/Memorial Avenue intersection, work will first focus on building the slip lanes.



### Harewood Road roundabout

The Harewood Road roundabout will be replaced with a larger roundabout and an additional lane for vehicles turning left onto Russley Road (SH1) from both the airport side and city side of Harewood Road.

A pedestrian and cycle underpass will be built under the roundabout. The underpass will provide safe access across Russley Road (SH1) and access to both the airport precinct and the McLean's Island recreational area.

A roundabout will be built at Orchard Road to improve safety at this sharp corner.

There are several phases to the construction of the Harewood Road roundabout and cycle/pedestrian underpass. We will be starting on the north eastern side of the roundabout between Harewood Road and Whitchurch Place. Barriers and temporary signage will be used to manage traffic.

### Wairakei Road/Russley Road intersection

Access at the intersection of Wairakei Road needs to be reduced as this is too close to the end of the Russley/Memorial interchange slip lanes to be safe.

Drivers on Wairakei Road will be able to turn left onto Russley Road (SH1) and southbound drivers on Russley Road will be able to exit left onto Wairakei Road.

Drivers on Wairakei Road wanting to go north on Russley Road can do so by turning left onto Russley Road and making a U-Turn through the Memorial Avenue/Russley Road (SH1) intersection. Drivers coming from the south on SH1 wanting to access Wairakei Road can do so by making a U-Turn through the Harewood Road roundabout and then a left turn into Wairakei Road.

We will not start on Wairakei Road until work in the Harewood area is completed. It will remain as a roundabout until then.

### Russley Road (SH1)/Memorial Avenue interchange

The Russley/Memorial roundabout will be replaced with a grade separated interchange with Russley Road (SH1) going over Memorial Avenue. This design will mean uninterrupted traffic flow along State Highway 1 and provide a long term solution to congestion and delays. The signalised intersection at ground level (under the bridge) will improve safety for all, especially pedestrians and cyclists. The bridge has been designed to accommodate over-dimensional vehicles and any future public transport options.

To allow for the construction of the Russley Memorial Bridge, traffic will be moved onto the slip lanes once they are built. The Russley/Memorial intersection will function as a large elongated roundabout with traffic signals regulating some approaches.

**DELAYS POSSIBLE**

If you are planning a trip to the airport or other time critical destination please plan for possible delays. Real time information on congestion in this area and in the rest of Christchurch can be found at [www.tfc.govt.nz](http://www.tfc.govt.nz)

### Southern Airport Access

Due to the expected increase in industry around the airport, a third high quality access point to the airport will be created south of Avonhead Road. This will improve access for freight.

This intersection will be grade separated (one road will go over the other) with on and off ramps giving traffic the ability to enter and exit the airport area from the north and the south. Traffic turning right into or out of the airport area will drive under Russley Road via an underpass, while Russley Road (SH1) will remain at ground level. This access point makes it possible to separate much of the heavy freight traffic using the airport's freight services from tourist and commuter traffic, allowing the airport precinct to function more safely and efficiently.

Access to and from Avonhead Road to Russley Road (SH1) will be closed as this intersection is too close to the end of the Russley/Memorial interchange slip lanes to be safe. There will be cycle access from the city side of Avonhead Road to the southbound shoulder of Russley Road. Work in this area is currently programmed to start in February 2016.

When this project is complete, we will have laid 30km of cable and 20km of ducting on this 3.5km length of road

