



Tauranga Eastern Link

Construction update

Issue 7 February 2012

Progress to date

Mechanically Stabilised Earth (MSE) walls grow on the Tauranga Eastern Link

A number of MSE walls will be constructed on the TEL. Currently the Kaituna River Bridge and the Mangatawa Interchange MSE walls are under construction. How are we constructing the MSE walls?

They are made up of compacted fill material (sand or soil), which is placed in 500mm layers, with a layer of synthetic geo-grid mesh and fabric, which when combined, create an incredibly stable wall. Different materials such as steel mesh or sandbags are used to keep the wall face flat.



A 500mm layer being prepared with a steel mesh face

Concrete panel faces will be fixed to the walls once the embankments have settled.



An example of concrete panels. These are on the Hewletts Road flyover

Progress to date



Te Maunga northbound lanes begin to take shape

Construction underway on the Te Maunga northbound lanes

Work has commenced on the new northbound lanes at Te Maunga, with the removal of material to sub-grade level and installation underway on a new extensive stormwater drainage system.

Pipe thrusting, crossing underneath Truman Lane and the railway line, is underway. This is a trenchless method where pipes are fitted behind a drill-head and then pushed through the ground using hydraulic rams. In more accessible areas, open trenches of up to 6 metres in depth will be excavated to lay the drainage pipes.

Over 2 kilometres of pipe, ranging from 300mm up to 1200mm in diameter, 45 manholes and 49 cesspits will be installed, linking the existing system with the TEL in the Te Maunga section.



Forward programme for February

Zone A — Te Maunga to Domain Road

Construction activity along State Highway 2 and Truman Lane has increased activity with commencement of material being delivered for the Mangatawa Interchange approach embankments.

Key activities this month will include:

- Drainage work continuing at Te Maunga.
- Mangatawa interchange (beach side) - delivery of fill material for the construction of the MSE wall.
- Mangatawa interchange (Truman Lane side) - delivery of fill material for the construction of the bridge approach embankment.
- Placement of fill material next to State Highway 2.
- Drainage work commencing in the Bruce Road area.

Traffic management

Domain Road

- 50km/h temporary speed restriction.
- State Highway 2 slip lane to Tauranga closed with traffic diverted via the Domain Road roundabout.

State Highway 2

- An 80km/h temporary speed restriction from Te Maunga to Domain Road.
- Bruce Road left turn in and left turn out only.



Topsoil stripping at the Maketu Road bridge site



Sheet piles arrive at the Kaituna River bridge east site

Forward programme for February cont..

Zone B — Domain Road to Kaituna River

Kaituna River bridge construction increases with the commencement of the piling operation this month.

Key activities this month will include:

- Construction of the MSE wall continuing.
- The piling operation commencing and continuing for approximately five months.
- Placement of fill material for the bridge embankment.
- Noise bund construction continuing along with closing out of batters with topsoil.

Traffic management

Bell Road

- 50km/h temporary speed restriction, with TEL construction traffic required to give way to all Bell Road traffic.

Zone C — Kaituna River to Paengaroa

Large construction machinery will cross Te Tumu Road and Maketu Road hauling material for the two bridge approach embankments.

Key activities this month will include:

- Importation of material for the Kaituna River bridge eastern embankment.
- Temporary sheet piling at Kaituna River east.
- Earthworks underway in the Te Tumu Road and Maketu Road areas, to construct the two bridge embankments.
- Continuing with MSE wall construction at the Kaituna River bridge eastern side and commencement on the Paengaroa side of the Maketu Road bridge site.

Traffic management

Maketu Road

- 30km/h temporary speed restriction.
- Manual stop/go as required with minimal delays expected.

Te Tumu Road

- 50km/h temporary speed restriction, with TEL construction traffic required to give way to all Te Tumu Road traffic.

Pah Road

- Two 50km/h temporary speed restrictions.

TAURANGA EASTERN LINK PUBLIC OPEN DAY

25 March 2012

Mark your calendar now — details to follow