



Tauranga Eastern Link

Construction update

Issue 20 November 2013

Progress to date

Two bridges completed

Below left: Kaituna River bridge



Below right: Maketu Road bridge



The 186 metre Kaituna River bridge is now complete, with only the final asphalt layer, centre wire rope barrier and bridge joints to be finished just prior to the TEL opening. Not only is it the only steel bridge on the TEL, but it is also the longest. All the concrete side protection barriers and hand rail on the cycle/pedestrian walkway have been installed and later this year Bell Road traffic will be diverted onto the re-aligned Bell Road beneath the bridge.

Also completed, is the Maketu Road bridge, following construction commencing in March of this year. It is a concrete hollow core beam bridge, and is 24 metres wide x 23 metres long. Each beam weighs 30 tonne. Maketu Road has been closed during the construction period and will re-open to all traffic mid-November.

The changing face of State Highway 2

The six kilometre stretch between Te Maunga and Domain Road is the most visible area of the project and this year has seen a dramatic change to the landscape with traffic now travelling on portions of the new highway.

In August, a section at Te Maunga was opened and in October traffic was switched onto a new section at Mangatawa interchange (right) which allows the construction teams to construct another Mechanically Stabilised Earth (MSE) wall and the on and off ramps for the interchange. A piling operation is also underway on the old highway for the final pier structure.

At Bruce Road, the final surcharge material is being removed allowing the new intersection to be constructed. Bruce Road will be a left in and left out only intersection.



Forward programme for November

Zone A — Te Maunga to Domain Road

The piling operation and construction of the Mangatawa bridge embankment are the two key activities this month.

Other activities include the continuation of the:

- Construction of Te Maunga Lane.
- Pavement construction between Domain Road and Kairua Road.
- Removal of surcharge material and construction of the Bruce Road on and off ramps.
- Installation of stormwater lines.
- Construction of a noise wall at Te Maunga

Traffic management

State Highway 2

- An 80km/h temporary speed restriction from Te Maunga to Domain Road.

Bruce Road

- 30km/h temporary speed restriction and left turn in and left turn out only.

Fulton Hogan HEB Construction Alliance wins 'Judges Special Award for Safety Innovation' at Site Safe Awards

The limited space for the storage of stacked steel pile casings created a major hazard with a serious risk of collapse. The structures team came up with a reinforced steel device named the hairpin which was a simple and cost effective innovation. Once the hairpin was placed on the stacked casings they were more secure, took up less space, and made the surrounding staff working area safer.

Zone C — Kaituna River to Paengaroa

Construction of the TEL main alignment and stormwater retention ponds on Te Tumu Road commences.

Other key activities will include the:

- Maketu Road final re-alignment completed and re-opened to traffic.
- Completion of Mowing Boat Culvert D on Pah Road allowing the final re-alignment of one major drain.
- Continuation of the earthworks operation at the Paengaroa roundabout.
- Removal of surcharge material continues.
- Completion of the ECMT bridge concrete barriers.



Zone B — Domain Road to Kaituna River

Construction of the two Domain Road interchange bridges re-commences.

Other key activities will include the:

- Installation of sheet piles and stone columns on Bell Road for Mowing Boat Culvert A.
- Pavement construction for the future Bell Road re-alignment.
- Removal of the final surcharge material completed on the main alignment.
- Construction of the new Domain Road/Tara Road roundabout and approach lanes continue.
- Construction of the first Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) bridge embankment commencing at the Domain Road interchange.

Traffic management

Tara Road

- In mid-November, traffic will be switched onto the new eastbound lanes with a 50km/h speed restriction.

Domain Road

- 50km/h temporary speed restriction.

Bell Road

- 50km/h temporary speed restriction.

Parton Road

- Manual stop/go with a 30km/h temporary speed restriction.

Zone C Traffic management

Pah Road

- Two 50km/h temporary speed restrictions.

State Highway 2

- 80 km/h temporary speed restriction between Gullivers Road and SH2/SH33 intersection.

Maketu Road re-opens—mid-November

- Maketu Road will be re-opened to all traffic with a manual stop/go and a 30km/h temporary speed restriction.

Te Tumu Road permanent and temporary closure—mid-November

- A small section of Te Tumu Road will be permanently closed as part of the final TEL alignment. The new re-alignment of Te Tumu Road will be temporarily closed to allow the final construction of the permanent Te Tumu re-alignment onto Maketu Road. All traffic will be temporarily diverted via Kelly Road.