



## Tauranga Eastern Link

Project update

July 2012

### TEL structures progressing

As part of the 23km Tauranga Eastern Link (TEL) project, stretching from Te Maunga to the SH2/SH33 intersection near Paengaroa, there are seven bridges, including the 150 metre Kaituna River bridge, to be built. Work on four of these structures has started:

#### Kaituna River bridge

Both the mechanically stabilised earth (MSE) walls for the Kaituna River bridge abutments are complete, with a settlement period of up to nine months underway. The main activity underway is the piling, currently operating on the west side of the river, where pile casings are being driven 55 metres into the ground. Once in place, reinforced steel bars are inserted inside the casings and concrete is poured completing the pile.

#### Maketu Road bridge

Both the southern and northern Maketu Road bridge MSE walls have been completed - unlike the Kaituna River bridge MSE walls, they do not require a settlement holding period as they are constructed on Tehpra (a volcanic ash material). Work in this area will start up again in spring and fill material will be placed between Maketu and Te Tumu Roads for the northern bridge embankment.

#### East Coast Main Trunk (ECMT) rail bridge

Piling is underway on the ECMT rail bridge with the northern side (Maketu Road) almost complete. 16 piles have been driven 30 metres into the ground, with reinforcing steel and concrete placed inside, to complete each of the piles. An additional 16 piles are being driven on the southern side. Construction of a keystone retaining wall for the northern bridge abutment has also started.

#### Mangatawa interchange

All of the fill is in place for the first of three MSE walls for the interchange, and the embankment (on the Truman Lane side) is now complete.

At the top of the finished MSE wall a total of 600 sand bags, each filled with one cubic metre of sand, have been placed as part of the pre-load. More pre-load material will be placed (up to a height of 3.5 metres) behind the sandbags and will sit for approximately 18 months while settlement takes place.

On the Truman Lane side, the embankment fill material has pre-load rubble placed on top, and similar to the MSE wall, will take approximately 18 months for settlement to occur.

See over on pages two and three for further detail regarding the interchange .



Kaituna River bridge



Maketu Road bridge MSE walls



ECMT rail bridge - a total of 32 piles will be driven 30 metres into the ground



Mangatawa interchange MSE wall construction (beach side)

### Construction progress online

#### Kaituna River bridge time-lapse camera

Construction progress on the Bay of Plenty's largest ever roading project can be viewed online thanks to a time-lapse camera featuring on the NZ Transport Agency's [www.nzta.govt.nz/tel](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/tel) website.

The time-lapse camera is positioned near the Kaituna River - capturing month by month construction of the 150 metre long Bridge.

The TEL is a large scale project and tools like this provide the public with an opportunity to view progress, particularly in areas that are hard to see from the existing state highway.

#### Historical finds on display

A new display featuring historical artefacts found since construction of the TEL began in 2010, is now available for viewing at the TEL Visitor Information Centre on Tara Road, Papamoa.

The artefacts on display include a stone adze estimated to be 600 years old, shell middens, hangi stones, china and an old wine bottle.

To view the latest footage, construction images and other displays, visit the TEL Visitor Information Centre, 65 Tara Road, Papamoa. Open Monday to Friday from 9.00am to 4.30pm.

# Mangatawa interchange

One of the seven bridges being built on the Tauranga Eastern Link, and the most visible, is the Mangatawa interchange. Located between Te Maunga and Bruce Road, it will provide future access to Papamoa (via Sandhurst Drive) and Mangatawa - opening to traffic at the completion of the TEL project in 2016.

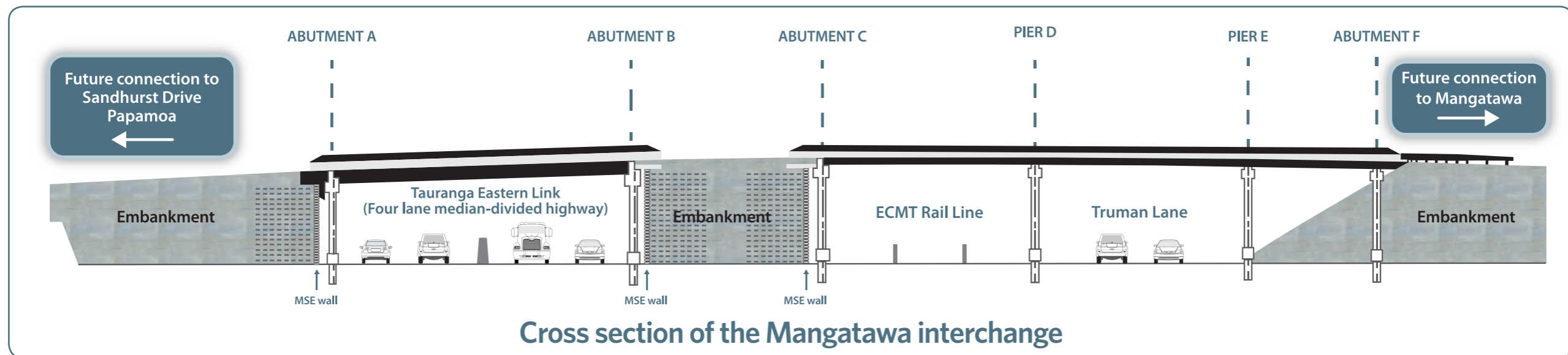
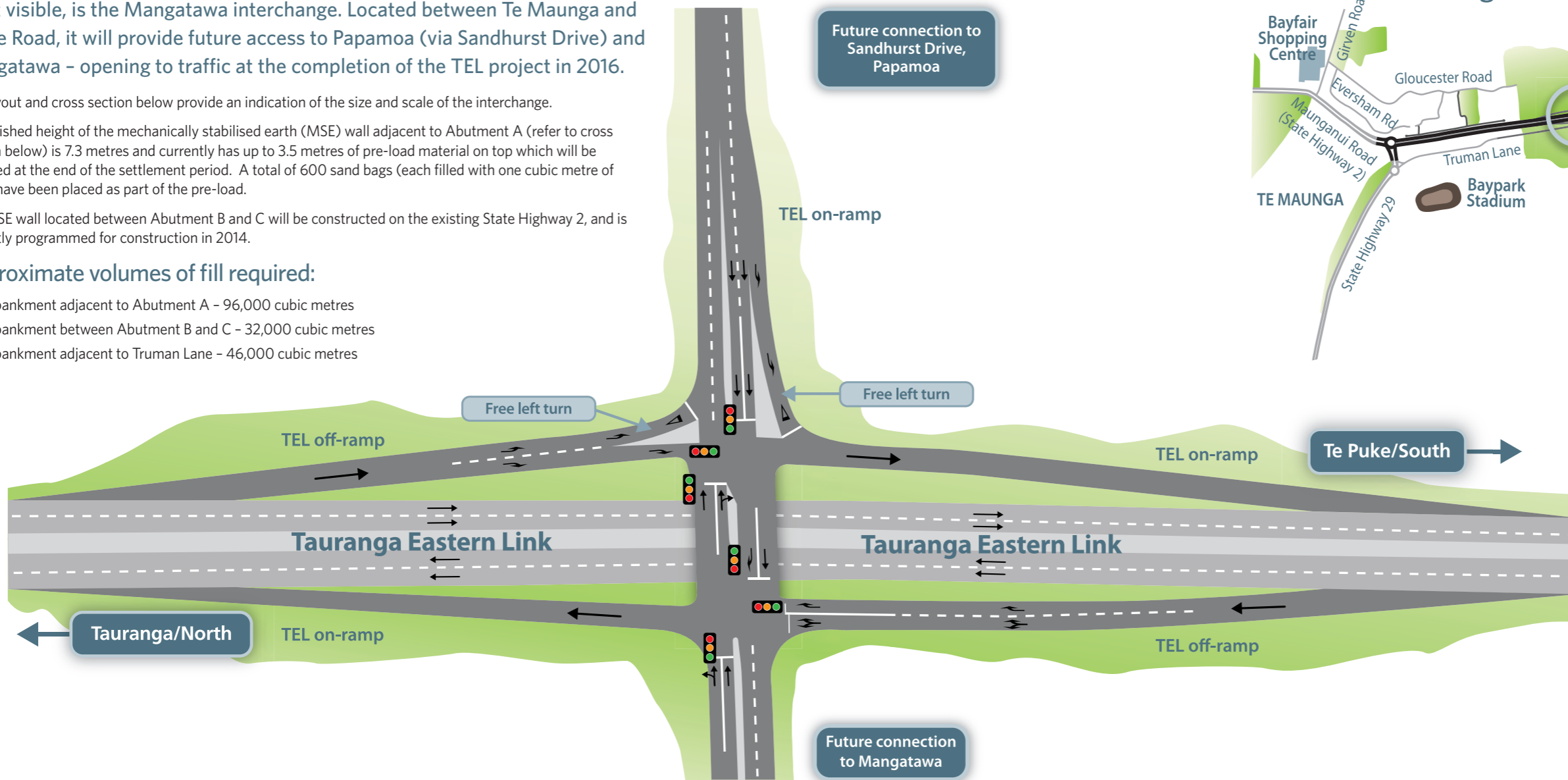
The layout and cross section below provide an indication of the size and scale of the interchange.

The finished height of the mechanically stabilised earth (MSE) wall adjacent to Abutment A (refer to cross section below) is 7.3 metres and currently has up to 3.5 metres of pre-load material on top which will be removed at the end of the settlement period. A total of 600 sand bags (each filled with one cubic metre of sand) have been placed as part of the pre-load.

The MSE wall located between Abutment B and C will be constructed on the existing State Highway 2, and is currently programmed for construction in 2014.

### Approximate volumes of fill required:

- Embankment adjacent to Abutment A - 96,000 cubic metres
- Embankment between Abutment B and C - 32,000 cubic metres
- Embankment adjacent to Truman Lane - 46,000 cubic metres



Cross section of the Mangatawa interchange

## Tauranga Eastern Link - self drive

Around 16 kilometres of the 23-kilometre TEL project is generally not visible to the public as it crosses orchards and farms. However, there are a number of places in the Western Bay where you can see the new road taking shape - simply by driving the suggested routes.

### Parton Road

**See:** where the Parton Road bridge crosses over the TEL.

**Drive:** Parton Road. Refer map 01.

### Bell Road

**See:** where the TEL crosses Bell Road and the Kaituna River, and construction of the 150m Kaituna River Bridge.

**Drive:** Bell Road to the boat ramp and turn around. Refer map 01.

### Pah Road

**See:** where the TEL crosses with Pah Road (approximately 3km from SH2) and one of the seven trial embankments that is currently being monitored for settlement. Pah Road will be realigned as part of the project.

**Drive:** Pah Road. Refer map 02.

### Kaituna Road Extension

**See:** the new Kaituna Road Extension, constructed as part of the TEL enabling works. This road opened in December 2011.

**Drive:** along Pah Road, turn right Kaituna Road Extension (just before the Kaituna Wildlife Reserve car park). Refer map 02.

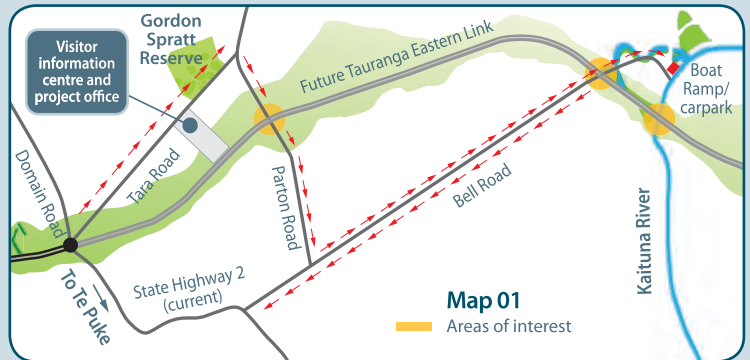
### Te Tumu and Maketu Roads

**See:** where the TEL crosses with Te Tumu and Maketu Roads. Te Tumu Road will be realigned and a bridge built to lift the TEL over Maketu Road.

**Drive:** from Kaituna Road Extension, turn right on to Te Tumu Road and head towards SH2. Refer map 02.

#### PLEASE NOTE:

*Drive carefully as these roads can be busy. There is no public access to any part of the TEL construction site.*



## Our contact details

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