

Project update

Issue 03

September 2011



Kamo Bypass

Bypass complete

Over 2000 people gathered on Sunday 4 September to be part of the official opening of Kamo Bypass Stage 2.



Hon Phil Heatley cuts the ribbon to officially open the Kamo Bypass

The 1.3 kilometre extension to the existing bypass was opened after a traditional dawn blessing lead by local iwi, and a ribbon cutting ceremony involving Whangarei's MP, Hon Phil Heatley, the city's mayor Morris Cutforth, and officials from NZTA, AECOM and local contractors, United Civil.

Once officially opened, pedestrians and cyclists were invited to walk the length of the newest section of SH1 before it opened to traffic that afternoon.

The bypass runs north from the top of Western Hills Drive, intersects with the new Spedding Road link, before joining stage one of the bypass close to the Whangarei golf course.

Traffic volumes on the bypass are anticipated to be 10,000 vehicles per day at the northern end and 14,000 at the southern end. The Spedding Road link will contribute to the higher volume at the southern end as it provides an alternative route to the city centre from the Tikipunga, Glenbervie and eastern coastal areas.

The Kamo Bypass has two signalised intersections and a rail crossing. Additional features include a large retaining wall and an underpass to separate local and bypass traffic and to enable property access for residents. The underpass connects Walker Crescent

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Walking the new bypass

to McClintock Street via the new Rupert Clark Road.

Stage two of the Kamo Bypass provides a high quality connection on SH1 between Western Hills Drive and the existing bypass north of Kamo Road. The bypass provides an alternative to Kamo Road, moves traffic away from the city centre and provides much better management of traffic in the northern suburbs of Whangarei.

The Kamo Bypass is one of six projects planned in Whangarei to help manage growing traffic numbers, improve safety and make travel easier for locals and visitors travelling in and around Whangarei. The bypass cost \$25M, including property acquisitions.

Rupert Clark Road is named after local identity Ru Clark, a fifth-generation Northlander, who lived at 146 Kamo Road for around 50 years until his home was acquired by Transit in the mid-nineties to enable the Kamo Bypass to be constructed.



Landscaping

Design consultancy Boffa Miskell developed the concept for the landscape design with the focus on the transition from urban to rural environments. Groves of cabbage trees, native wetland plants and a formal avenue of native trees are key features of the landscape.

Pupils of Whau Valley School helped plant some of the 50,000 native flaxes, grasses and specimen trees as part of the landscaping.



Whau Valley School planting day, July 2011



Under construction, January 2011





Underpass art

Local artists Trent Morgan and Dave Beazley were commissioned by NZTA to paint the new vehicle and pedestrian underpass connecting Rupert Clark Road and Walker Crescent.

The southern wall acknowledges the historical significance



of the area as a bountiful food basket. The colours used represent swamp, bush and ocean and the painted forms evoke a sense of flow and movement through the underpass.

The northern wall mural represents youth, energy and movement and draws its inspiration from street art and the architecture in the surrounding area

Finishing touches still underway

The final seal for the highway surface will be laid before Christmas and finishing touches including minor concrete works, landscaping, fence construction and traffic signal adjustments will also be completed by December.

The existing roundabout on Kamo Road will be removed and the road realigned.

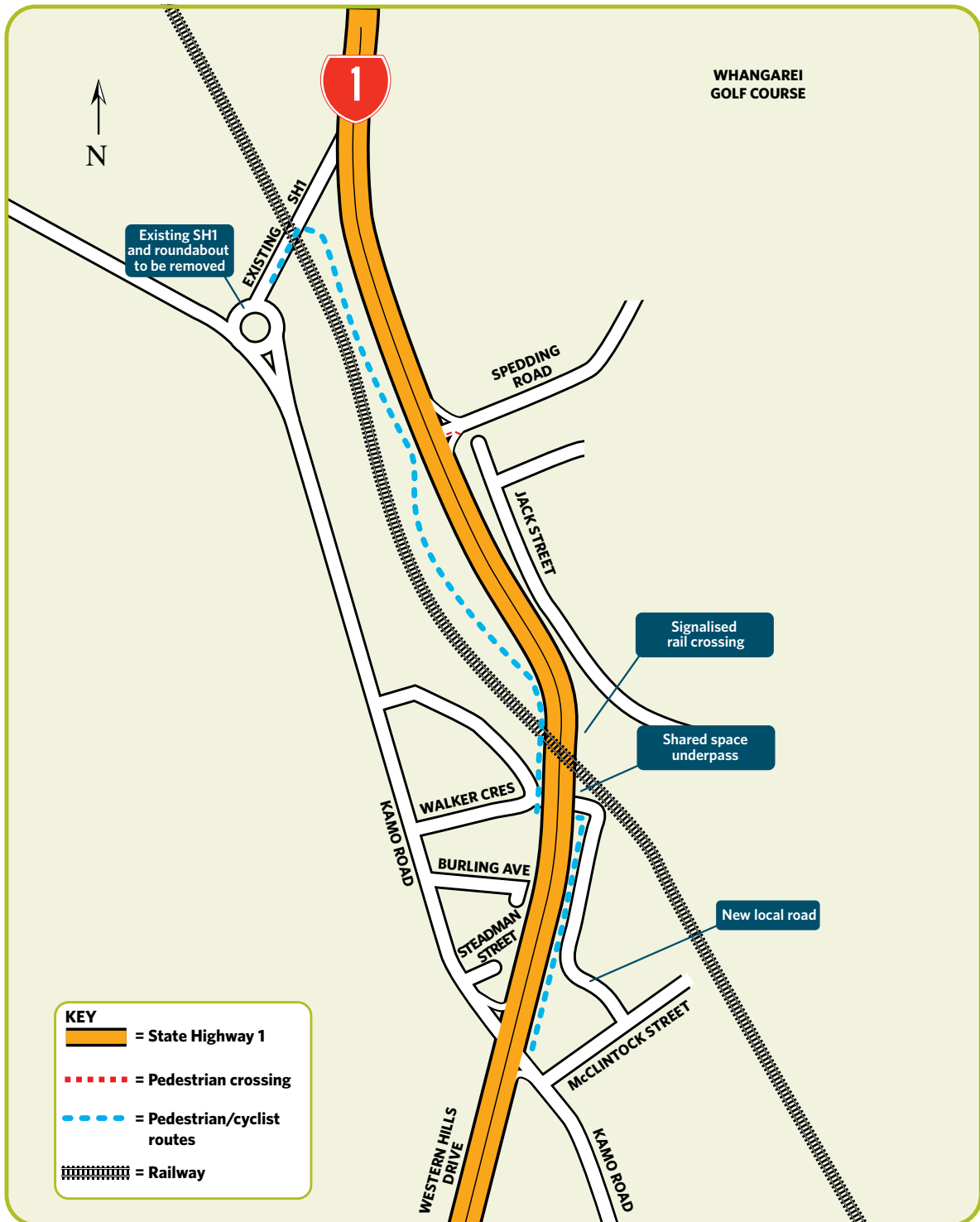


The project team, July 2011

Nearing completion, July 2011



Kamo Bypass



For more information

For further information online visit
www.nzta.govt.nz/projects/whangarei



Our contact details

For general enquiries, or contact information about the NZ Transport Agency please check our website www.nzta.govt.nz or email us at info@nzta.govt.nz



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