



Tauranga Eastern Link

Project update

March 2012

Progress is steady on the Bay's largest roading project

Since award of the Tauranga Eastern Link (TEL) construction project, some 16 months ago, the Fulton Hogan HEB Construction Alliance has progressively cleared, reshaped and developed 23km into what is the Bay's largest ever roading project.

- Over 30km of new fencing has been completed and a significant amount of vegetation cleared, including 19 hectares of kiwifruit orchards.
- 800,000 cubic metres of sand has been shifted to construct the haul roads along the new alignment, and to create the fill at Domain Road for the new interchange.
- Approximately 920 kilometres of wick drains have been installed - wick drains are vertical drains that provide a flow path for water trapped within the soil to escape. Wick drains, combined with preload material placed on top, significantly decreases the length of time it takes to compact the ground below.
- Work has started on the new northbound lanes at Te Maunga - removing material to sub-grade level and installing a new extensive stormwater drainage system.
- Delivery of fill material to Mangatawa for construction of the interchange MSE wall (mechanically stabilised earth wall - beach side) and construction of the bridge approach embankment (Truman Lane side) started in December.
- Kaituna River bridge MSE wall construction.
- Stage one of the Domain Road interchange has been completed with the installation of wick drains and placement of preload material. Construction activity in this area has decreased while the preload material (large mounds of sand you can see) sits for approximately nine months.
- Earthworks are underway in the Te Tumu Road and Maketu Road areas, and construction of the Maketu bridge MSE wall has started.
- Settlement monitoring continues of the seven trial embankments installed at various locations along the site.



Mangatawa interchange MSE wall construction (beach side).



Mangatawa interchange bridge approach embankment (Truman Lane side).

Tauranga Eastern Link family open day - come see for yourself

WHERE: TEL Visitor Information Centre, 65 Tara Road, Papamoa

WHEN: Sunday March 25, 10am - 2pm



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Email: taurangaeasternlink@nzta.govt.nz

Visit: www.nzta.govt.nz/taurangaeasternlink

Phone: 0800 TEL INFO (835 463)

Parking:

A grassed area located on Doncaster Drive will be made available for parking.

This event is weather dependant:

Listen to your local radio stations for updates.

Please ensure closed in footwear is worn. Sorry no dogs or bikes.



For the first time, a small section of the construction site will be opened to the public, giving you a chance to see what progress looks like.

On Sunday March 25, between 10am and 2pm, you can see a snapshot of the project, learn more about what's happening in areas mostly unseen by the general public and see what's in the visitor information centre.

Come along to the TEL family open day to see:

- latest construction progress photos
- fly-through animation of the future highway
- scale model of the completed Domain Road interchange
- DVD presentations featuring construction footage and interviews
- a small section of the construction site.

Activities for the family will include a virtual digger, construction machinery display and a bouncy castle!

What are MSE walls and how are they being constructed on the TEL?

Mechanically stabilised earth (MSE) walls are reinforced walls used for many different construction purposes such as retaining walls, bridge embankments, dams etc.

The walls are made up of layers of compacted fill material (sand or soil), and on the TEL they are being placed in 500mm layers, with a layer of synthetic geo-grid mesh and fabric. When combined, the fill and fabric layers create an incredibly stable wall. Different materials such as steel mesh, concrete slabs or sandbags can be used to keep the face of the wall flat.

Once the embankments have settled, concrete panel faces (similar to those on Hewletts Road flyover) will be fixed to the walls.

A number of MSE walls will be constructed on the TEL. Currently the Kaituna River bridge, Mangatawa interchange and Maketu Road bridge MSE walls are under construction.

Kaituna River bridge MSE wall construction



1 Fill is laid to construct the first MSE wall layer.



2 Fill material compacted in preparation for the next layer.



3 Geo-grid mesh and fabric is laid.

What's happening at Te Maunga?

As part of the Tauranga Eastern Link the section of State Highway (SH2) from Te Maunga (near Baypark stadium) to Domain Road will be widened to four lanes and divided by a wire rope median barrier. The Te Maunga roundabout will be upgraded and a new residential access lane constructed to safely connect properties that currently access SH2, directly to local roads via Gloucester and Eversham Roads. (There will be no access on or off the new highway from the new residential access lane).

During 2012 significant construction work will take place at Te Maunga. It is expected the two new northbound lanes, and the new local road connections for residents along the state highway, will be completed during spring 2012. SH2 traffic will then be switched across to the new northbound lanes to enable construction to start on the southbound lanes and the new residential access lane parallel to State Highway 2. It is anticipated that the southbound lanes and residential access lane will be completed during the summer of 2013.

For the safety of motorists and construction workers, changes to traffic conditions are required during construction. The NZTA and Fulton Hogan HEB Construction Alliance will be working hard to minimise disruption. To receive advance notice of changes to traffic conditions join our mailing list to receive weekly traffic reports - email taurangaeasternlink@nzta.govt.nz





View from west side of Kaituna River looking towards east side.



Start of embankments between Maketu Road bridge and the rail bridge.

Proposed construction programme for the next four months



Our contact details

free phone 0800 TEL INFO (0800 835 463)
 email taurangaeasternlink@nzta.govt.nz
 For more information visit www.nzta.govt.nz/tel

MAIL TO
 Tauranga Eastern Link Team
 NZ Transport Agency
 PO Box 430
 Tauranga 3140