NZ TRANSPORT AGENCY
WAKA KOTAHI

Roads of national significance

2 Tauranga Eastern Link

Project update

OCTOBER 2013

Winter progress update

The Tauranga Eastern Link project is ahead of schedule. The forecast completion date was mid 2016, but thanks to a mild winter and great progress by the construction teams, the completion has been brought forward six months to late 2015. The project is now nearing the half way point and the progress made over winter includes:

Kaituna River bridge

The Kaituna River bridge was opened to construction traffic in June. The bridge, at 150 metres in length, is the longest of the seven bridges being built on the TEL. It has four lanes, two in each direction, and a pedestrian/cycleway on one side of the bridge.

Kaituna River bridge

Domain Road and Te Maunga

Traffic switches at Domain Road and Te Maunga occurred in August. The State Highway 2 northbound slip lane was reopened at Domain Road and drivers are on a new section of the road at Te Maunga whilst the southbound lanes and Te Maunga Lane (the new residential access lane) are being constructed.

Domain Road

Te Maunga

Mangatawa interchange

The wall panels, street lighting and protection barriers have been installed on one side of Mangatawa interchange.

Mangatawa interchange

Maketu Road bridge and East Coast Main Trunk rail bridge

Construction of the Maketu Road bridge and nearby East Coast Main Trunk (ECMT) rail bridge is well underway with both due for completion in late 2013.

Maketu Road bridge

Paengaroa roundabout

Construction of the Paengaroa roundabout is currently going to plan, with completion scheduled for autumn 2014. Significant safety benefits are expected as a result.

Paengaroa roundabout

Upcoming traffic changes – how will they affect you?

When	Where	Impact
October 2013	**State Highway 2 - Te Maunga to Mangatawa**	Just south of the Te Maunga roundabout traffic will be switched onto the new southbound lanes.
November 2013	**Tara Road**	Traffic will be switched onto the new westbound lanes.
November 2013	**Maketu Road**	Maketu Road will re-open to traffic.
November 2013	**Bell Road**	Traffic will be switched onto the new Bell Road alignment.
November 2013	**Te Tumu Road**	A small section of Te Tumu Road will close with a traffic diversion in place, re-opening again in December.

We invite you to the...

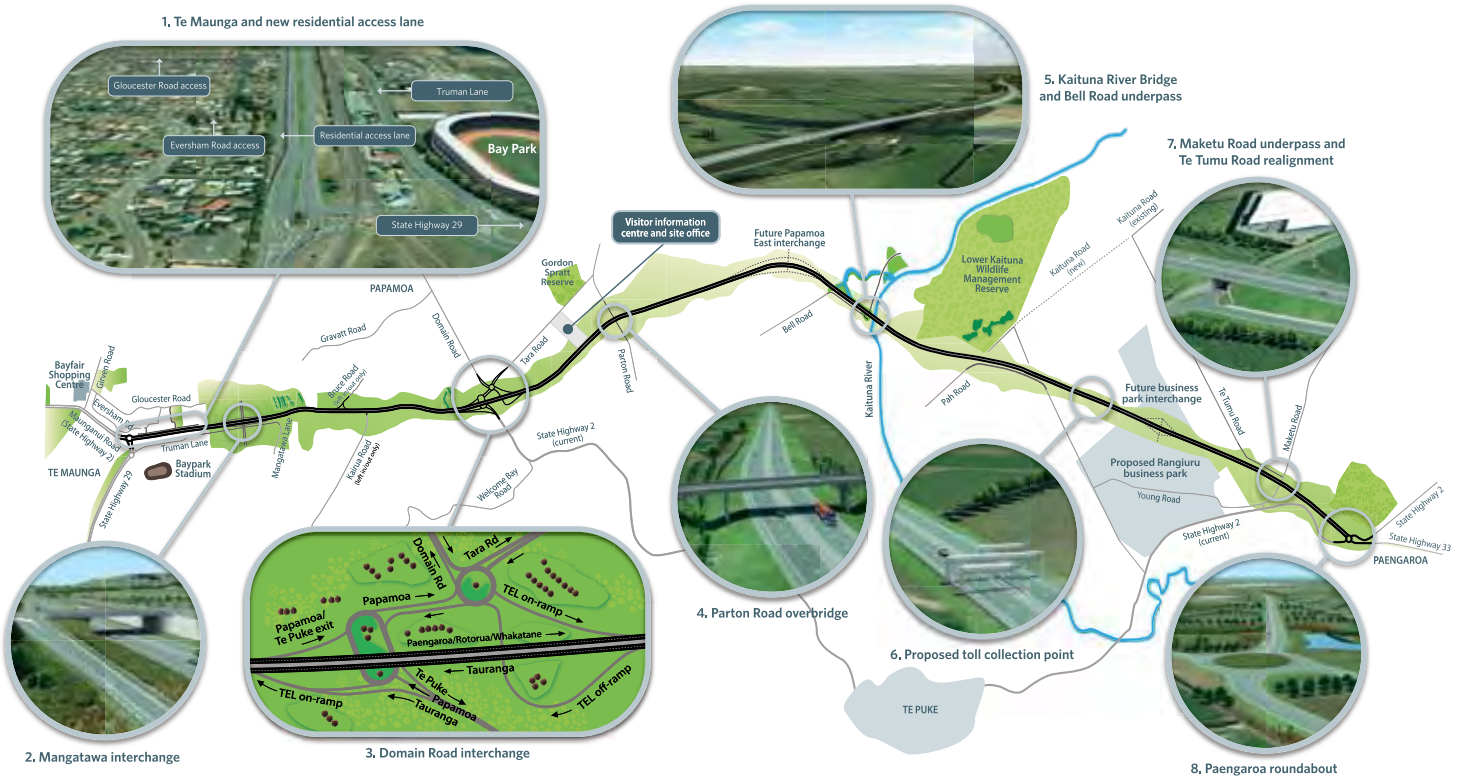
Tauranga Eastern Link Family open day

Sunday 17 November 2013

Come and check out the new Kaituna River bridge. The team has a fantastic day planned so please keep an eye out for further details.

Reminder of where the Tauranga Eastern Link goes

Most of the new road is out of view from the public, as it travels through flat dairy paddocks, across sand dunes and over the Kaituna River, between Te Maunga and Paengaroa. The four-laned tolled highway will deliver benefits that will be felt throughout the Bay; improved safety, more efficient freight movements from east and central parts of the region, travel time savings for all motorists, economic benefits for the local communities and a stimulus to growth across the region.



Why is it tolled?

Tolling the TEL has enabled construction of the Bay's largest roading project to start 5-10 years earlier than initially planned.

It will feature an electronic tolling system which will allow free flowing traffic. Motorists will not need to stop to pay the toll.

The system will feature vehicle registration plate recognition. Motorists will be able to pay via account, online or over the phone. As an alternative to the tolled route, drivers can still use the existing highway through Te Puke.

The toll gantry will be removed once the debt and financing costs are repaid. This is currently anticipated to take 35 years following the completion of the project.

Future construction programme

November 2013	December 2013	January 2014	February 2014
Mangatawa interchange			Bridge embankment construction and abutment C piling
Paengaroa roundabout and approaches			Pavement construction and traffic services installation
Domain Road interchange	Domain Road/Tara Road roundabout and westbound lane construction		
Domain Road to Bell Road			Pavement construction
	Mowing boat culvert A – Bell Road		Ground improvements

Got a question, comment or want to get in touch? Here are our details:

Or head out to the TEL Visitor Information Centre at 65 Tara Road, Papamoa.

Phone **0800 tel info (0800 835 463)**

Web **www.nzta.govt.nz/tel**

Mail **Tauranga Eastern Link Team, NZ Transport Agency, PO Box 430, Tauranga 3140**

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New Zealand Government