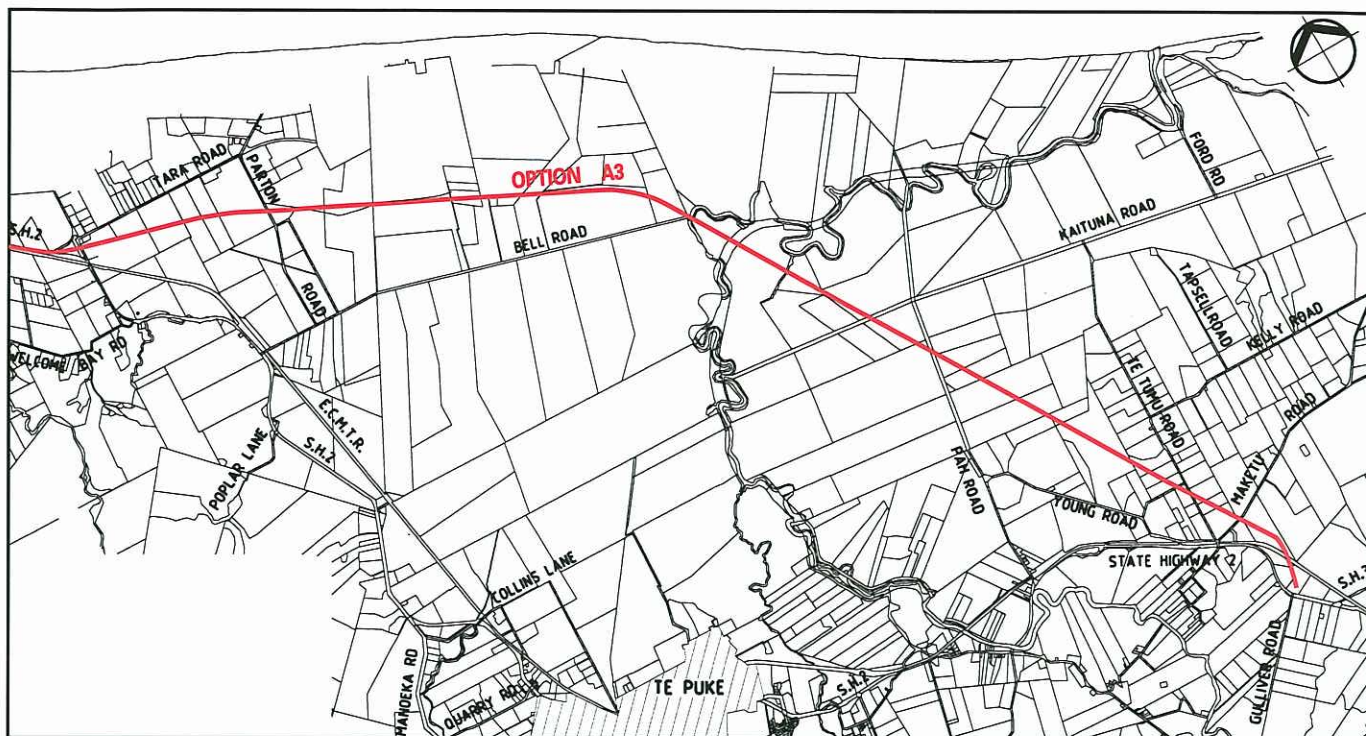


Community Newsletter No. 6



CROWN COPYRIGHT RESERVED. LEGAL BOUNDARY INFORMATION REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION OF TAURANGA DISTRICT COUNCIL LICENCE No. HN/033523 & WESTERN BAY OF PLENTY DISTRICT COUNCIL LICENCE No. HN35220003

STATE HIGHWAY 2 EASTERN ARTERIAL ROADING PROJECT

You will be aware that over the past 18 months Transit New Zealand's consultant, Beca Carter Hollings & Ferner Ltd (BCHF), has been studying options for the proposed Tauranga Eastern Arterial. I am pleased to announce that the favoured alignment for the Eastern Arterial is the A3 Option shown on the plan above. The Transit New Zealand Authority has resolved to proceed with the designation process to secure this land for the future roading corridor.

The next stage in the project is to carry out a more detailed assessment of environmental effects (AEE) on A3 (with some modifications). This AEE will form part of the requirement notices to Tauranga and Western Bay of Plenty District Councils to designate the route for the purposes of a State highway. The consultant will be carrying out consultation with affected landowners as part of this on going process.

Once the requirement notice has been made to the Councils there will be an opportunity for you to make formal submissions on the proposal. Until then though, the consultant is happy to hear from anyone who has concerns or queries.

Yours faithfully

Colin Knaggs
Transit New Zealand
June 1998

BACKGROUND

Six options have been considered by the project team. As part of the option selection process a study team was involved in assessing each option. The study team involved consultants specialising in noise, landscape, archaeology, ecology, social, cultural, property valuation and economics in addition to engineers. From the assessments provided by each of the team members and the community input, the preferred alignment was recommended.

Economically, the A options proved better than Options B or C. Option A3 was preferred over the other A options on archaeological, social, noise and economic grounds. It has therefore been decided to progress Option A3 through to the next stage. The A3 option that will be progressed will be a version that avoids a Pa site near the Kaituna River and the Kahikatea stand on the Kaituna Reserve. The alignment will also ensure a habitat buffer of ecological areas of the reserve, the enhancement of the reserve drainage, maximisation of the use of the sandhill country, minimisation of the impact on dairy farm management and preservation of the flood protection scheme.

THE NEXT STAGE

The next phase of the project is to complete an AEE for Option A3. This AEE will be completed over the next few months so that the notice of requirement for the designation can be lodged with the Councils prior to Christmas. The AEE process will require some detailed design to be carried out including some design on the junctions at either end of the road. The design of these junctions will be available at the open days and will mean that those landowners who have been affected in a general way in these areas will get more detailed information regarding the degree of impact.

FURTHER INFORMATION

The consultant, Beca Carter Hollings & Ferner Ltd, has an office in Tauranga in Harrington House. You can meet, by prior appointment, the staff listed below or you can telephone them at any time. The contacts are:

Amanda Rowe, Christine Ralph and Don Young
Phone: 07 578 0896 Postal Address: PO Box 903, Tauranga
Fax: 07 578 2968 Email: arowe@beca.co.nz

The Transit New Zealand Project Manager is:
Colin Crampton. He can be contacted on telephone number: 07 838 8220

CONSULTATION

Consultation during the next phase, which is the assessment of environmental effects of the favoured option, will occur through:

- Individual meetings with landowners directly affected
- Open days
- Public submissions
- Personal advice to directly affected property owners
- Community/Cottage meetings on request
- Hapu meetings
- Meetings and responses of the Community Advisory Group.

OPEN DAYS

Open days will be held at:

Papamoa Sports Centre	13 July	4-8pm
Paengaroa Hall	14 July	4-8pm

If you cannot attend these open days, the consultant will meet with you at a mutually agreeable time.

SUBMISSIONS

Submissions concerning the preferred option will be received until 7 August 1998. Please send them to the address below stating your name and address.