



# July 2016 - Issue 22

This will be our last newsletter, thanks again to everyone for your patience while the upgrade has been constructed.

#### What's left to do?

- Asphalt Mangorei intersection and complete footpaths, now that the water works are completed there
- Long-life road-marking and cycle lane delineation
- Complete construction of the visual barrier between the road and rail either side of the Paynters over-bridge. Site works commenced during the second week in July and is expected to finish late August
- Minor additional works around the project such as small retaining walls, bollards and signage.



This is how the finished fence will look on Paynters Ave over bridge

## What's been happening?

Transport Minister Simon Bridges joined local dignitaries and staff from the Transport Agency in New Plymouth in June, to formally open the \$24m Vickers to City upgrade.

Highway Manager Wellington, Neil Walker says the ongoing land development at Waiwhakaiho and Bell Block, coupled with increased traffic movements to and from the port means the existing road is at capacity.

"The new route will enable freight to move more easily and efficiently through the area; local traffic will be less congested, and safety for all road users will be enhanced through a wider, straighter, and better-lit route, with improved walking and cycling facilities."



Left to right – New Plymouth MP Jonathan Young, Transport Minister Simon Bridges, Regional Transport Committee Chair Craig Williamson and Deputy Mayor Heather Dodunski plant a tree to mark the official opening of the project.

## **Community Open Day**

We had a small attendance at the Community Open Day on Sunday 26 June. People came along to view project information and talk to the project team. The feedback was generally positive; people were reporting an improvement in journey times.



Members of the public chat with the project team at the open day.

#### **Quick Facts**

- Nearly 2.5 km of stormwater and drainage pipe has been installed
- Close to 3,500 tonnes of asphalt laid
- Nearly 8,000 flaxes and shrubs have been planted
- 43 specimen trees have been planted, including Pohutukawa, Lemonwood, Magnolia, Kauri, Flowering Cherry and Liquid Amber
- Since construction started, there have been approximately 18.9 million vehicle movements through the site, which is about 29,000 vehicles per day
- The Waiwhakaiho Bridge weighs around 3,470 tonnes. This is roughly the same as 193 double-decker buses
- Approximately 7,000m² of footpath and islands have been installed
- 100 street light poles have been removed and replaced with new poles, state of the art LED lights and cabling.