WHAT IS AN INTERCHANGE?
An interchange is a grade-separated intersection, usually where one road passes over another, with ramps to connect them. They’re designed to get you on and off expressways smoothly. Interchanges connect with key roads on the local road network and a lot of study and collaborative planning has gone into where these connection points should be. They help to get trucks and other through-traffic on and off local roads as efficiently as possible.

The Mackays to Peka Peka Expressway has four interchanges; two full and two partial. A partial interchange is where you can get off the Expressway in one direction, and onto it from the other. A full interchange is where you can get on and off in both directions. The four Expressway interchanges are located at:

- Poplar Avenue (Raumati South)
- Kāpiti Road (Paraparaumu)
- Te Moana Road (Waikanae)
- Peka Peka

A COLLABORATIVE DESIGN PROCESS
The design decisions about all the Expressway’s interchanges were made as part of the consent process before the construction work started. Those planning decisions had input from a range of stakeholders, including the Kāpiti Coast District Council and the NZ Transport Agency, and were made by the Environmental Protection Agency’s Board of Inquiry on the Transport Agency’s application to construct the Expressway.

GETTING ON AND OFF
There are two places on the 18km Expressway route where traffic can get on and off in both directions. Local traffic can choose to use these interchanges (at Kāpiti Road and Te Moana Road), as well as the existing State Highway 1 route (which will become a local arterial road once the Expressway opens), for regional journeys. Poplar Avenue and Peka Peka have partial interchanges. This decision was made largely due to the Expressway being designed to operate as a regional rather than a local connection. The decision also recognised that the existing state highway should become safer and more reliable for local traffic when the Expressway opens. Another consideration was around managing urban development along the Expressway route. An assessment of traffic impacts was done as part of this process.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
How will I be able to get onto the Expressway from Peka Peka?
There will be a northbound on-ramp that takes you to the very top of the Expressway route, which quickly becomes the existing SH1. To head south on the Expressway you’ll need to use a southbound on-ramp at one of the other interchanges (the closest one is at Te Moana Road).

How do I get to Peka Peka Road/Te Kowhai Road from the existing SH1 route when the Expressway opens?
There’ll be north and south connections to these streets via the bridge over the Expressway along a link road.

How will the connection between Peka Peka Road and the new local link road work once the Expressway opens?
Leaving Peka Peka Road, there will be a right turn onto the link road to take traffic south. There is also a left turn option towards Te Kowhai Road and you can connect to the northbound off-ramp from here. This area will be a t-intersection controlled by Give Way and STOP signage to start with. A roundabout intersection will be constructed here after the Expressway starts carrying traffic.

A REGIONAL CONNECTION
The Mackays to Peka Peka Expressway will change how people move around the Kāpiti Coast district. Traffic volumes and patterns are expected to change as people get used to getting on and off the Expressway. People living and working locally will be able to use the Expressway, or continue to use the existing State Highway 1 (which will become a local arterial road after the Expressway opens) and Peka Peka Road (including Harrisons Garden Centre), Te Kowhai Road and Hadfield Road.

TRAVELLING BETWEEN WAIKANAE AND ŌTAKI:
People who travel between Waikanae and Ōtaki, and don’t need to access Peka Peka will have two options at this interchange for heading north and south. You will be able to use the Expressway or you can use the existing state highway (using new link roads when the Expressway opens).

Around the interchange area, local link roads will allow you to drive between the existing State Highway 1 (which will become a local arterial road after the Expressway opens) and Peka Peka Road (including Harrisons Garden Centre), Te Kowhai Road and Hadfield Road.

GETTING ON AND OFF

There are two places on the 18km Expressway route where traffic can get on and off in both directions. Local traffic can choose to use these interchanges (at Kāpiti Road and Te Moana Road), as well as the existing State Highway 1 route (which will become a local arterial road once the Expressway opens), for regional journeys. Poplar Avenue and Peka Peka have partial interchanges. This decision was made largely due to the Expressway being designed to operate as a regional rather than a local connection. The decision also recognised that the existing state highway should become a fit-for-purpose local road.

How will I be able to get onto the Expressway from Peka Peka?
There will be a northbound on-ramp that takes you to the very top of the Expressway route, which quickly becomes the existing SH1. To head south on the Expressway you’ll need to use a southbound on-ramp at one of the other interchanges (the closest one is at Te Moana Road).

How do I get to Peka Peka Road/Te Kowhai Road from the existing SH1 route when the Expressway opens?
There’ll be north and south connections to these streets via the bridge over the Expressway along a link road.

How will the connection between Peka Peka Road and the new local link road work once the Expressway opens?
Leaving Peka Peka Road, there will be a right turn onto the link road to take traffic south. There is also a left turn option towards Te Kowhai Road and you can connect to the northbound off-ramp from here. This area will be a t-intersection controlled by Give Way and STOP signage to start with. A roundabout intersection will be constructed here after the Expressway starts carrying traffic.

A REGIONAL CONNECTION
The Mackays to Peka Peka Expressway will change how people move around the Kāpiti Coast district. Traffic volumes and patterns are expected to change as people get used to getting on and off the Expressway. People living and working locally will be able to use the Expressway, or continue to use the existing State Highway 1 * to travel between the town centres and around the district.

*Within two years of the Expressway opening, the stretch of existing State Highway 1 between Poplar Avenue in Raumati South and Te Kowhai Road in Peka Peka will no longer be required to operate as a state highway. It will become a fit-for-purpose local road.
HEADING SOUTH ON THE EXPRESSWAY
Motorists driving between Peka Peka and destinations south of the Kapiti District (like Porirua or Wellington) can connect with the Expressway at either the Te Moana Road, Kapiti Road or Poplar Avenue interchanges, which have southbound on-ramps. The existing State Highway 1 route is your other option for driving south.

GETTING TO PEKA PEKA USING THE EXPRESSWAY
If you joined the Expressway at Mackays Crossing and want to finish your journey at Peka Peka, you can exit using the Expressway off-ramp at Te Moana Road Interchange and then travel to Peka Peka on one of the local road routes.

USING THE OFF-RAMP
If you’re travelling from Otaki on the Expressway heading south, you can turn off at Peka Peka using the off-ramp to get onto the local road south (that’s the existing State Highway 1) towards Waikanae train station. You can also use the southern off-ramp to connect to a new local link road and drive across to Peka Peka Road, over the Expressway, towards the beach or, you can travel through to Te Kowhai Road.

USING THE ON-RAMP
If you’re travelling along the local road north from Waikanae or up Peka Peka Road or, from Te Kowhai Road you can use the on-ramp to go north towards Otaki on the last part of the Expressway. The Peka Peka on and off-ramps are controlled by Give Way or STOP signage, as well as line markings - and the ramps will be a single lane in one direction.

LOCAL ROUTES AROUND THE INTERCHANGE
Peka Peka Road and Te Kowhai Road
From Peka Peka Road you can turn right at the intersection with the northern on-ramp to drive south over the bridge towards Waikanae. You can also get to and from Te Kowhai Road at this intersection.

Hadfield and Octavius Roads
To get to Hadfield or Octavius Roads from the Expressway if you are coming from the north, you can also use the southbound off-ramp. To get to those streets from the south, you’ll use the local road route.

FUTURE PLANS
The final interchange layout includes a roundabout at the intersection between Peka Peka Road and the new link road. This will be built once the main Expressway route is open and high-volume traffic is travelling that route.