

Update

what you will see on site



5 July 2013



Drive machine in action screwing in the ground anchors

Ground anchors hold site walls tight

A drive machine is on site screwing ground anchors through the retaining walls to give them more strength. Every second bay between the king posts will have two anchors screwed through the timber at the 3m level. The anchors are 13m long hollow steel tubes with a diamond-shaped cutting head. Concrete is pumped into them and oozes out the sides to seal the pipe to the soil. There will be a set of anchors for every 3m dug as the trenching proceeds. The sheet pile wall near Tasman Street will be anchored at 3m and 7m depths.

On-going work: Less force, less noise with latest sheet piling methods

A reduction in noise and vibration will result from a change in the Alliance's methods of installing the sheet pile retaining wall outside the Mount Cook Police Barracks and Tasman Gardens Apartments.

Our geotechnical engineers have found the rock's strength and ability to hold the piles in place will allow us to drill more deeply than before. Three installation options can now be used depending on the ground structure at any given spot.

- Drill the full 15m depth of the piles and press the piles into the holes
- Drill 14m and hammer the final 1m so the displaced soil compresses the ground against the piles
- Drill 14m and vibrate the piles the final 1m.



Book launch: Mount Cook School students Ben Shea and Stella Morris-Matchitt help Culture and Heritage Minister Chris Finlayson cut the cake at the launch of the *Right beside our school* booklet created for the school by the Alliance. The booklet is an overview of the park and underpass project and its historical and national significance. It aims to inspire the children to be the engineers, crane drivers and designers of the future.

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