

National War Memorial Park and Underpass

Preparing for the Tangata Whenua Gardens



ABOVE: Artist's image of the National War Memorial Park. The Tangata Whenua Gardens will occupy an area either side of the steps to the National War Memorial.

Landscaping has begun for the Tangata Whenua Gardens that will be a feature of the park on either side of the steps to the National War Memorial.

The gardens will celebrate the special relationship between Maori and Pakeha and will include plantings, paved areas, rock features and a sculpture of cultural significance.

The pohutukawa trees that were ceremonially planted from 1935 onwards will remain as an important aspect of the gardens and park. A limited amount of vegetation is being cleared and stormwater drainage installed. July will see installation of the gardens' foundations and precast walls.

The gardens have been planned with input from Wellington's Tenth Trust, which comprises the hapu and iwi of Taranaki who are the mana whenua in Wellington. They were using the slopes of Pukeahu (Mount Cook) for vegetable gardens when the European settlers arrived. The hill was also the site of an ancient pa.

The project site – then and now



LEFT: By mid-July last year, excavation of the trench was 3 metres deep and the first tier of ground anchors was being installed in the temporary retaining wall.

BELOW: A year later and the timber and steel post retaining walls can just be seen behind the underpass concrete walls. The 130m covered underpass has been completed and cables for the interior electronics are being installed.

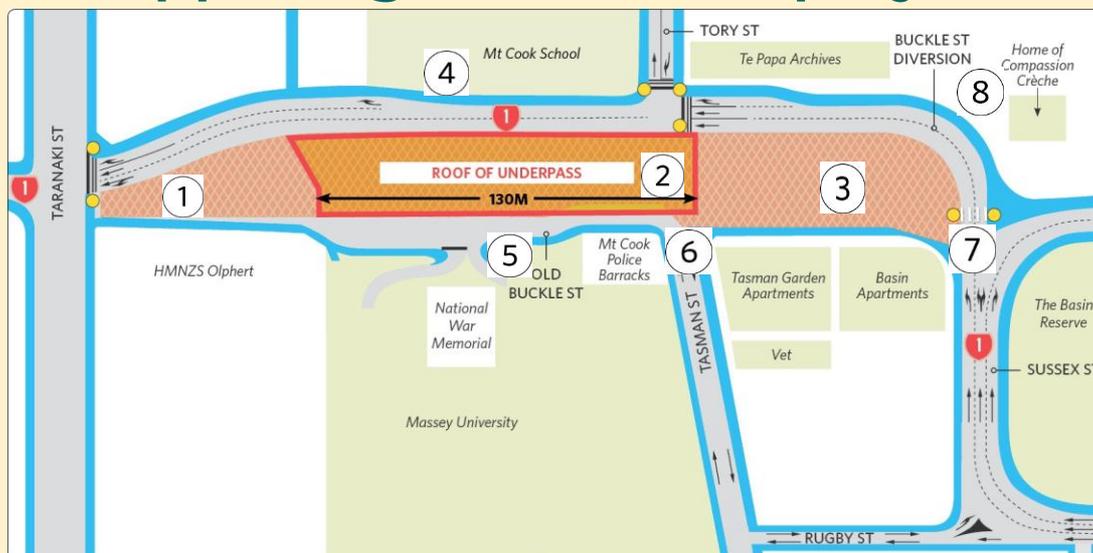
The underpass is on track to open to State Highway 1 traffic in October.

A public open day will be held prior to the opening which will be advertised.



Contact us

What's happening around the project site



Underpass

1 Western exit on to Taranaki St

Base slabs for the walls on the north side of the exit have been finished and now await arrival of the precast wall panels. The walls on the south side have been finished.

2 Underpass interior

Power cables are being installed along the underpass ceiling to run the lighting, cameras and other equipment essential for keeping motorists safe as they pass through.

3 Eastern entrance

Precast wall panels for the sides of the entrance trench are being installed.

Park

4 Northwestern perimeter

Work continues on park landscaping in the area adjacent to Mt Cook School and Te Papa Archives.

5 Tangata Whenua Gardens by the National War Memorial

The area is being prepared for installation of the foundations and walls this month.

General site work hours

- Mon – Fri: 6.00am–6.00pm Noisy work after 7.00am
- Sat: 7.00am – 2.00pm Noisy work after 8.00am

We try to give our neighbours a timely warning of activities they may find disruptive. However, some activities may occur at short notice as the work programme is adapted to optimise progress.

Streets near the project site

6 Tasman St corner with Old Buckle St

1. Backfilling the gap between the trench retaining walls and the concrete walls of the underpass.
2. Installing underground stormwater, gas and telecommunications.
 - Early July – mid August
 - 7.00am – 5.00pm Mon – Thurs
 - 8.00am – 2.00pm Sat
 - One lane closed

7 Junction of Sussex St and Buckle St Diversion

1. Nighttime work to install underpass power and communications ducts across SH1. This is unavoidably noisy work.
 - Sun 13 July, Mon 14 July
 - 7.00pm – 5.00am
2. Nighttime work to complete stormwater drainage outside the Basin Apartments.
 - Tues 15 July, Wed 16 July
 - 7.00pm – 5.00am
 - No noisy work after 11.00pm

8 Home of Compassion Crèche

The crèche has been hydraulically lifted to a height of 3m. Work now focuses on Phase 3 of the programme which will see the crèche moved sideways to adjacent higher ground where it will be a feature of the park.

Contact us