What's happening in the underpass work site

January 2014

Floor slabs – western end of site

The site team prepares steel reinforcing for the concrete floor of the underpass. This will form the base of the road.

The floor is poured in 10m long slabs. Each slab takes several hours to pour in the cool of the early morning from 5.00am. We aim to do two slab pours a week.

Concrete walls

The site team works on scaffolding preparing the steel framework for the concrete walls of the underpass.

During the year, the timber retaining walls will become hidden behind the concrete walls being poured for the underpass.

Each morning session lays an 800mm deep, 10m long slab - up to 150m3.

Early starts = cooler temperatures and reduced traffic delays for concrete trucks = smooth succession of pours and slower curing of concrete = a structurally strong concrete slab.

Eastern end of site

The concrete floor you see in the bottom of the trench at the eastern end of the site is a thin working platform, not the 800mm deep floor slab.

At right the stormwater pipe to drain the underpass has been placed in a long narrow trench which is being backfilled with concrete.

Hidden below ground are concrete piles that have been installed all along the trench to support the underpass. The team recently completed this work at the eastern end of the trench. The white drill rig, far right, was used to drill the holes and has now left the site.

There are 94 piles in total, from 10m to 30m deep depending on the bedrock.