Rangiriri section

PART OF THE WAIKATO EXPRESSWAY



Rangiriri project update February 2016

Works in full swing

The Rangiriri section reached a significant milestone at the end of last year with the Glen Murray Bridge now connected to the new Rangiriri interchange bridge and traffic using the new connection.

The length of the connection between the two bridges has meant the phasing of the traffic signals now runs longer than motorists were previously used to. This phasing is also being looked at by Hamilton City Council to see if it can be improved. The intersection outside the Rangiriri Hotel is now in its new alignment. This has allowed the team to get in and start pavement works at the southern end of the project.

Over the next few months the project team will also be completing earthworks along the main alignment and on the interchange ramps at Rangiriri and Te Kauwhata. Approximately 100,000m³ earthworks are still to be completed on the project.

As earthworks and drainage are completed, the pavement starts being laid by the paving crews. Streetlight cabling and poles are also progressively being installed.

The contractor Fletcher Construction is aiming to open the main four lanes of the Expressway to traffic later this year. Once they are open to traffic the team will shift their focus to completing the local road connections and the culture and heritage works, including the interpretation of the historic Rangiriri Paa.



Aerial view of works at the Rangiriri intersection



Works at Rangiriri looking north

Pavement

Pavement work is underway across most of the Rangiriri section but the focus currently is on completing the new north-bound lane from the tie-in with the Ohinewai section to just past the Rangiriri Hotel intersection.

Since spring 2015 the team have been completing earthworks and preparing the subgrade for pavement construction. Most of the subgrade along the main four lanes of the project has been completed and stabilised with lime and cement to provide a solid foundation for the subsequent pavement layers. Subbase has been laid over most of this and it has been modified with cement to give the road long term strength and durability. We have started to lay basecourse in some areas and have even applied the first coat of chip seal to a section at the south end of the site.

The various pavement layers are shown in the diagram.



Surfacing: This varies depending on the road usage and traffic volumes, but the types of surfacing we have on this project include chip seal, asphaltic concrete and the smooth surface of open graded porous asphalt (OGPA).

Basecourse: A high quality aggregate with cement mixed in.

Subbase: Larger stone size aggregate with cement mixed in.

SIL: (Subgrade improvement layer) brown rock or sand, cement and lime stabilised.

Subgrade: Insitu, natural ground.

Keeping you informed

Keeping the community informed about progress on the Rangiriri section is important to the project team.

Along with these quarterly updates and regular updates to residents of works happening in their area you can also check our website and the Facebook page.



Follow us on Facebook Facebook.com/waikatoexpressway

Visit our website www.nzta.govt.nz/rangiriri

To sign up for our email newsletters go to www.nzta.govt.nz/waikatoexpressway

Rangiriri section aerial overview



More changes to come

The project team would like to say a big thank-you to everyone for their patience while we have been working at the Rangiriri intersection.

There are still a series of traffic management changes to come over the next few months. At the southern end of the project we will be moving all traffic onto new north-bound lanes and existing north-bound lanes to allow construction room for the new south-bound lanes.

Drivers need to mindful of the changing environment and shifts in traffic management to allow this to happen. Some of the changes may only be minor but care is still required from all drivers.

The project team is working to keep all traffic flowing at 70kph temporary speeds.

It is also planned to temporarily close the northern entry into Rangiriri off State Highway 1 (opposite Te Whero Road). Dates for this will be confirmed and advertised ahead of time. The closure is to lower the level of the intersection which will eventually be part of the local road connections into Rangiriri.



Works on the future south-bound on-ramp from Rangiriri



Roller working at the Rangiriri intersection



Rangiriri intersection works

Te Kauwhata update



Te Kauwhata Interchange works looking north

At the northern end of the project the focus is on completing the Te Kauwhata interchange bridge and the future northbound on and off-ramps.

Now that the Longswamp section design has progressed we have been able to team up and provide an optimal tie-in design between the Rangiriri and Longswamp Sections.

This will mean more four-lane construction now for the Rangiriri project but doing this work now also means overall there will be far less disruption for state highway travellers.

We are currently finalising our designs and planning how to carry out these works.

Again this will mean changing traffic management. The project team will endeavour to minimise effects to travellers and keep them informed of the changes.

These works mean two new site access points will need to be created at the northern end of the project, off Wayside Road.

The project team would like to remind people to take care around site access points as construction traffic will be entering and exiting the project at these points.

New Project Manager



Andre Raymond Fletcher Construction Construction Manager

What's the biggest part of your job on the Rangiriri project?

Managing the programme to ensure we have the work planned and on time, and resolving a myriad of issues for the team, to allow them to deliver their section of the project.

What projects have you previously worked on?

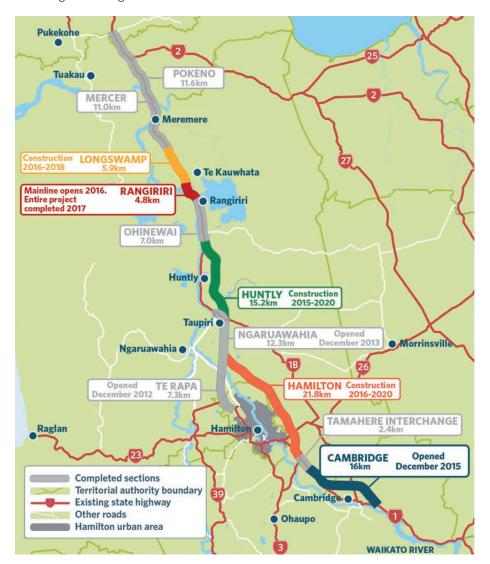
A large variety, such as the Denarau Golf Course in Fiji, Mangere Sewerage Treatment Plant upgrade, Rangiriri to South of Ohinewai section of the Waikato Expressway and the Victoria Park Tunnel.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

To safely deliver the finished project to the highest quality, with a happy client and community.

Expressway overview map

The Waikato Expressway is one of the Government's seven Roads of National Significance. The Expressway will improve safety and reliability and reduce travel times and congestion on State Highway 1 by delivering a four-lane highway from the Bombay Hills to south of Cambridge. It is being built in seven sections.



Traffic management

The project team are working to keep temporary speed limits at 70km/h across the project. Some night closures, with stop/ go traffic management will still be needed to complete works. These will be advised of in advance. You can also stay up to date by following us on Facebook. www.facebook. com/waikatoexpressway

The temporary speed limits are in place to keep both motorists travelling through the site and staff on site safe. Please respect them.



Ride over Rangiriri winner



Lyn King of Huntly got a ride over the Rangiriri section of the Expressway at the end of 2015 in a huge Moxy earthmover. Lyn entered a draw at the Transport Agency's site at Koroneihana celebrations at Ngauruawahia's Turangawaewae Marae.

"That was awesome," she said after her 30-minute trip with driver Nial Davey from Fletcher Construction. "It was great to see how each section of the project is coming together. There're a lot of contractors doing different things - but it all comes together."



Any questions?

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