



Tauranga Eastern Link

Construction update

Issue 6 December 2011



Progress to date

Mangatawa Interchange underway



Two large topsoil stock piles have been created from the stripping of material from the sites for the Mangatawa Interchange. One site is on the beach side of State Highway 2 and the other on the western side of Truman Lane.

Now these two sites have been cleared, fill is being imported in preparation for construction of the bridge approach embankments to commence. A MSE (Mechanically Stabilised Earth) wall will be constructed on the beach side, and a compacted embankment on the Truman Lane side.

This first stage of construction is expected to be completed in approximately six months.



Moterscrapers stripping topsoil

Trial embankments quietly settling



Monitoring at Domain Road

Regular monitoring has been occurring on the trial embankments, assisting the geotechnical design team to understand how the layers of peat and marine silts beneath the future TEL will compact.

The magnitude of settlement (sinking) for each layer is generally as per the design predictions, although the rate of settlement (speed) has proven to be faster in a number of the embankments. Monitoring will continue for approximately two years.

Progress to date



The 9 tonne hammer being lifted into position

Kaituna River bridge trial piling operation



A trial piling operation at the bridge site was conducted on the western side of the Kaituna River, in preparation for the full piling operation which will commence early 2012. In total 68 piles will be installed.

Once the piling rig was set up, a 24 metre long, 710mm diameter steel casing was driven 22 metres into the ground. Another 24 metre casing was then welded on to the casing, and driven further into the ground, with a final 12 metre casing welded on, achieving a total depth of 53.5 metres.



The first section reaches 22 metres

Two large hammers, 9 tonne and 14 tonne, were used during the trial.



Forward programme for December

Zone A — Te Maunga to Domain Road

The construction sites for the Mangatawa Interchange will see increased activity with the delivery of material to enable construction of the bridge approach embankments to commence.

Key activities will include:

- Drainage work continuing at Te Maunga.
- Mangatawa interchange (beach side) - delivery of fill material for the construction of the MSE retaining wall.
- Mangatawa interchange (Truman Lane side) - delivery of fill material for the construction of the bridge approach embankments.
- Placement of fill material next to State Highway 2 commencing.

Traffic management

Domain Road

- 50km/h temporary speed restriction.
- State Highway 2 slip lane to Tauranga closed with traffic diverted via the Domain Road roundabout.

State Highway 2

- An 80km/h temporary speed restriction from Te Maunga to Domain Road.
- Bruce Road left turn in and left turn out only.

Zone B — Domain Road to Kaituna River

The MSE retaining wall construction will commence for the Kaituna River bridge west embankment.

Key activities will include:

- Delivery of material for the construction of the MSE wall.
- Placement of fill material continuing.

Traffic management

Parton Road

- 50km/h temporary speed restriction.
- Manual stop/go as required with minimal delays expected.

Bell Road

- 50km/hr temporary speed restriction, with TEL construction traffic required to give way to all Bell Road traffic.

Forward programme for December cont..

Zone C — Kaituna River to Paengaroa

Placement of fill material from Pah Road heading east commences providing access through to Te Tumu Road.

Key activities will include:

- Importation of material for the Kaituna River bridge eastern embankment continuing.
- Delivery of material for the construction of the foundation fill from Pah Road heading east to Te Tumu Road.



Foundation fill works Pah Road

Last word

Just over 12 months ago, the contract was let to the Fulton Hogan HEB Construction Alliance (FHHCA) and much has happened during this time. Some TEL facts include:

- Over 1000 staff and sub-contractors inducted to site
- More than 220,000 man hours worked
- 400,000 cubic metres material shifted within site
- 350,000 cubic metres material imported
- 10.5 kilometres of foundation fill for the main alignment completed
- 920,000 lineal metres of wick drains installed
- 9,400 lineal metres of stone columns installed
- 30km of fencing completed
- 775 temporary concrete protection barriers installed

The construction site and Information Centre will be closed from December 23, 2011 to January 9, 2012. If however, you have any queries during this time, please call 0800 835 463. And from the Tauranga Eastern Link team we would like to wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas and New Year.

Andrew McRae, FHHCA Project Director

