



Tauranga Eastern Link

Project update

December 2010

Get ready, get set, go!

Construction is now underway on the Bay of Plenty's largest ever roading project.

Transport Minister Steven Joyce turning the first sod to mark the beginning of construction was the highlight in a series of recent milestones for the Tauranga Eastern Link.

In early November the construction contract was awarded to the Fulton Hogan HEB Construction Alliance. Other members of the

alliance include Opus International Consultants, URS Corporation New Zealand, Peters and Cheung, and Bartley Consultants.

And in October the Tauranga Eastern Link Tangata Whenua Advisory Group held a special blessing ceremony to remove tapu from the land so construction could safely begin.

Quick facts

START DATE: 2010

COMPLETION DATE: 2016

LOCATION: Starts at Te Maunga in Tauranga (near Bay Park Stadium) and finishes at the existing junction of State Highways 2 and 33 (near Paengaroa).

LENGTH: 23km

ESTIMATED TOTAL COST: \$455 million



Members of the TEL tangata whenua advisory group, Kaumatua Teia Williams, Tapuika, Matire Duncan, Nga Potiki, assist Transport Minister Steven Joyce, Ross Paterson, Mayor of Western Bay of Plenty District Council, Stuart Crosby, Mayor of Tauranga City Council, and John Cronin, Chairman of the Bay of Plenty Regional Council, turning the first sods on the TEL.

Features

- Four lanes, separated by a central median barrier.
- New interchanges at Mangatawa and Domain Road.
- Upgraded roundabout at Te Maunga.
- New roundabout at Paengaroa junction (SH2/33).
- New overbridge for Parton Road and underpass for Maketu Road.
- Urban design incorporating extensive landscaping.
- Electronic free-flow tolling system.

What's happening now?

Over the next six months visible work will include:

- Progress on support projects including; the extension to Truman Lane, the relocation of the bulk watermain along State Highway 2, the Kaituna Road extension and the upgrading of the diagonal drain pumpstation on the Kaituna River.
- Construction of the trial embankments around Domain Road and Pah Road, and at Kaituna South.
- Construction of the access and haul roads to reduce disruption on the local road network.

- Ground improvements and preparation for construction of the Kaituna River bridge.
- Earth being brought to site for pre-loading soft soils.

Behind the scenes:

- The design of the bridges and structures, stormwater and road will continue.
- The consents and designations will be checked and adjusted as necessary.
- The Fulton Hogan HEB Construction Alliance team will finalise the details of their construction programme.



Tangata whenua from Ngati Whakaue, Tapuika and Waitaha lead the blessing ceremony alongside the Kaituna River.

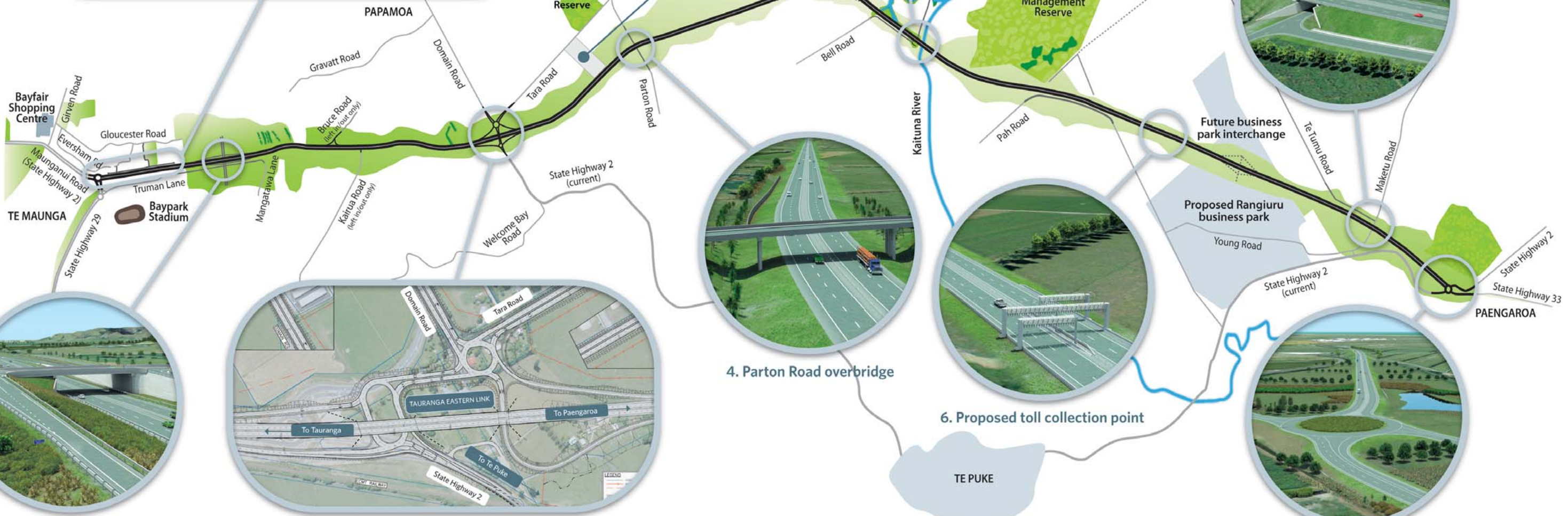
NOTE: Drawing not to scale. Details subject to change.

1. Te Maunga and new residential access lane



5. Kaituna River Bridge and Bell Road underpass

7. Maketu Road underpass and Te Tumu Road realignment



2. Mangatawa interchange



3. Domain Road interchange



4. Parton Road overbridge



6. Proposed toll collection point



8. Paengaroa roundabout

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Opening mid April 2011
Tara Road, Papamo.



Construction programme and timing

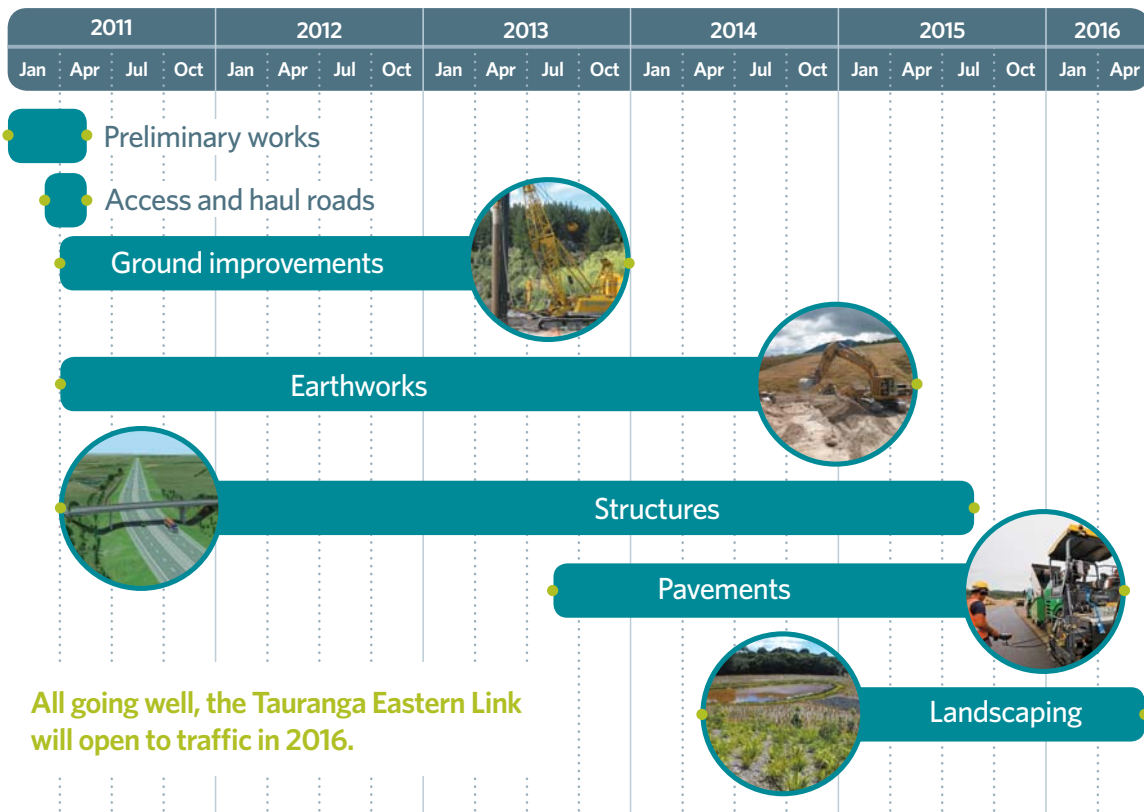
Construction of the Bay's largest highway has started and will continue for five to six years.

The first focus for the Fulton Hogan HEB Construction Alliance is to substantially complete the detailed design prior to getting the bulk works underway. These are anticipated May 2011.

Don't be fooled though, the majority of construction will be between Domain Road to Paengaroa and is out of view to the public - so you won't see much until it opens.

The key elements of the construction programme are:

- Preliminary works** - These include trial embankments, relocating fences and driveways, clearing land and setting up the project site office and information centre.
- Access and haul roads** - Provide access along the project route to help reduce the need to use local roads.
- Ground improvements** - Strengthen the ground beneath the structures to provide protection against liquefaction in the event of an earthquake.
- Earthworks** - Involves moving three million cubic metres of earth to form the embankments for the bridge abutments and main carriageway.
- Structures** - Building seven bridges and underpasses.
- Pavements** - After laying gravel, asphalt is laid to create the new road surface.
- Landscaping** - Linking new planting with existing native fauna and mitigating the visual effects of the highway.



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