**CONSTRUCTION UPDATE 02.11.2012**

**Big lift planned for next week**

Two of New Zealand’s biggest cranes will lift 16 60-tonne concrete beams into position on the bridge being built on Richardson Road next week.

The beams will form the deck of the two-lane bridge, which will take local traffic over the new six-lane motorway below. The bridge is on track to be completed and opened early next year.

The lifting operation will take place on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights.

Richardson Road will be closed to through traffic between Netherton Street and Stoddard Road from approximately 8pm to 5am each night. However, there will still be access to shops and the Richardson Tavern from Stoddard Road. Also, access will be maintained for residents.

The cranes – one 450-tonne and the other 350-tonne – will operate in tandem to lift each beam. The best viewing point will be the footpath opposite Christ the King on Richardson Road.

The cranes will be set up within the work site during the day on Monday. This is a major operation in itself involving positioning outriggers and then counter weights which will be delivered by truck. It will take five hours to set up the 450-tonne crane.

The beams will be delivered throughout each night we work – by truck from East Tamaki via Richardson Road.

The engineers hope to get eight beams installed each night although, they say, this is difficult to predict because of difficulties which include close overhead power lines and the steep slopes. They are therefore allowing three nights for the work.

The operation is taking place as far as possible from the nearest residents on Richardson Road.

However, residents are likely to experience some noise, particularly the revving of the cranes as they take up their loads. They team working will be instructed to minimise noise as much as possible, including not shouting or slamming vehicle doors.

Any neighbours with questions or concerns should contact us on our 0508 freephone.

**Blasting update**

Blasting and rock breaking are continuing at Alan Wood Reserve to excavate the tunnel approach trench, the new alignment of the Watercare sewer, and to create a storage area for stormwater. So far approximately 35,000m³ out of a total of 80,000m³ of basalt have been removed.

However, progress has been slow and the project has started blasting every day Monday to Friday to ensure the entire operation can be completed in January. The blasts are at 10am and 2pm each day.

Contact us at info@wellconnected.co.nz if you would like to receive Construction Updates by email.