The New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) is ahead of time and on budget to complete stage two of the State Highway 1 Kamo Bypass before the end of the year.

Local contractors United Civil Construction have completed the major earthworks for stage two of the Kamo Bypass and work is now focused on pavement construction and associated road features such as kerbing. The construction contract is due for completion in December.

Further work to do before traffic uses the new route includes installing noise walls, pedestrian facilities, safety barriers and a new railway crossing. A large retaining wall on Jack Street also needs to be completed. Once traffic is using the new route the existing SH1 rail crossing will be removed along with the associated roundabout.

How this may impact you?
• The linking of McClintock Street to Walker Crescent via a new highway underpass is almost complete with traffic expected to be able to use this route from early April.

• Construction of a new set of traffic signals at the Kamo/Western Hills Drive intersection during May could cause some traffic congestion as the entire intersection is remodelled. A traffic management plan will be put in place for this work with detours and road closures. Work is expected to take three weeks to complete and the timings for construction will be advertised on roadside message boards and through radio and newspaper advertising. We thank you in advance for your patience.

• In June the new north end ‘tie in’ on to the existing SH 1 (adjacent to the golf course) will take place. This will also cause disruption to traffic though to a lesser extent and will be advertised as appropriate.

In addition to road construction, 16,000 m2 of the project area will be landscaped and planted over the next six months with a variety of native plants. These range from specimen trees to shrubs and grasses.

The new route also intersects with an extension of Spedding Road which is being constructed by the Whangarei District Council and is nearing completion. This intersection will have a set of traffic signals.

Once complete, stage two of the Kamo Bypass will provide a high quality connection on SH1 between Western Hills Drive and the existing bypass north of Kamo Road. The bypass will provide an alternative to busy Kamo Road, move traffic away from the city centre and provide much better management of traffic in the northern suburbs of Whangarei.