

Hamilton Section



PART OF THE WAIKATO EXPRESSWAY



Project newsletter Issue 24 | March 2022

Counting down to completion

The whole 22km project site is gradually transforming from construction site to finished expressway.

Construction of the rock pavement for the four lanes was completed before Christmas. The entire expressway is now sealed with stone chip, and 80% is sealed with the final layer of smooth asphalt. Where traffic noise is expected to be an issue, long stretches have been sealed with a special noise-reducing asphalt mix.

Where local roads connect with the expressway, tie-in works and final finishing are under way.

Construction activity is now focused on two key connections - the Southern Interchange at Tamahere and the Resolution Drive extension at Rototuna North.

Southern Interchange

A series of SH1 traffic switches here are unlocking different parts of the site to construct:

- permanent road pavement and asphalt (replacing temporary surfaces)
- gantries that straddle the expressway to carry directional signs



Kay Road has closed near North City Road.



The Hi-Lab team celebrates completing the expressway pavement.

- street lights, barriers and road marking.

The latest switch in February 2022 saw SH1 traffic shifted to the eastern expressway lanes. This enabled the offramp to open from Hamilton to Cherry Lane, Bollard Road and the Eventide retirement village.

The Cherry Lane roundabout is now complete. The 3m-wide shared path from Cherry Lane to the Tamahere Interchange is almost complete. Final drainage, road construction and landscaping is under way in Bollard Road.

Night closures of SH1 at Tamahere will be required to complete the construction of sign gantries.

Resolution Drive extension

This northern gateway to the city is progressing from both ends towards Kay Road.

Kerbing and sealing is complete on a 900m section extending from the expressway towards the city.

At the other end - from the Borman Road roundabout to the underpass near Tennille St - drainage and road construction is in progress.

On 10 January 2022, Kay Road was closed between Tennille St and North City Road. Resolution Drive extension will permanently cut Kay Road in half. The eastern section is being renamed Ennion Rise.

Where Kay Road has been closed, the water main is being relocated and overhead services are being laid underground. New drainage lines are being dug up to prepare for construction of a new road layout.

In Anna Jean Crescent (off Tennille St), work is under way to connect local footpaths with new shared walking/cycling paths to the city and towards Horsham Downs.



Laying asphalt at the Southern Interchange.

Project Update: What's happening now?

Road pavement construction and final seal

Construction of our cement-stabilised road pavement was completed in December, and the entire length sealed with bitumen/stone chip in January.

We had also sealed 80% of the expressway with the final smooth asphalt seal. Three asphalt crews have been working through the summer completing sealing on the four-lane expressway and completing local road connections.

Three long stretches of expressway have been sealed with a special noise-reducing asphalt mix - at Horsham Downs, Ruakura and Tamahere.



The road is sealed with stone chip, then asphalt.



Connections to local roads

At the **Northern Interchange**, three key connections are nearing completion:

- A north-bound off-ramp will allow traffic to turn off the Hamilton Section and on to the expressway to Horotiu and Te Rapa
- Traffic travelling north on the Te Rapa section will be able to exit at Lake Road
- An on-ramp at Lake Road will take traffic south towards Hamilton.

At the **Resolution Interchange**, final sealing is almost complete.

At the **Greenhill Interchange**, final sealing is complete, along with street lights and directional signs.

At the **Ruakura Interchange**, the Ruakura East connection is almost complete.

At the **Southern Interchange**, the bridge over the expressway is open to local traffic, along with shared paths for cycling and walking. The offramp from the city opened in February 2022. Final connections to and from the Tamahere Interchange are under construction, along with shared walking/cycling paths.



Both these bridges at the Southern Interchange are now open to traffic.



Connections at the Northern Interchange. (Lake Road runs left to right in the photo.)

Bridges and structures

At **Resolution Drive**, a walking/cycling underpass has been completed near Tennille St. New shared walking/cycling paths will tie in with existing footpaths at Borman Road and Anna Jean Crescent. The Anna Jean Crescent connection is under construction.

At **Powells Road**, an underpass has been constructed to take local traffic under the expressway. Kerbs, paths and sealing are now complete.



The footpaths are poured at Powells Road prior to sealing the road.



Barriers and finishing



Steel barriers are installed at Resolution Interchange.

- Flexible barriers (wire rope): 68% completed - 42.5km out of a total 63km
- Concrete barrier: 81% completed - 5.8km of a total 7.1km
- W-section steel barrier: 58% completed - 9km of a total 16km
- Street lights and poles: 80% completed.

Interchange has a story to tell

At the Resolution Interchange, everything tells a story - the plants, the paths, even the rocks.

When this project was being planned, the project's landscape architects worked with Waikato-Tainui and the four local hapu - Ngaati Wairere, Ngaati Hauaa, Ngaati Maahanga and Ngaati Korokii Kahukura - to develop cultural themes for the design of structures and landscaping.

The design of the Resolution Interchange in the north develops one of those themes - abundance. It tells a historical story of abundant food gathering



The spiral path and rock fins represent hinaki - traditional eel traps.



Swirling planting patterns represent the migration of eels.

in the area around Rototuna, which literally means 'lake of eels'. Plantings have been designed in waves of different coloured plants to represent migrating eels. The two circular walking/cycling paths feature fins of rock that represent hinaki (traditional cylinder-shaped eel traps).

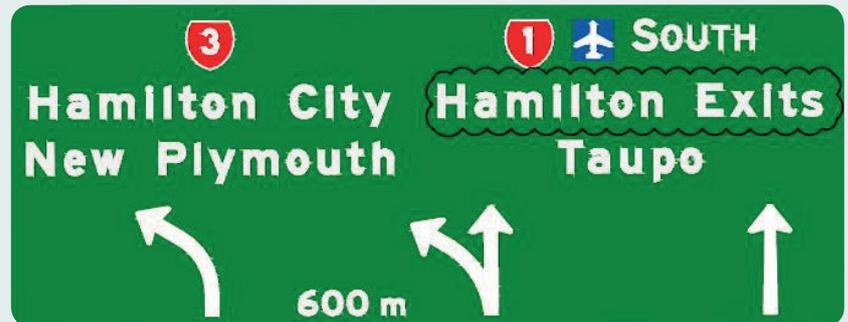
On either side of the interchange, the shared walking/cycling paths climb in a circle to the overbridge. Two 8m-high metal sculptures will be placed in the centre of each roundabout. These will represent pootaka taa (traditional children's spinning tops).

Night closures ahead

Constructing gantries to hold directional signs on SH1 will require a series of night closures in March 2022.

The first closures will be on the Ngaruawahia section where it connects with the Hamilton section. Three gantry structures will straddle all the expressway. Installation of the gantry and signs will take up to five nights.

At the Southern Interchange, even larger gantries will straddle up to seven lanes. The gantry signs will provide lane-by-lane directions for motorists. This work will also take up to five nights. Dates and times will be communicated when confirmed.



The gantry signs will direct traffic lane-by-lane.



Any questions?



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