



# Tauranga Eastern Link

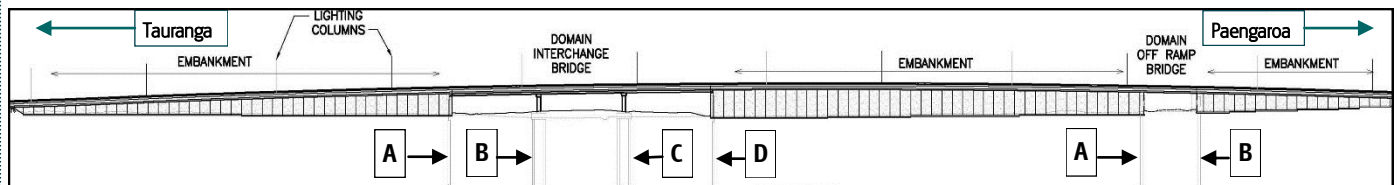
## Construction update

Issue 13 October 2012

### Progress to date

#### Domain Road interchange bridge

Since late September, large steel casings have dominated the skyline at the new Domain Road interchange bridge site. The casings are 12.7 millimetre thick, hollow centred, 710 millimetres in diameter and 12 metres long. When driven to 12 metres in depth, another casing is welded on, then driven a further 12 metres. Currently the piling crew are driving the piles at Pier C (refer image below), to total a depth of 42 metres. Once the Pier C piles are completed the crew will move the piling operation to Pier D.



Above: Cross section of the Domain Road interchanges bridges.

#### Structural fill and pre-load grows in height between Domain Road and Parton Road

The area between Domain Road and Parton Road has increased in height (up to four metres in some places) over the last five weeks, as sand has been placed as structural fill and pre-load on top of the existing foundation fill. This will be left to settle for approximately six months before it is removed and used in other areas of the project.

To date, over 137,000m<sup>3</sup> of material has been placed and more than 16,000m<sup>2</sup> of geogrid used for embankment strengthening.



Above: Laying of geogrid material for strength.



Right: An 18m<sup>3</sup> load being pushed out between Domain Road and Parton Road.

#### ECMT rail bridge keystone wall taking shape

The construction of keystone walls for the East Coast Main Trunk (ECMT) rail bridge abutments has started now that the pile driving operation is complete.

The crew is currently working on the northern side but will soon commence construction of the southern abutment wall. In total of 16,000 pre-cast concrete blocks will be used to construct both walls. Each wall will be 140 metres long and up to six metres high.

The structures crew will also be working on site cutting the pile casings at ground level, then filling each one with reinforced steel and concrete, to complete the piles.



Above and right: The ECMT northern keystone wall.

## Forward programme for October

### Zone A — Te Maunga to Domain Road

The Bruce Road intersection will see an increase in activity with the placement of pre-load material and a re-alignment of the intersection.

Key activities will include:

- Installation of a stormwater line in Truman Lane at the Baypark roundabout.
- Installation of a communications fibre optic duct and cable.
- Installation of the Kairua Road watermain under State Highway 2 at the Kairua Road intersection.
- Placement of fill and pre-load material in the Bruce Road intersection area continues.
- The continuation of the piling operation at the Domain Road interchange bridge site.
- Removal of material commences at the new Tara Road/Domain Road roundabout.

#### Traffic management

##### Domain Road and Tara Road

- 50km/h temporary speed restriction.

##### State Highway 2

- An 80km/h temporary speed restriction from Te Maunga to Domain Road.
- State Highway 2 slip lane to Tauranga closed with traffic diverted via the Domain Road roundabout.

##### Bruce Road

- 30km/h temporary speed restriction and left turn in and left turn out only.

*Below: One of the Kaituna River bridge steel girders at the Eastbridge yard, in Napier.*



## Forward programme for October

### Zone B — Domain Road to Kaituna River

Construction of the Kaituna River bridge piers continues.

Key activities will include:

- Construction of a temporary diversion road on Parton Road.
- Continuing placement of topsoil to close out finished batter slopes and swales.
- Construction of the pile caps and columns at Pier C and continuation of abutment construction.
- Delivery of the first steel girders for the Kaituna River bridge.

#### Traffic management

##### Bell Road

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

##### Parton Road

- 30km/h temporary speed restriction and manual stop/go. Minimal delays are expected.

### Zone C — Kaituna River to Paengaroa



The earthworks operation for Zone C commences in the Te Tumu Road/Maketu Road area.

Key activities will include:

- Placement of fill material for the Maketu Road bridge embankment.
- Placement of confinement fill between Kaituna River East and Pah Road from the 'Tephra Cut' area.
- Completion of the pile construction at the ECMT rail bridge.
- Continuing construction of the ECMT keystone walls.

#### Traffic management

##### Pah Road

- Two 50km/h temporary speed restrictions, with all TEL construction traffic required to give way to Pah Road traffic.