

# SOUTHERN INTERCHANGE UPDATE

## UPDATE #2 – 21 June 2018

Welcome to our regular update about the Southern Interchange.

These updates focus on the Southern Interchange at Tamahere and our works through to Matangi Road. We post a new update every two months on the Hamilton Section project website [www.nzta.govt.nz/hamilton](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/hamilton).

### 1. New access from Cherry Lane and Bollard Road

In October/November this year, we will divert SH1 traffic away from the current Tamahere route to create room for expressway construction.

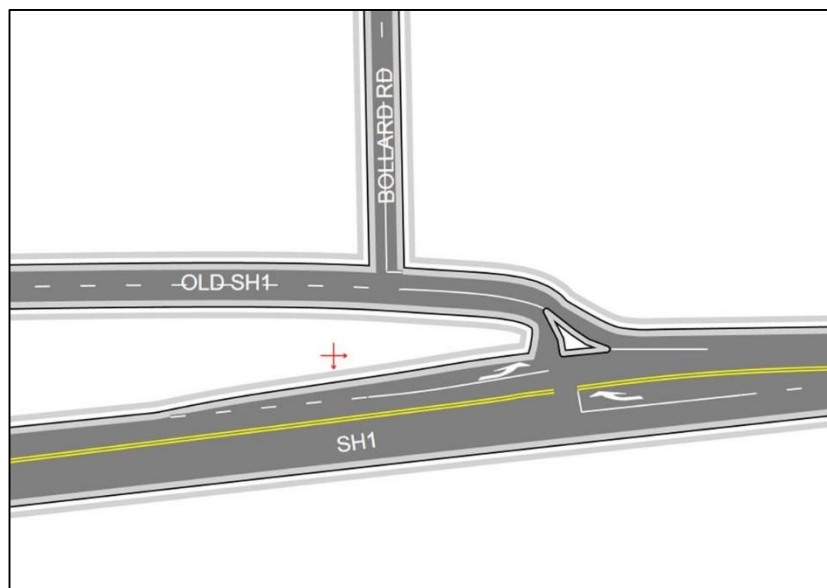
Two new lanes will extend from the SH21-Airport Road Interchange, under the East West Link Bridge, to reconnect with the existing highway near the 'Hamilton' billboard at the top of the gully.

When traffic is switched onto these new lanes, the old highway northwest of Cherry Lane will be closed.

A temporary access onto the new lanes will be provided for residents of Cherry Lane, Bollard Road and the section of Cambridge Road in between.

The access point will be near the entrance to Bollard Road. Residents will only be able to turn left onto SH1, for safety reasons. This means they will travel via the Airport Interchange to travel into the city.

However, residents returning home will be able to turn into the temporary access from the north and south. A right-turn bay will be provided for those approaching from the south.



**Here's a sketch showing how the temporary access will work. This is indicative only, and is not to scale.**



We're building two new lanes to run from the Airport Road Interchange, under the East West Link Bridge, reconnecting with SH1 at the top of the gully near the 'Hamilton' billboard. The red line shows where these lanes are being constructed. The new lanes will be sealed in October/November and SH1 traffic switched on to these lanes. The old highway will be closed north of Cherry Lane.

## 2. Preparing for pavement

If you travel regularly on SH1 through Tamahere, you'll notice that sections of the new route are beginning to look more like an expressway.

In these areas, a final layer of compacted sand completes the road foundation. Now we're laying rock on top to form the road pavement.

## 3. Making a start at Birchwood Lane

Our surveyors have marked out the works area for the new intersection on Birchwood Lane where the new East West Link Road that will provide connections to and from the city and the Cherry Lane/Bollard Road community.

Please note the markers placed along Birchwood Lane indicate a point 2m outside the final edge of seal.

The intersection is wider than the existing road because it provides a right turn bay for vehicles turning into the new East West Link Road.

Construction of the intersection is set to begin in the week beginning Monday 2 July.

#### 4. Hard at work in the gullies

Dynamic replacement and soil nailing is now complete in the Mangaone and Mangaharakeke Gullies between SH1-Cambridge Road and Matangi Road, but driven piling continues for the two gully bridges.

If you click on the graphic below, you will see:

- Our team drilling holes to install a layer of soil nails. They drill an 8m deep hole, insert the long nail, cement it in place, screw on the washer, then test for strength. The rolled strips are drains that unroll as each layer of bank is excavated and new soil nails placed. These nails and the steel mesh stabilise the bank. Scrim bags of topsoil and seed are then stacked on the outside to create a grassed bank.
- A specialist team mixing concrete with the soil up to 3m deep, where the Cambridge Road Bridge (onramp to the expressway) will be constructed. Usually, a deep layer of compacted rock is used for this purpose, but this is not possible here because the water table is too high.
- Our piling team driving new foundations for the two bridges over the Mangaone and Mangaharakeke Gullies.



#### 5. Sealing for Matangi Road Bridge approaches

Sealing of the approaches to the Matangi Road Bridge should be finished by the time you read this update, weather permitting.

To local residents and commuters, thanks for your patience. Earlier in the year, we were forced to move our pavement crew off this bridge to assist with other works, and one-way traffic management was in place longer than originally planned.

Soon, we will begin excavating under this bridge, and digging a wide trench to take the expressway underneath and into the Mangone and Mangaharakeke Gullies. At its lowest point, the expressway will be 11m below the top of the gullies.

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