

Week of 21st May 2018

It seems that every update recently has begun with thanks - both for your patience and consideration of the works taking place during the week, and for your understanding about late changes and notices about access to properties and weekend working. While it may be a recurring theme, it is intended as a genuine statement of gratitude. We know that the works are becoming more and more disruptive to your lives given the time they have been underway and the particular tasks we have been doing. We are doing our best to minimise the effects and keep on schedule.

Good progress on services

The work yesterday (Sunday 20th) was highly beneficial to the project. We believe we have now managed to clear the Sarawia Street site entrance of all services. This means that construction of the new road can get moving again. We have a few more days this week to complete the relocation of the new services into their final positions. But from a project perspective, it is great to finally be back completing the stormwater works and building roads this week.

Cowie Street

We are close to finishing the approach road onto the bridge at the Cowie Street end. The new driveway entrances were finished last week. Now we can pour the

final kerb and channels and place the basecourse (the material directly below the asphalt).

The new basecourse is cement-treated, which ensures it forms a solid and robust layer on which to apply the asphalt. It is similar to a weak concrete, which means it has have a "curing" time when it can't be crossed by vehicles until it has hardened up sufficiently. Typically this is about 12 hours, although it can take longer with cold or wet weather.

We are hoping to finish this later this week, with a final asphalt surface to be applied early next

week. However, this is all weather dependent. With wet weather forecast this week and coming weekend, these works may be delayed.

We will give a separate notice to the affected residents in Cowie Street over the next few days once this works has been confirmed and the weather forecasts become clearer.

Laxon Terrace

Now that we almost have cleared all of the services along Laxon Terrace we can restart on the remaining stormwater works. This includes the subsoil drainage below



Bridge getting close to completion

the pavement. We will also install two rain gardens within the chicane islands about halfway along the new section of Laxon Terrace.

Once the rain gardens are in place we can lay the pavement. The weak material we have found below the intended road layout will require us to excavate it and replace with granular hardfill. Given the limited room on site, all material will have to be removed and replaced directly at the workface.

This will likely mean we have some increased movements of trucks during the day. These trucks will use the Sarawia Street site entrance now we have cleared the services in this area.

Somehow, our team also managed to find time to install the new streetlights last week. Towards the end of this week we should start to see some of the fencing designed by Tina Pihema of Ngati Whatua Orakei being erected along the top of the new Laxon Terrace retaining walls.

While the services have caused some disruption to the workflow, it is great to see some of the finishing touches being installed. It is really starting to feel like the project is getting close to the end.

Mon 14th–Sat 19th May

Planned works include:

COWIE STREET

- Placing precast kerb and channel;
- Basecourse preparation;
- Concrete footpaths and abutment topping slabs

SARAWIA STREET & LAXON TERRACE

- Complete all service diversions;
- Pavement excavation and subgrade preparation;
- Kerbs, channels and footpaths;
- Final sections of electrical ducting and streetlight cables.

What are rain gardens?

Rain gardens help remove pollutants and slow down stormwater flows, recharge freshwater bodies and look attractive.

They filter stormwater through soil mix (usually sandy loam, loamy sand or loam) and plants, preferably native as they better suited to the extreme wet/dry conditions (such as ponding for up to 24 hours) .

These absorb and filter contaminants before the stormwater flows to surrounding ground, pipes, drains and streams, and eventually to the sea.

