



Artist's impression of the permanent Te Reinga Bridge

Te Reinga Bridge Progress Report

Newsletter 6 | November 3

Key Dates

- **Thursday, November 13:** Community hui at Te Reinga Marae from 5pm to provide an update on progress and information around accessing the viewing area for the bridge lift.
- **Five-day road closure:** Full road closure to allow for the bridge lift from 8am-6pm on Thursday November 20, Friday November 21, Monday November 24, Tuesday November 25 and Wednesday November 26.
- **Monday, November 24:** Bridge lift.

Please note, the work programme is subject to change.

Background Information

The Te Reinga Bridge was initially damaged during the floods in March 2022. Further damage occurred in February 2023 during Cyclone Gabrielle, which caused a pier to wash away, leading to the bridge's closure. The old bridge was demolished in June 2023, and a temporary bridge (including a Bailey bridge) was constructed to restore access and opened in February 2024. The total cost of the permanent rebuild project is \$14 million, and the work is government-funded. The new permanent bridge is expected to be open by the end of the year.

Permanent bridge update

It is all action and progress at the new Te Reinga Bridge site. The piling crew has now finished its work with the piles poured and ground improvement piles completed. On the Ruakituri side, the steel for the pier cap and abutment is in place, and concrete has been poured. Work on the Te Reinga side is underway.

Assembly of the bridge is progressing, and scaffolding has been erected to enable sub-contractors, Napier-based steel fabricator EastBridge, to start assembling the arches for the new permanent bridge structure.

Once completed, the structure will be lifted into place using a 1100-tonne crane. The bridge lift is scheduled for Monday, November 24. This will be an impressive lift, and a viewing area will be available during the bridge lift. A community hui to brief everyone about what to expect and where they can watch the lift from will be held at Te Reinga Marae on Thursday, November 13 from 5pm.

There will be a five-day road closure during the bridge lift from 8am-6pm on Thursday November 20, Friday November 21, Monday November 24, Tuesday November 25 and Wednesday November 26.

The permanent bridge is a one-lane, 90.5m long network arch spanning the entire riverbed with a 13.5m long single land



The new permanent Te Reinga Bridge is being built on site, pictured to the left of the photo, with ground improvement piles (to the right of the temporary bridge) completed. Thank you to residents and landowners who have allowed the contractors to use their land for the assembly of the bridge.

span, eliminating the need for a pier in the riverbed. The network arch will be approximately 18m tall at its highest point and made of weathering steel. The land span and pier will be constructed of concrete. The new bridge is being built next to the current temporary bridge, in a similar position to the previous permanent bridge. The bridge has been designed to withstand flood and earthquake events in accordance with NZTA Waka Kotahi's requirements and built to modern design standards, which are significantly more advanced than those used for the original bridge. It is designed for current loading standards and open for High Productivity Motor Vehicles (HPMV), with some restrictions

for over-dimensional vehicles.

Access to public toilets and Te Reinga DoC tracks is closed as the entrance to this area is being used as part of the construction zone. We remind motorists that there will be some traffic delays, but we aim to keep these to a minimum. Thank you for your continued patience while the work is carried out.

For any developing updates and messages in between these newsletters, please check out the WDC Facebook.

Temporary bridge update

The temporary bridge is open to vehicles with a maximum weight of 44 tonnes, and a speed limit of 10 km/h is in place.