



Artist's impression of the permanent Te Reinga Bridge

# Te Reinga Bridge Progress Report

Newsletter 5 | September 15

## Key Dates

### • September:

Thursday September 18: community hui at Te Reinga Marae to provide an update on progress and the work ahead.

Assembly of network arch – There will be some traffic delays during this time.

Four-day road closure for bridge launch. Platform viewing available during bridge launch.

### • Late September/Early October:

Pavement construction – stop/go, minimal delays.

*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

Piling on the southern side of the bridge has now been completed. Cranes are moving back to the northern side to continue with ground improvement pile work.

Earthworks on the southern side approaches to the bridge will begin soon.

Assembly of the network arch bridge structure is expected to start at the end of September. Once completed, the structure will be lifted into place using a 1100-ton crane. This will be an impressive lift, and a viewing platform will be available during the bridge launch.

A community hui is scheduled for Thursday, September 18, at 5pm at Te Reinga Marae to provide an update on progress and the work ahead.

QRS holds the contract for the bridge build and has brought in additional expertise, including Napier-based steel fabricator Eastbridge, which will be on site to begin assembling the new permanent bridge structure.

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



Cranes in action at the Te Reinga Bridge site

The land span and pier will be constructed of concrete. The new bridge will be built downstream of 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 will be 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.