

## The end is in sight

The Tauranga Eastern Link (TEL) project is in its fifth and final year and there is visible evidence that the project is nearing its final stages.

The year has got off to a busy start with plenty of work to still be completed. People can expect some changes over the coming months; particularly in the Papamoa area, with the opening of the SH2 / Domain Road roundabout, the opening of the Parton Road overbridge and the reconstruction of the Domain Road interchange.

The reconstruction of the fire-damaged section of the bridge is underway after the TEL project team and the demolition contractor worked over the Christmas break to demolish the fire damaged components.

## What you can expect over the coming months

January / February

- Opening of the State Highway 2 / Domain Road roundabout
- Opening of the Parton Road overbridge
- Truman Lane bridge beams to be installed for the Mangatawa interchange

March / April

- Completion of the Kairua Road on and off ramps
- Remainder of landscaping gets underway

## The opening of the State Highway 2 / Domain Road roundabout

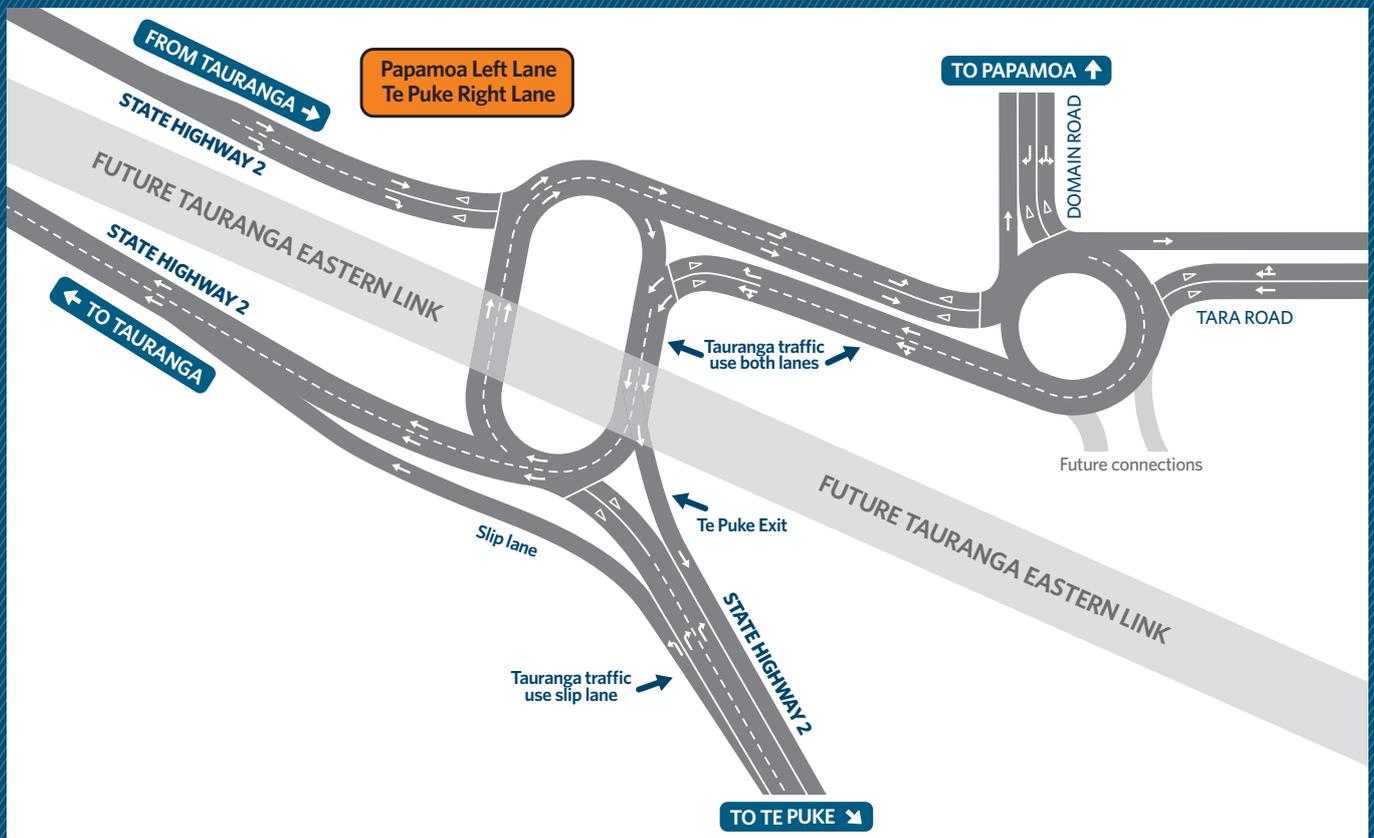
**On Monday 2 February the State Highway 2 / Domain Road roundabout will open to traffic.**

There will be some significant changes for motorists, including:

1. Papamoa and Te Puke bound traffic (eastbound) approaching the roundabout from Tauranga will be moved into separate lanes.
2. Tauranga-bound traffic exiting from Domain Road and Tara Road will be able to use both lanes through the roundabouts.

Work will continue after the roundabout is opened and drivers are asked to take care through the area.

**This work is weather dependent, and if delayed will be carried out on the next suitable day.**



## Electronic tolling has arrived on the TEL

The nine-metre high electronic gantry was installed in December 2014 at the toll point, located between the Kaituna River bridge and the proposed Rangioru Business Park.



The new gantry is the latest generation in tolling technology and is a first of its kind in New Zealand. The design is different from the gantry used on the Northern Gateway Toll Road, in that it spans all of the lanes as a single structure and has an exterior cladding, giving it a more streamlined and modern look.

The main benefit of the free-flow system is that there is no need for toll booths, allowing drivers to travel straight through, reducing travel times and providing a more predictable journey.

Cameras capture an image of the vehicle's front and rear registration plates using the latest optical character recognition technology. The cameras will read the registration plates and determine whether the vehicle is a motorcycle, car, truck, or bus so the correct toll can be assigned.

Tolling the TEL between the Domain Road interchange and the Paengaroa roundabout allowed the project to start a decade earlier than originally planned. Details on toll tariffs and payment options will be announced in the coming months.



Gantry arriving onsite



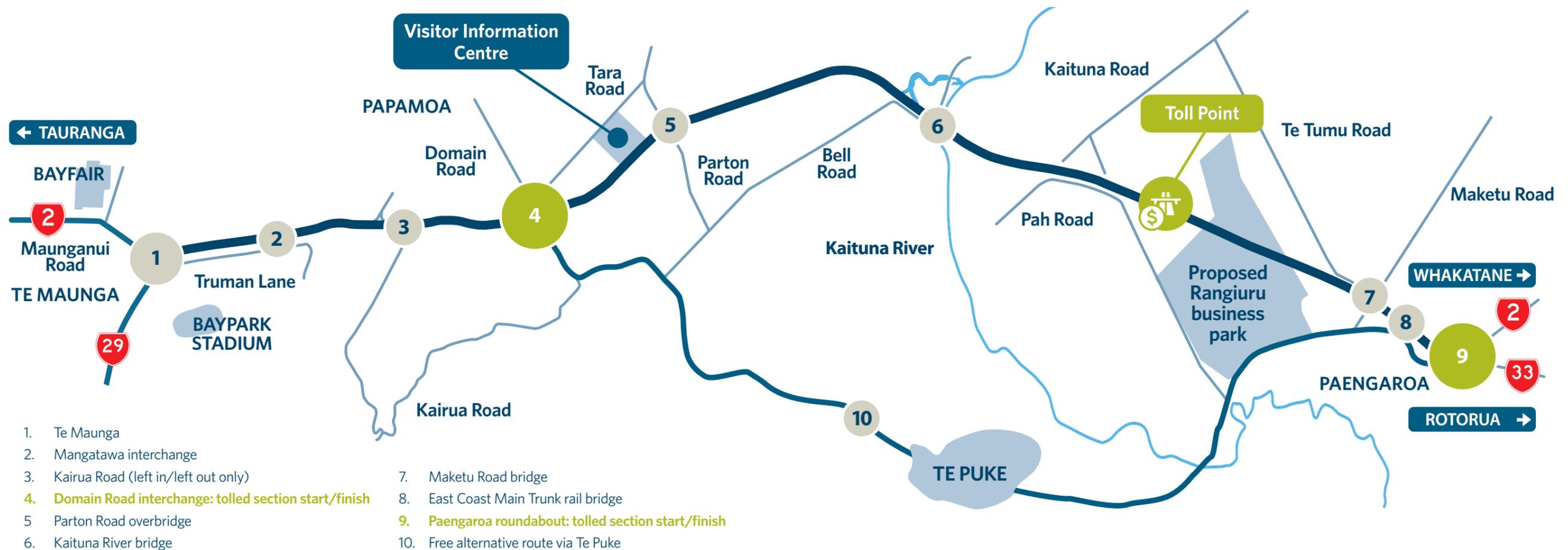
Gantry being lifted into position



The team working



The new look gantry in place

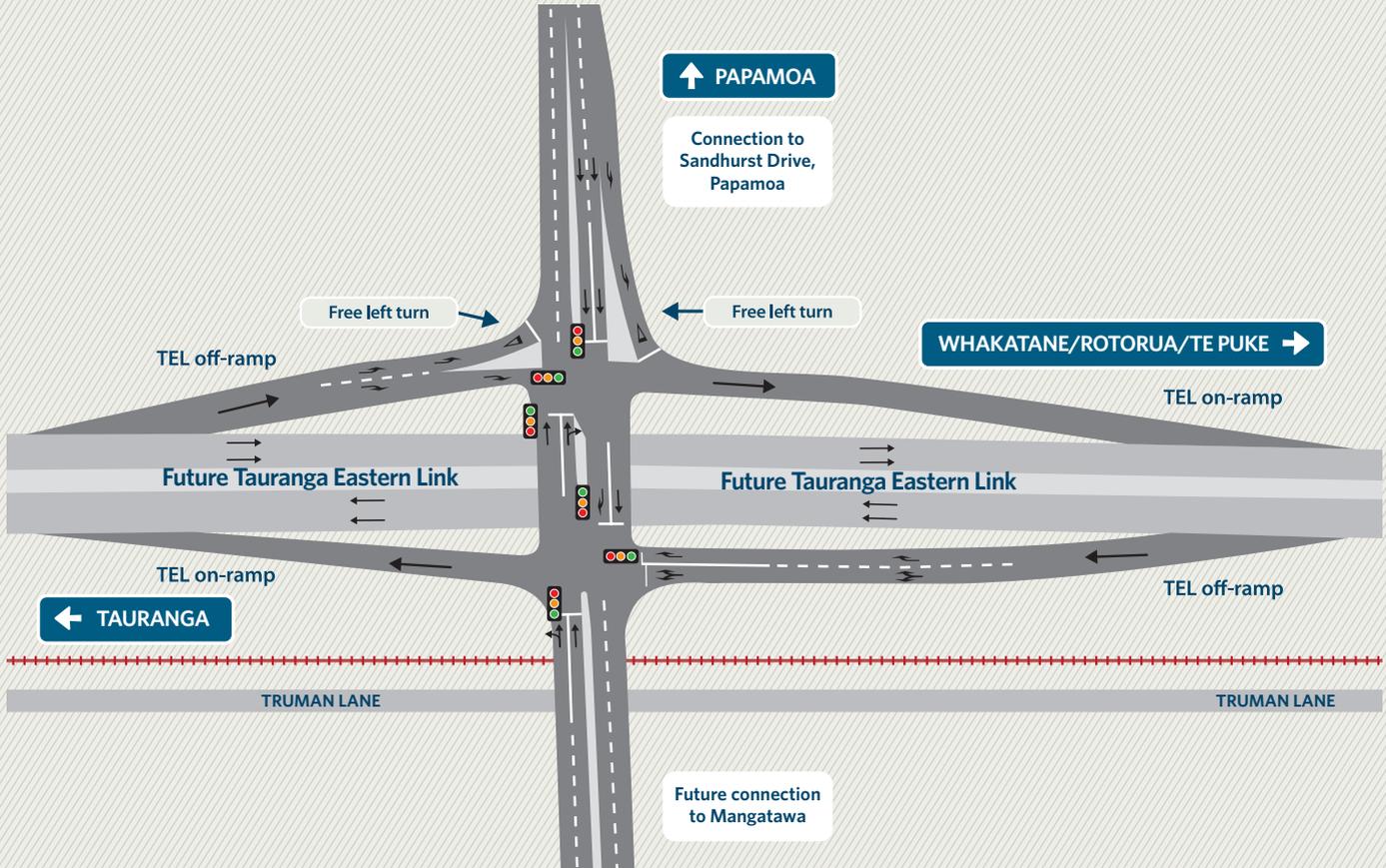


## The Mangatawa interchange nears completion

Once opened, the Mangatawa interchange, located between Te Maunga and Bruce Road, will provide a vital link for residents in Papamoa, via Sandhurst Drive.

The interchange met a major milestone pre-Christmas with the bridge beams placed over State Highway 2. Within the next month the beams will be placed over Truman Lane and the East Coast Main Trunk railway providing for the future connection to Mangatawa.

The diagram below shows the layout of the Mangatawa interchange.



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for more construction images and videos.



**View the TEL from above** A 45 minute walk from the Papamoa Hills Regional Park car park will take you to the summit where binoculars have been installed, providing a view of the majority of the TEL.



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