



Newsletter

Auckland Manukau Eastern Transport Initiative. AMETI

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September 2012

New Panmure intersection and busway to Pakuranga

The latest plans to upgrade Panmure roundabout to an intersection and build a new busway from Pakuranga to Panmure will be on show at a public information day next weekend

About 60,000 vehicles a day use the roundabout, with traffic backed up along all roads approaching it and a poor crash record. Buses also get stuck in the same congestion between Pakuranga and Panmure, meaning public transport isn't a good option.

The Panmure to Pakuranga (Phase Two) section of AMETI, will provide the next stage of transport improvements for the area after those underway in the Panmure Station area open in 2014. Together, the improvements will cut major congestion in the area, for example reducing queues on Lagoon Drive, Church Cres and Queen's Rd. It will also get more people onto public transport and make walking and cycling better options.

One of the improvements for Panmure will be to make it easier to walk or cycle around. For example instead of crossing distances of up to 500m there will be shorter direct crossings at traffic lights.

AMETI Panmure to Pakuranga (Phase Two) includes:

- Upgrading Panmure roundabout to a signalised intersection to remove a major congestion point and improve safety for cyclists and pedestrians
- Creating a busway with lanes separate from general traffic from

Panmure Station to Pakuranga town centre to make public transport quicker

- Completing about 7km of new cycling paths and 6km of foot-paths, including new paths linking Panmure and Pakuranga along Lagoon Drive and Pakuranga Rd
- A new Panmure Bridge next to the existing one for buses, cyclists and pedestrians
- The Reeves Rd flyover, a direct link from Pakuranga Road to Waipuna Bridge above part of Reeves Rd and the current Ti Rakau Drive intersection.

Following feedback from the community at the public information day, detailed design will be completed so consents can be lodged in 2013 for public submissions.

Further public information days will be held before the consent process.

Find out more page 3 and 4

Public Information day:

10am-1pm
Saturday 15 September
Panmure Bridge School
76 Kings Rd, Panmure

Traffic disruption alerts

To get TXT alerts when traffic may experience major disruptions or when we're planning changes to traffic or Panmure station access text **AMETI to 244**. Sending the first text costs 20c, receiving texts is free.

New road tunnel taking shape



About 2500 truckloads of earth have been removed next to Panmure Station for a new road tunnel.

The earth will be re-used for building new bridges and the new road being constructed in Panmure as part of the first phase of AMETI project. In total, 44,000m³ of earth, equivalent to 5000 truckloads, will be excavated.

Construction, which will continue until 2014, is progressing well.

It includes a new road (with a 220m tunnel in the station area) linking Mt Wellington Highway and Morrin Rd, a new Panmure Station building and three new bridges.

The new Mountain Rd bridge opened to traffic at the end of July and the realignment of Mountain Rd to meet the Jellicoe/Pleasant View Rd is due to open soon.

In June the first stage of a new pedestrian plaza linking both platforms in the centre of Panmure Station opened. Piles that go 55m deep for a new busway bridge next to Ellerslie-Panmure Highway are now complete. The 24 piles need to go deep into the ground to reach solid rock. Traffic will be shifted onto the new bridge at the end of the year to allow the existing bridge to be demolished and a new one built.

See page 5 for more

From the Project Director

People driving along Ellerslie-Panmure Highway or using Panmure Station would have seen the significant construction activity the AMETI project is carrying out.

The big hole in the ground you see near KFC is to make space for a new road that will run alongside the rail line. Fletcher Construction have removed more than 5000 truckloads of earth and are now creating the concrete walls for the tunnel the road will run through. We've also recently opened the first stage of a pedestrian plaza in the middle of Panmure Station that makes it easier to cross between platforms. Further work is continuing on this.

Progress is also being made on the next phase of AMETI work, which includes upgrading Panmure roundabout to an intersection and a busway from Panmure Station to Pakuranga town centre.

This second phase of work builds upon the transport projects we're currently building to deliver some fairly major transport improvements for people in Panmure, Mt Wellington, Pakuranga and Howick.

I encourage you to come to the public information day on 15 September where plans will be on show for your feedback.

Peter King, AMETI Project Director

Panmure Station Upgrade

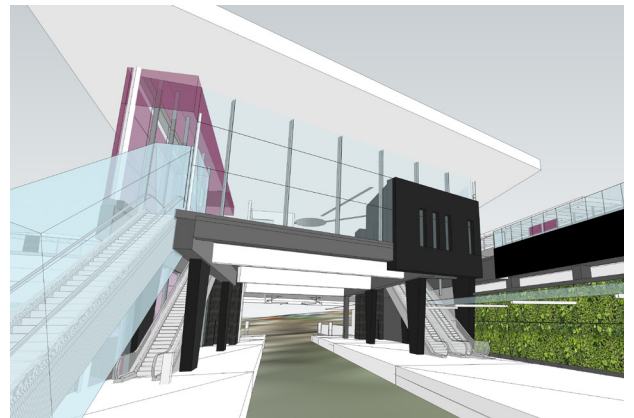
Panmure Station is getting a major upgrade, featuring a new building making it easy to transfer between buses and trains.

Other AMETI improvements will make it quicker to walk between the station and the town centre. The distance along new footpaths and more direct crossings will be about 500 to 600m.

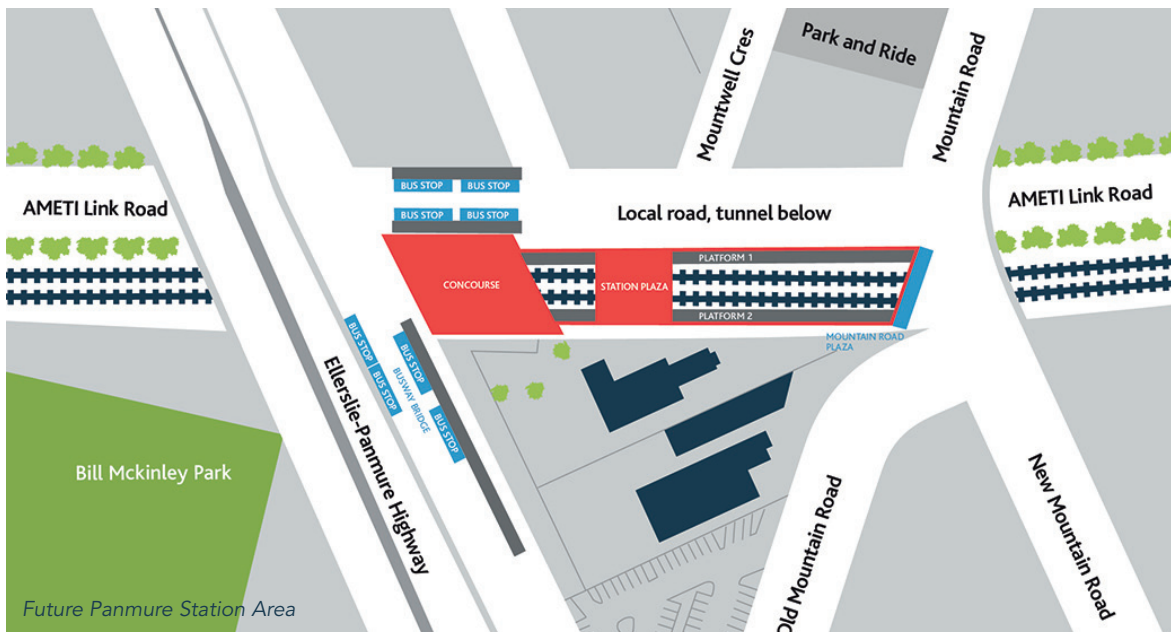
The design of the station (pictured) includes:

- Shelter along the majority of the platforms
- A new bridge next to Ellerslie-Panmure Highway for bus stops
- New station building and concourse
- Cycle parking
- A large central pedestrian plaza linking both sides of the station
- Lifts and escalators
- Ticketing facilities, staff & public amenities.

Part of the central pedestrian plaza recently opened and the first beams for the busway bridge will be lifted in this month.



View of new station building, towards Ellerslie Panmure Highway



Panmure to Pakuranga (AMETI Phase two) transport improvements



A new intersection to replace Panmure roundabout and creating a busway from Panmure Station to Pakuranga town centre are the major projects in AMETI Phase Two.

Completing this work is necessary to deliver major improvements to transport in the area that begin with the first phase.

A new north-south road being built will speed up journeys between Glen Innes and Mt Wellington. It will also reduce some congestion through Panmure roundabout and on local roads. But major transport benefits for the area come once Phase Two is complete. The image above shows the new Panmure Intersection and Station

Phase Two includes:

- Upgrading Panmure roundabout to a signalised intersection to remove a major congestion point and improve safety for cyclists and pedestrians
- Creating a busway with lanes separate from general traffic from Panmure Station to Pakuranga town centre, along the widened Lagoon Drive and Pakuranga Rd.
- A new Panmure Bridge next to the existing one for buses, cyclists and pedestrians
- New signalised intersections/bus stops at Basin View Lane, Church Cres and on Pakuranga Rd at

Millen and Williams Aves

- A new bus station at Pakuranga town centre
- Completing about 7km of new cycling paths and 6km of footpaths, including new paths along parts of Mt Wellington and Ellerslie-Panmure highways, Lagoon Drive and Pakuranga Rd
- The Reeves Rd flyover, a direct link from Pakuranga Road to Waipuna Bridge above part of Reeves Rd and the current Ti Rakau Drive intersection.
- Improvements to the Mt Wellington/Ellerslie-Panmure Highway intersection

Issues

- 60,000 vehicles per day through Panmure roundabout
- Long queues on all roads approaching the roundabout and congestion on other roads in the area impacting on residential streets and town centres
- Poor crash record at roundabout – 188 crashes in six years
- Does not cater for main traffic movements – Lagoon Drive to Ellerslie-Panmure Highway, north-south
- Unreliable, infrequent bus services
- No bus priority or ability to create it through existing roundabout or within existing Pakuranga Rd and Lagoon Drive road corridors

- Hostile pedestrian and cyclist environment - no cycling facilities and long distances to walk around
- Poor links between rail station and Panmure town centre
- Lack of realistic travel choices, over-reliance on car.

Benefits:

- More transport options – with major public transport, walking and cycling improvements
- Bottleneck at Panmure roundabout removed, with a safer signalised intersection keeping traffic moving. Average morning and evening queues reduced by 60 per cent.
- Quicker and more reliable journeys by bus, getting more people onto public transport
- Easier to walk or cycle around Panmure. At the new intersection there will be direct crossings across all roads, instead of the current crossing distances of up to 500m.
- Priority for vehicles using Lagoon Drive making it a more attractive route for through traffic, reducing use of Church Cres and Queen's Rd as a rat run
- New cycle lanes and footpaths connecting Panmure and Pakuranga
- A better town centre environment and improved connections with Panmure Station.



View of busway on Pakuranga Rd



AMETI Phase one and two

Construction Progress



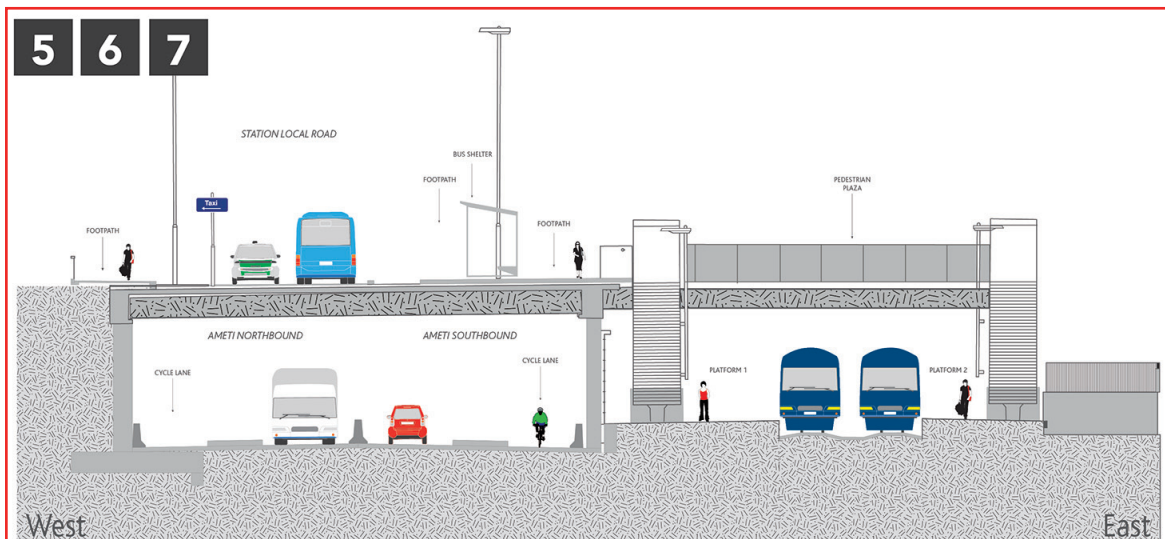
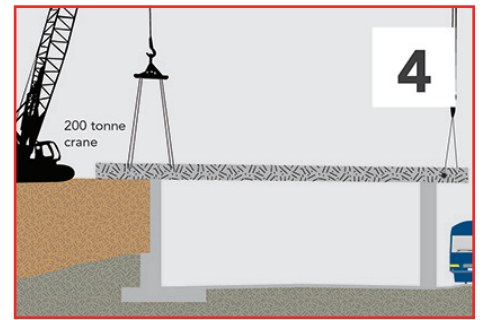
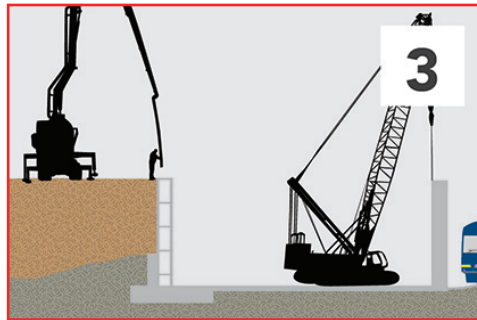
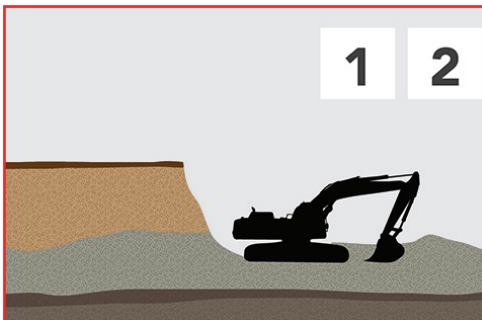
Busway bridge abutment



Mountain Rd bridge open

Creating the road tunnel

1. Excavate and remove 44,000m³ old fill layers, topsoil, and basalt rock from the 220m length of tunnel and approaches.
2. Ensure any remains of early Maori settlement is carefully documented, contaminated material removed to specialist landfills, basalt rock crushed off-site for re-use in bridge abutments and new road.
3. Concrete placed to form the footing, west concrete wall is cast 'in-situ' by placing reinforcing steel and then erecting temporary formwork to hold concrete in place while it cures. Formwork on west wall contains a stencil to make a art-work pattern in the finished walls.
4. Beams pre-cast offsite brought in by truck and lifted by crane in place to span between the two walls.
5. The new road, footpaths and a cycle-lane are formed.
6. Top-slab poured over the beams and the new local link road network, bus interchanges and urban spaces created over the top.
7. The tunnel is fitted out with lights, security and traffic warning systems. Mechanical ventilation is not required due to its relatively short length



About the AMETI transport projects

The Auckland Manukau Eastern Transport Initiative (AMETI) is a group of transport projects for the southeast (Panmure, Mt Wellington, Pakuranga, Howick and Botany).

The aim is to give people living in the area transport choices by improving public transport, walking and cycling facilities and reducing traffic congestion. Other major aims are to create jobs by unlocking the economic potential of the area, improve transport for freight and business traffic and to promote good urban design.

AMETI Phase One – New road linking Mt Wellington Highway and Morrin Rd, Panmure Station upgrade, Van Damm's Lagoon improvements, walking and cycling paths, busway bridge and two bridge replacements.

Phase Two Panmure to Pakuranga – new intersection to replace Panmure roundabout, busway from Panmure Station to Pakuranga town centre, walking and cycle paths, Reeves Rd flyover.

Future development:

- Sylvia Park bus interchange and route improvements
- Extension of new AMETI road to Merton Rd
- South Eastern connection improvements
- Busway extended to Botany

The NZ Transport Agency and Auckland Council are major funders of AMETI.



Keep informed and Have Your Say

Project information: www.aucklandtransport.govt.nz/ameti

To provide feedback: click on the "Say It" link on our website: www.aucklandtransport.govt.nz

or call us on 09 355 3553