

Mangawara Bridge

UPDATE
SEPTEMBER 2019

Waikato
DISTRICT COUNCIL
Te Kaunihera o Te Taiwhero o Waikato

It's all happening in Taupiri

Construction has started!

It's been a busy couple of months at the Mangawara Bridge site.

The crane pad and associated property works on Watts Grove have been completed, including the undergrounding of WEL and telecommunication lines. This has allowed us to set the 250-tonne crane up to start work at the beginning of the month. Our bridge contractor, Emmetts Civil Construction (Emmetts) then started piling the following week.

A big thank you goes to the residents in Watts Grove for their patience and co-operation.

It's been a pretty disruptive few weeks and some fairly large construction equipment is now in place.

Ko Taupiri te Maunga
Ko Waikato te Awa
Ko Pootatau te tangata
He piko he taniwha, he piko he taniwha
Waikato Taniwharau

Taupiri is the mountain
Waikato is the River
Pootatau is the Chief
At every bend a chief, at every bend a chief
Waikato of a hundred chiefs



Hammer time

Emmetts are using a hammer technique to drive the piles for the bridge to the required depths, about 30m below ground into the rock.

The first 20 odd metres was relatively easy going. At the end of last week the welders added the final casing (steel pipe) which allowed the final 10m to be achieved early this week. The piles are the foundations for the bridge structure.

Our Waikato District Alliance staff have moved over to the urupa to construct the second crane pad and install erosion and sediment controls, working closely with the Urupa Komiti.

Once the piles are in place, the abutment works start. The abutment will support the main bridge archway and deck.

Once the Watts Grove side is done the 250-tonne crane will be disassembled and transported around to the urupa, whereby the piling process and abutment works will take place on that side of the Mangawara Stream.

Archway on site soon

The bridge archway is being made in Whanganui and will be transported to the urupa in November.

By this stage the bridge abutments will be in place at both Watts Grove and the urupa in readiness for the bridge archway.

The archway will be put together onsite at the urupa in preparation for the lift (more on this in the next newsletter). Our carver has been working on pou designs and we plan to reveal these at a later date.

We are excited about how this project is taking shape and thank you for the support and patience as we work towards the completion of this very important community project.

Team effort

Waikato District Council, Waikato-Tainui, NZ Transport Agency, and KiwiRail are funding this project. Additional funding has also been provided by the Waikato River Authority.

The bridge is being built by Emmetts Construction. The Taupiri Community Board has been active in the development of this project and Council continues to work closely with the wider Taupiri community.

Stay informed

If you want to receive updates about the project, or if you want more information, please contact:
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