

# Seaward scene change



Above: An aerial view of construction work, taken from the Centre City complex rooftop. In the foreground is the Huatoki Stream, where preparations are being made for the construction of the bridge.

Right: Preparatory work for the construction of the bridge over the Huatoki Stream, with the Centre City complex in the background.

## Tank-farm slip cuts water line

A large slip at the Omatā tank farm on the outskirts of New Plymouth has cut water supplies to the area.

The 200mm water main into the farm was pushed out when a sandhill on the edge of the Herekawe Stream slipped on Tuesday.

It did not disrupt tank farm activities as water kept in reserve for firefighting emergencies was used, according to the city council's public health engineer, Mr Anthony Wilson.

Council staff worked late into Tuesday night to clear the stream channel.

He said the main had been removed and water

Work is progressing well on one of the biggest redevelopment schemes in New Plymouth's history — a project which is already changing the face of the seaward side of the central city.

The project was up to schedule but much would still depend on the weather, the city engineer, Mr Brian Davey, told The Daily News.

He said everyone would do their best to ensure that the changes to the traffic system were completed before the opening of the \$25 million Centre City Mall.

A date for that opening has not yet been announced, but it is not expected to be before late September.

Mr Davey said the weather had been "pretty good" to those working on the area redevelopment, but only time would tell whether progress could be maintained.

Well ahead of schedule was the work to provide partial access to the Centre City site from the east (Liardet St); this might be completed by the end of this week (depending on the weather), whereas the original schedule had called

for completion by the end of July.

The first section of the extension of Molesworth St to link with St Aubyn St was complete down to the back entrance of Centre City. It would be sealed very soon.

"The critical point is getting the bridge (over the Huatoki Stream) complete, and that's progressing pretty well," said Mr Davey.

### Roading

"Once our crews have finished on the east side of the stream, the roading people will go over on the St Aubyn St side.

"Then we'll be getting on with putting the road in up to the bridge on the St Aubyn St side."

Mr Davey said development of the foreshore would not start until Railways moved off; there was still about a year left before Railways had to move.

The works and recreation manager of the city council's parks and recreation department, Mr Ian McDowell, said earthworks were making progress on the future park site west of Centre City, on the landward side of the Molesworth St link.

A crib wall would be built on the Centre City side of the stream, and some planting would begin soon, said Mr McDowell. A walk would link that area with the seaward side of the Molesworth St link.

### Park area

However, a future park area on the seaward side was still some way off. "The tidal action goes quite a way up the stream, and for any foreshore park you need to consider that tidal ebb and flow, and make provision for the protection of that area," said Mr McDowell.

"I don't think a build-up of sand would be on in that area, unless some extensive groynes were constructed."

