

Franklin : The Centre

Constructing Franklin: The Centre



Project Co-ordinator, David Manton (left), with Gavin Brannigan of Gibson O'Connor and architect Graham Scott (at right) examine the site plans.

Franklin : The Centre.

A partnership between
Franklin Library Trust,
Franklin Arts & Culture
Trust and Franklin
District Council.

Introducing Gibson O'Connor

Franklin District Council is pleased to announce Gibson O'Connor Limited as the contractor for the construction of Franklin: The Centre. Gibson O'Connor are already on site and earthworks have begun.

Gibson O'Connor specialise in community buildings. They are the company who built New Zealand's most recognisable building - the Beehive - winning a major international award for excellence in construction performance and contribution to the development of construction technology and management.

Gibson O'Connor built the Whangaparaoa Library and Civic Centre for Rodney District in 2004-2005 so, along with the work they have done for Auckland, Manukau and North Shore Cities, they are well aware of what it takes to build a community facility on time and on budget. Gavin Brannigan from Gibson O'Connor, says: "Our team is committed to successfully completing Franklin: The Centre and to working with the local trades people."

The opening of Franklin: The Centre coincides with the celebration of 50 years of building for Gibson O'Connor.

Changing of the guard for Franklin: The Centre Working Party.

Behind the Franklin: The Centre project is a dedicated team of people making it all happen - the Franklin: The Centre Working Party. Heather Maloney, former Franklin District Council Mayor, has been the chair of the working party since its inception, taking the project from a 'good idea' all the way through to the tender process. Heather has now stepped down from the working party and Ian Alexander, Franklin District Council's Director of Operations and Services, has been appointed chair. The aim of the working party remains the same though - to see Franklin: The Centre develop into an excellent multi-use facility for the whole Franklin community.

For further information and to register to receive future Franklin : The Centre

newsletters contact **DAVID MANTON**
Project Co-ordinator

Franklin : The Centre

Telephone: 09 237 1300

Auckland DDI: 09 377 1294

Facsimile: 09 2371 301

Mobile: 027 270 7529

Email: david_manton@franklin.govt.nz



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Comment from the Mayor



"We had planned to start construction work on Franklin: The Centre with a special afternoon tea at the building site; however the wind and rain had other ideas. Whether we started building with a small celebration or with the low key arrival of the contractor, Gibson O'Connor, the fact remains that work beginning - and on schedule - is great news.

If you pass the site you will notice that the local subcontractor, Wayne Wood, has begun earthworks. With Council working on such a big project for Franklin, knowing that money is going back into our economy through local trades people is an added bonus.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Franklin: The Centre Working Party whose hard work and dedication has helped get the project to this stage. I would also like to thank our major sponsor, New Zealand Steel, who for more than 40 years has had an ongoing commitment to the people and economy of Franklin. The way New Zealand Steel, and other Franklin based companies, have supported the project through sponsorship arrangements has helped us immensely."

Franklin District Mayor Mark Ball

Reducing Waste on Site

Did you know that the construction and demolition industry is one of the largest waste-producing industries in New Zealand? About 17% of waste going to landfills comes from construction sites. And where does the majority of the waste going to our 'clean' fills come from? You guessed it - construction, demolition and infrastructure projects.

Franklin: The Centre is going to be different. Part of Franklin District Council's agreement with Gibson O'Connor is that the site remains resource efficient and that they always think about how to reduce, reuse and recycle.

But what does that mean in practice? Let's look at the first stage: earthworks. Instead of sending all the soil away to a landfill, local contractor Wayne Wood is taking it off site, sifting it and making sure it can be used again as clean top soil. All concrete that gets removed will be crushed into small pieces which can also be used anywhere that natural aggregate would be used.

So why bother with all this? Franklin District Council's Waste Management Plan promotes smarter thinking around waste disposal. Whenever possible we want to avoid waste going to landfill and by reducing waste from our own sites Council can lead by example and



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put its own plan into action.

Construction Timetable

The development of Franklin: The Centre will cover a floor area of **3,100 m²** and will be constructed from **2,300 m³ of concrete**, **131 tonnes of structural steel** and **45 tonnes of reinforcing steel**. It's the biggest project for Franklin District Council in over 20 years, but what everyone really wants to know is: when can we use it?

Gavin Brannigan from Gibson O'Connor, says: "Assuming a good run of weather we are targeting to have the roof on by November."

It is anticipated that the finished building will be handed over to Council in May 2007 and then opened to the public in June. We will continue to keep you up-to-date as progress continues. At any time you can visit our website to find out more - www.franklindistrict.co.nz.

