

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Pūhoi to Warkworth section of Ara Tūhono – Pūhoi to Wellsford Road of National Significance

Hello to all residents in and around the Pūhoi to Warkworth project area. This is the first issue of what will be a regular newsletter, keeping you informed of what's happening with the Pūhoi to Warkworth motorway project.



Artist's impression: Okahu Viaduct



Artist's impression: Pūhoi Viaduct

The Big Picture

NX2 is building the first stage of the Ara Tūhono (a connecting pathway) – Pūhoi to Wellsford Road of National Significance (RoNS). The Pūhoi to Warkworth project will create an 18.5km, four-lane motorway starting at the northern end of the Johnstone's Hill tunnels, and reconnecting with SH1 south of Kaipara Flats Road, just north of Warkworth.

The new motorway will traverse land to the west of the existing SH1 and bypass Warkworth on the western side. The new motorway will have two lanes in each direction divided by a central median with a safety barrier.

The existing SH1 will remain as an alternative route to the new motorway and will eventually become a local road owned by Auckland Transport.

Pūhoi to Warkworth is an important component of the Government's RoNS programme and will be a major contributor towards achieving a safer, more reliable, more resilient and sustainable roading network across the country.

The Pūhoi to Warkworth motorway is targeted to open for traffic by late 2021. It is being delivered by a Public Private Partnership consortium financed by four experienced private sector investors and five major domestic and international banks.

What's a PPP?

A Public Private Partnership (PPP) is a long-term contract between the public and private sectors covering the financing, construction

and operation of public infrastructure and services. For further information on PPPs www.nzta.govt.nz/assets/projects/ara-tuhono-puhoi-to-warkworth/docs/A-Guide-to-Transport-PPPs-AUGUST-2015.pdf

PPPs are often used to deliver large-scale infrastructure projects and the outcomes-based PPP for this project has allowed flexibility to be innovative in the design and construction within the motorway designation.

THE NORTHERN EXPRESS GROUP (NX2)

NX2 is made up of companies with considerable experience in the design, construction, finance, maintenance and management of key infrastructure projects in New Zealand and overseas. The consortium partners funding the project are:

- Accident Compensation Corporation (New Zealand)
- HRL Morrison & Co Public Infrastructure Partners (Australasian)
- Acciona Concesiones S.L. (Australia)
- Fletcher Building Ltd (Australasian)

The diagram below shows the structure of the NX2 PPP consortium.



WHO IS DOING THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION WORKS?

NX2 has sub-contracted a Construction Joint Venture (CJV) for these works comprising of Fletcher Construction Company Ltd and Acciona Infrastructure. In turn, the CJV is sub-contracting work to other firms, such as Beca and Tonkin & Taylor for designs.

It is the teams employed by the CJV that you will mainly see in the field and doing the actual work.

PARTNERSHIP WITH HŌKAI NUKU

NX2 has been working closely on the project development with local iwi, represented by Hōkai Nuku, which is the alliance of mana whenua of the project area, namely Ngāti Manuhiri, Ngāti Rongo Ngāti Mauku/Ngāti Kauae and Ngāti Whātua.

NX2 acknowledges this special relationship and will be work in close partnership with Hōkai Nuku as the project progresses. NX2 will also work with Hōkai Nuku to gather ecological information, salvage flora and fauna where necessary and relocate them to new habitats.

What does Pūhoi to Warkworth provide for drivers?

The motorway is being designed to international standards to be one of the safest roads in New Zealand.

You will have an enjoyable driving experience, with a smoother road surface which reduces noise and water spray. The road will follow the contours of the land as closely as possible, and be curved and scenic. It will mean you can be sure of reliable and easy-to-plan journey times.

The road has also been designed to high environmental standards including careful design to minimise the impact on kauri and other native forests. A significant ecological restoration and enhancement programme is being adopted.



What's Happening Now?

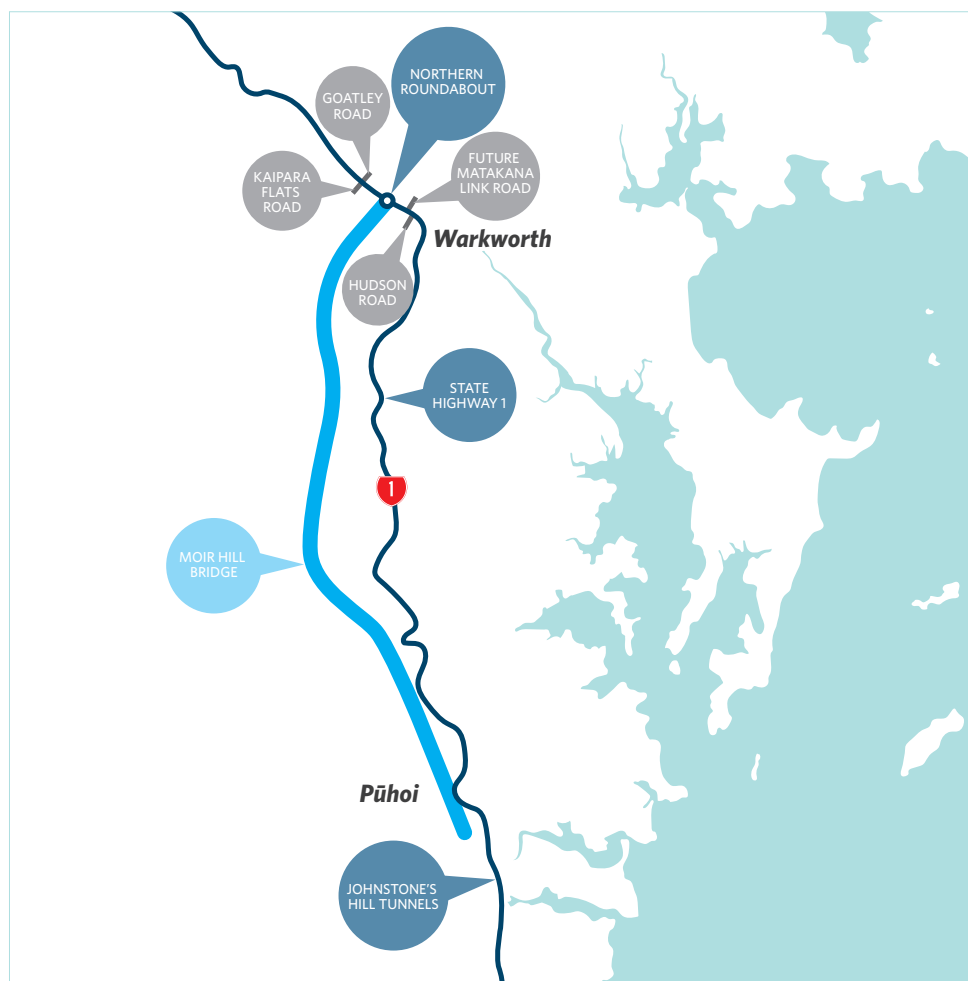
Some early works are taking place to help finalise the detailed design and prepare for significant construction works.

These include geotechnical investigations (sampling the soil and subsurface to determine the best type of foundations), clearing access roads for heavy vehicles and machinery, creating site compounds, installing

some culverts, forestry works and developing access tracks.

We will also be gathering ecological information, retrieving flora and fauna where necessary and relocating them to new habitats, ahead of construction work beginning.

WHERE'S IT HAPPENING?



Most of the early work is happening in the Northern Sector, west of Warkworth. Here's a rundown of the main work programmes and where they are taking place between November and Christmas, and in the immediate period from mid-January after the summer holidays end:

- Geotechnical teams will be out in areas north and west of Viv Davie-Martin Drive, Woodcocks Road, Carran Road, Wyllie Road, Perry Road, Moir Hill Road and Watson Road. Expect to see trucks, small excavators and drilling machines moving through the area for this work.
- A site compound and office will be established at 40 Wyllie Road so there'll be some clearing work needed and a new access way created. Fencing and other work around the compound will take place in late February.
- Chip sealing is planned for sections of

Moir Hill Road in late November and Wyllie Road in early December. Expect to see road maintenance crews and there may be some 'stop/go' traffic controls in place while the seal is laid.

- Forestry track maintenance work will be required, which will begin in late November. This work won't be visible to most people but you may see machinery being moved on some public roads.
- Ecological teams will be assessing the habitats of native wildlife and plants. Prior to any construction taking place, the ecologists will undertake a programme to relocate lizards, snails, flora and other fauna to safe and appropriate new homes.
- Pine tree removal in some forestry areas is currently programmed in January 2017 and some vegetation clearance in other areas will take place.

Looking further ahead

Key milestones further into the construction timetable include:

OCTOBER 2017

Start of major earthworks

NOVEMBER 2017

Start of bridges and other structures

AUGUST 2019

Start of motorway surfacing

APRIL 2020

Earthworks completion

OCTOBER 2020

All structures complete

OCTOBER 2021

Works completed

LATE 2021

Motorway opens to traffic

Your team

NX2 is a team of dedicated professionals experienced in working with communities who are on hand to work with you and answer any questions you may have. You can contact us 24/7 in case of emergencies and concerns via our freephone number 0508 P2WKINFO (0508 7295 4636), or by emailing us at info@nx2group.com.

Over the next couple of months the team will be making their way around the neighbouring properties, attending community events/meetings to introduce themselves and talk through the project in more detail.

If you would like to see us urgently, please give us a call or email.

MEET AND GREET

During November 2016 we will hold two informal meet the team sessions, one in Warkworth and one in Pūhoi. This will be a chance to meet key people on the project, view the alignment and ask any questions. Please keep an eye on your emails for details of these events.

DO YOU WANT TO KEEP HEARING FROM US?

We obtained your email from the NZ Transport Agency as you had indicated you wished to receive email updates about the Pūhoi to Warkworth project. However if you do not wish to receive these updates, or you wish to update your email address please contact us at info@nx2group.com.