

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

What a Year!

It's been a bumper year and, as it draws to a close, we reflect on some highlights of 2019 and look ahead to 2020 in the countdown to delivering a world-class motorway by late October 2021.



Snapshot of the year's highlights

- Pukerito – we finished ground improvement works at the Northern Connection. This is the area where the roundabout will be constructed and where the project will tie-in to the existing State Highway 1 (SH1).
- We started on the massive 11 Barrell Culvert late November. This is the biggest culvert pipe system to date in New Zealand with an impressive 180 x units weighing 10 tonnes each. We expect to complete this part of the project around March 2020.
- We also completed the culvert pipe system in our Central North 8a Zone. Culverts are the project's hidden milestones – incredibly important in progressing the project, but not obvious to the public eye.
- Construction of Mahurangi Bridge and Woodcocks Road Bridge in the Northern Zone has started – another milestone passed.
- Tapuwae o Kahumatamomoe – a local road overpass which will realign Moir Hill Road was completed earlier this year and will be open to traffic later this month.
- We completed cultural and archaeological investigations in our Southern Zone 1km north from the Pūhoi Road/SH1 intersection. These are very important aspects to the project and are in recognition of the complex history of the region.
- We made good progress on Arawhiti ki Pūhoi and Arawhiti ki Ōkahu with the first girders being installed in early November 2019 and completion between July-September 2020.

A message from project director Robert Jones

Summer is a very busy time of the year for us. We must literally 'make hay while the sun shines' and take advantage of longer daylight hours in order to deliver a world class motorway by October 2021.

We are now over half way through this project and you will start to see more and more activity along SH1 as our third and final earthworks season ramps up, our road surfacing work starts and we start to see, more and more, what the final alignment will eventually look like.

Every year we hold a community open day and we are starting to plan our event for 2020. This will be your chance to take a look and see the progress that has been made and use your imagination to see the road as it will look in late October 2021 when the road is opened.

As we round off this year and look ahead to the new year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our local community and residents for their patience and support over the last three years.

I wish you all a safe, happy and restful festive period and look forward to working with you all in the new year.

Driving in the holidays

You will need to take extra care when travelling in holiday periods because of increased traffic volumes, congestion, tiredness and people driving in unfamiliar environments. Being courteous, remembering to share the road with others and scheduling frequent breaks can help you keep your cool when driving during these times.

Follow these tips to ensure your travel is a safe and pleasurable experience for you and others on the road.

WHY YOU NEED TO BE ALERT

- There are more vehicles on the road – more vehicles means a higher risk of crashes.
- Many people are driving on unfamiliar roads.
- People are driving long hours and getting fatigued – often early morning or late evening.
- Increased stress from factors such as heat, traffic jams, noisy children and general tiredness.
- People on holiday may be less vigilant about road safety, eg speeding, driving when tired, not buckling up.
- There's more drink-driving during holiday periods.

For more information visit <https://www.nzta.govt.nz/safety/driving-safely/driving-in-the-holidays/>

Ara Tūhono – Pūhoi to Warkworth Project Structures

As the project moves a step closer to reaching its next milestone of completing all structures by October 2020, the progress is clear to see. Have a look at the map below for the location of all 7 structures.



Project Timeline

2016 » 2017 » 2018 » 2019 » 2020 » 2021

November 2016
Start of enabling works

January 2017
Start of main works

October 2017
Start of bulk earthworks

January 2018
Start of structures

November 2019
Start of road surface works

July 2020
Arawhiti ki Pūhoi complete / Arawhiti Pua Ngahere complete

September 2020
Arawhiti ki Ōkahu complete

October 2020
All structures complete

November 2020
Earthworks complete

September 2021
Road surface works complete

October 2021
Motorway open to traffic

Start of Road Surface Works

November 2019 is a big month for our project timeline with the start of Road Surface Works!

Coming-up this season

- Finishing works on Carran Road and Perry Road Underpasses.
- Moving 3.5million m³ of earth across the project.
- Construction works start up again on Arawhiti Pua Ngahere in the Northern Zone.



Who's who

Your Name? Mickey White

Your title? Senior Project Engineer

What's your role with the Project? I'm responsible for works in the North from an engineering perspective. I make sure that what's shown in the project design is constructed. I liaise with supervisors and foremen to make sure the project is constructed safely.

New Role: What's been the toughest challenge so far? Ground improvements in the Northern Zone in preparation for installation of the first Eleven Barrel Culvert in New Zealand.

What do you do when you're not at work? I'm a keen sportsman, frequently playing football and attending CrossFit workouts. I am also a keen tennis and table tennis player (I played competitively at both in England) and never pass up a chance to go whizzing down ski slopes at 90kph. I also enjoy hiking with my fiancée (we have completed 2/9 of the New Zealand great walks). I also ensure time is made to watch my beloved Sheffield United F.C since they're in the English Premiership this year, who knows when they might be there again.

Tell us something about yourself that your workmates wouldn't know/guess... I am a Christian and have completed my Duke of Edinburgh Gold award through my church in Sheffield as a teenager.



What's coming up

Holiday Shut Down

While we are taking a short break over the festive period from 3pm December 20 to 8am January 6, 2020, there may be some construction work up to December 23 and after January 3 - weather permitting.

All trucks will be off the road from 12 noon Thursday 19 December to 12 noon Monday January 6, 2020.

Please be aware there will be no access to the project area during this period for anyone not authorised to do so. The area will be under surveillance. If you see any suspicious activity, we would appreciate this being reported to police.

For any other queries or issues please call 0508 7295 4636 or email info@nx2group.com.



The project team wishes you a safe, relaxing and enjoyable holiday period.

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