

**From:** [Sarah Azam](#)  
**To:** [Brett Gliddon](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Two trucks crash after strong winds on Auckland Harbour Bridge. Drivers advised to expect delays and use the Western Ring Route  
**Date:** Friday, 18 September 2020 12:47:58 PM  
**Attachments:** [image004.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
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[image007.png](#)  
[image008.png](#)  
[image010.png](#)  
[image011.png](#)  
[image009.png](#)

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Begin forwarded message:

From: Darryl Walker &lt;Darryl.Walker@nzta.govt.nz>  
Date: 18 September 2020 at 12:43:52 PM NZST  
To: Darryl Walker &lt;Darryl.Walker@nzta.govt.nz>  
Subject: Two trucks crash after strong winds on Auckland Harbour Bridge. Drivers advised to expect delays and use the Western Ring Route

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#### TRAFFIC BULLETIN

18 September 2020

Two trucks crash after strong winds on Auckland Harbour Bridge. Drivers advised to expect delays and use the Western Ring Route

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency advises motorists to expect delays crossing the Auckland Harbour Bridge after strong wind gusts caused two trucks to crash.

Auckland System Manager Andrea Williamson says that just after 11AM the wind was gusting at just over 60kph, but suddenly picked up to blow for several minutes at up to 127kph.

“A medium-sized truck travelling in lane 3 northbound was hit by a strong gust of wind and blown across two lanes. It toppled over the moveable lane barrier and is now stuck on the barrier. The driver was not injured.”

“At the same time a southbound truck carrying a shipping container was blown sideways and hit the bridge superstructure. The truck righted itself and carried on.”

“There is damage to the bridge overarch, with a steel upright sheared off,” says Ms Williamson.

“The four lanes in the bridge centre span will remain closed until the damaged upright is assessed and repaired.”

The clip on lanes north and south are still open, but there is heavy congestion with traffic backing up.

Motorists are advised that it may be some time before all lanes can be reopened.

“Motorists should expect delays crossing the bridge and are advised to avoid the area if possible.”

“Consider using the Western Ring Route (SH16 and SH18) around the harbour to avoid using SH1 and the bridge.

Metservice says the worst of the wind gusts has now passed.

Plan ahead for a safe, enjoyable journey. Keep up to date with:

- \* COVID-19 services update: [nzta.govt.nz/COVID19](https://nzta.govt.nz/COVID19)
- \* Traffic updates: [journeys.nzta.govt.nz/traffic](https://journeys.nzta.govt.nz/traffic)
- \* Facebook Auckland: [facebook.com/nztaakl](https://facebook.com/nztaakl)
- \* Facebook Northland: [facebook.com/nztanorthland](https://facebook.com/nztanorthland)
- \* Twitter: [twitter.com/WakaKotahiAkNth](https://twitter.com/WakaKotahiAkNth)
- \* Journey planner: [journeys.nzta.govt.nz](https://journeys.nzta.govt.nz)
- \* Phone: 0800 4 HIGHWAYS (0800 44 44 49)

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For more information please contact:

Darryl Walker  
Media Manager  
Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency

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W: [www.nzta.govt.nz](https://www.nzta.govt.nz)

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency works to create transport solutions for all New Zealanders – from helping new drivers earn their licences, to leading safety campaigns to investing in public transport, state highways and local roads.

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**From:** [Brett Gliddon](#)  
**To:** [Brett Gliddon](#)  
**Subject:** Auckland Harbour Bridge update  
**Date:** Friday, 18 September 2020 4:46:27 PM

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Auckland harbour bridge update  
18 September 2020

Kia ora

We've advised Auckland motorists that there will be significant reduction in the capacity of the Auckland Harbour Bridge for several days and potentially up to several weeks after damage to the bridge superstructure this morning.

I'm sharing this update with everyone as this is a really important strategic asset in our transport network.

A southbound truck carrying a shipping container was blown sideways by sudden wind gusts up to 127 kph just after 11am and hit the bridge damaging the superstructure. The truck righted itself and carried on.

Our first assessment of the structural damage is that a permanent fix will be a long term process and the four lanes across the centre span of the bridge will remain closed to traffic for at least several days and potentially weeks.

We're advising motorists to use the Western Ring Route via SH16, SH18 and SH20 as an alternative to the Harbour Bridge.

We're also recommending Aucklanders consider alternative travel options next week, such as taking public transport or working from home.

On average, more than 170,000 vehicles cross the Auckland Harbour Bridge on weekdays, with the configuration of the eight lanes changed four times a day to adjust to peak time traffic flows. With the four centre span lanes closed and only the clip ons open, there will be just two lanes in each direction.

The north and southbound clip on lanes are safe to use as they have their own supporting structure. The clip ons remain open today, but traffic is backed up and long delays are expected.

The health and safety of workers and motorists using the bridge is paramount when managing its recovery and we will only re-open the centre-span of the bridge when we are fully confident in its structural integrity.

We are focussed on doing everything possible to re-open the centre lanes of the Harbour Bridge as quickly as possible and will be working this afternoon, throughout the night, over the weekend and potentially over the coming weeks on its recovery.

Nga mihi

Brett Gliddon

General Manager, Transport Services

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**From:** [Lucie Timmers](#)  
**To:** [Brett Gliddon](#)  
**Cc:** [Darryl Walker](#); [Sarah Azam](#)  
**Subject:** AT key messages on PT capacity  
**Date:** Saturday, 19 September 2020 1:40:18 PM

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Hi Brett,

Here's a back pocket responses to AT's public transport capacity queries if they come up. These have been signed off by Wally.

\* Auckland Transport is confident in its available passenger capacity for next week as we have been sitting at around 50% of normal pre-COVID levels. We will not be adding more vehicles as we don't have any additional buses due to our ongoing bus rail replacement programme.

Our team looked into how many additional passengers we could carry with existing capacity in our routes that go across Harbour Bridge:

- \* For next Monday morning 7:00 to 08:59:
- \* Inbound the Northern Busway has an excess of 7000 seats with current service
- \* Inbound Onewa Rd has an excess of 2500 seats with current service
- \* For Monday outbound 16:00 to 17:59:
- \* Northern Busway has an excess of 6500 seats with normal service
- \* Onewa Rd has an excess of 3000 seats with normal service

Note the above figures are for seats only, and about 10% more could be added with standing room. We are also planning to increase frequency outside of peak hours so that more customers can take advantage of our 30% off-peak fare discount. Ferries are operating as usual and have spare seating capacity.

We ask customers to travel off-peak if they can, plus plan ahead and allow extra time for their journey as there might be delays from joining the queues to cross the bridge. Also AT reminds customers to wear a face covering.

Many thanks,

Lucie

From: Lucie Timmers  
Sent: Saturday, 19 September 2020 1:31 PM  
To: Brett Gliddon <[Brett.Gliddon@nzta.govt.nz](mailto:Brett.Gliddon@nzta.govt.nz)>;  
Subject: This afternoon's key messages - AHB

Hi Brett,

Attached for review. Sarah A and the rest of the team, including AT are happy with this version.

Many thanks,

Lucie

Lucie Timmers / Principal Advisor  
Te Waka Kotuia Engagement and Partnerships  
M [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)  
E [lucie.timmers@nzta.govt.nz](mailto:lucie.timmers@nzta.govt.nz) / [w.nzta.govt.nz](http://w.nzta.govt.nz)

**From:** [Darryl Walker](#)  
**To:** [Paul Geck](#); [Alex Ingram](#); [Caleb Perry](#); [Sarah Azam](#); [Brett Gliddon](#)  
**Cc:** [Lucie Timmers](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Auckland Harbour Bridge - Media Site Tour  
**Date:** Sunday, 20 September 2020 8:07:27 AM

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Hi,

Media invitation is sent. They should reply to indicate they will come so we know numbers.

I suggest we meet at 12:30 to confirm the plan and messaging.

See you there  
Darryl

From: Darryl Walker  
Sent: Sunday, 20 September 2020 7:58 AM  
To: DARRYL WALKER &lt;darryl.walker@nzta.govt.nz>;  
Subject: Auckland Harbour Bridge - Media Site Tour

Hi,

Media are invited to a visit on to the centre span of the Auckland Harbour Bridge, which is currently closed to traffic.

Brett Gliddon, Waka Kotahi General Manager Transport Services will lead the visit and answer your questions.

Please come to the Ponsonby Sailing Club on Westhaven Drive, (where we met for the stand up yesterday). Be there at 12:45 so we can leave at 1PM sharp.

Allow extra time to get through the traffic. Waka Kotahi will drive you on to the bridge.

We will provide high vis vests, hard hats and safety goggles.

Safety boots are not required though you should wear sensible covered flat-soled shoes.

You must also wear long sleeves, pants and a jacket. It is very cold on the bridge.

Masks are recommended as we will be sharing vehicles.

Please be aware that we need to minimise the time we spend on the bridge deck – distraction and safety is a real issue with drivers rubbernecking at what is happening.

Can you please reply asap to this email to confirm who will come, so we provide sufficient transportation.

Thanks Darryl

Nga mihi

Darryl Walker / Media Manager, Auckland and Northland  
Te Waka Kotuia Engagement and Partnerships  
MOB +64 21 374 334  
E darryl.walker@nzta.govt.nz / w nzta.govt.nz

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency  
Auckland / Level 5, AMP Tower, 29 Customs Street West, Auckland 1143  
Private Bag 106602, Auckland, New Zealand

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**From:** [Internalcomms@nzta.govt.nz](mailto:Internalcomms@nzta.govt.nz)  
**To:** [Brett Gliddon](#)  
**Subject:** People Leaders" Update - Auckland Harbour Bridge  
**Date:** Sunday, 20 September 2020 12:42:24 PM

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20 September 2020

Kia ora

You are receiving this update as you may have team members based in our Auckland offices.

Today, we sent the following text message to our Auckland based people encouraging them to work from home if they can following Friday's incident on the Auckland Harbour Bridge.

Afternoon, following Friday's incident on the Auckland Harbour Bridge - we're encouraging everyone to work from home next week if you can.

If you need to come into the office it is recommended to use the Western Ring Route or public transport, stagger your journey times and allow lots of time, there will be delays.

Please talk to your People leader if you are unsure.

Nga mihi  
Internal Communications

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**From:** [Brett Gliddon](#)  
**To:** [Sarah Azam](#); [Lucie Timmers](#); [Darryl Walker](#); [Neil Walker HNO](#)  
**Cc:** [Karen Jones](#); [Andrew Knackstedt](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: very good management and comms on harbour bridge by Waka Kotahi  
**Date:** Monday, 21 September 2020 12:50:30 PM

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Nice feedback from Patrick.

Well done.

Brett

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From: Patrick Reynolds &lt;[s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)>  
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 12:41 PM  
To: Nicole Rosie; Brett Gliddon  
Cc: BoardMember - vcarter; BoardMember - ken.a rintoul; David Smol; BoardMember - cath.taylor; Board Member - bjrochenz; Anna Moodie; BoardMember - assandracroley; Board Secretariat; John Bridgman  
Subject: very good management and comms on harbour bridge by Waka Kotahi

proving again to be very good in a crisis:

<https://nzta.govt.nz/media-releases/heavy-congestion-with-auckland-harbour-bridge-at-50-capacity/>

great to see, ta

patrick

PATRICK REYNOLDS

[s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)

specialist architectural photographer

[www.patrickreynolds.co.nz](http://www.patrickreynolds.co.nz)

[s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)

governance roles with:  
NZTA  
Auckland Council  
Rotorua Lakes Council

**From:** [Sarah Azam](#)  
**To:** [Brett Gliddon](#)  
**Subject:** FW: traffic volumes  
**Date:** Monday, 21 September 2020 1:38:36 PM

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From: Andy Hooper <Andy.Hooper@asm.nzta.govt.nz>;  
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 1:24:02 PM  
To: Darryl Walker <Darryl.Walker@nzta.govt.nz>;  
Cc: Andrea Williamson <Andrea.Williamson@asm.nzta.govt.nz>;  
Subject: RE: traffic volumes

	Mon 14-Sep	Mon 21-Sep		
	6am -10am	6am -10am	Diff	% diff
AHB NB	16,616	11,591	-5,025	-30%
AHB SB	26,903	10,816	-16,087	-60%
UHB NB	9,738	11,066	1,328	14%
UHB SB	7,606	11,611	4,005	53%

Andy

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**From:** [Sarah Azam](#)  
**To:** [Brett Gliddon](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Videos :)  
**Date:** Monday, 21 September 2020 3:46:09 PM

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&#128522; The one of you and Caleb underneath  
From: Kate King <Kate.King@nzta.govt.nz>  
Sent: Monday, 21 September 2020 9:53 AM  
To: Sarah Azam <Sarah.Azam@nzta.govt.nz>  
Subject: Video approvals

Video one - Brett bridge damage explainer

<https://youtu.be/-DyNka9FcGY>

Auckland Harbour Bridge update  
Waka Kotahi's General Manager of Transport Services Brett Gliddon talks through what's happened to the structure of the Auckland Harbour Bridge and how it wi...  
youtu.be

Video Two

Caleb Perry - Under the bridge explainer

<https://youtu.be/8uBfru1SZ08>

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