



## Similarities and differences

The exciting arrival of His Royal Highness Prince George of Cambridge, a future king, has dominated the media this week.

Much closer to home on State Highway 16 and also top of mind for the project team are king and highness considerations of the maritime variety. We're talking king tides, or specially high tides that happen on a few occasions each year. There was one on Wednesday morning, which saw sea water lapping onto the shared path and across part of the motorway.

These photos were taken on State Highway 16 during recent years. They show the effects of king tides combined with strong northerly winds. The innovative kayaker in the first photo is using the shared path that's ordinarily used by cyclists and pedestrians. The eastbound lanes between Traherne Island and the Causeway Bridge are covered by water and debris, then closed temporarily and the bus lane is completely submerged.



Tides reaching similarly high levels happen about six times every year on the causeway. With the existing causeway gradually settling and traffic volumes increasing, now is the time for the flooding and capacity issues to be addressed.

# Getting on with the job

As many of you will already know, the NZ Transport Agency has engaged the Causeway Alliance to raise and widen 4.8km of State Highway 16 from Great North Road west to the Whau River bridge just before Te Atatu - that's the green bit highlighted in the centre of the map below.



The Causeway Alliance is made up of AECOM, Coffey, Fulton Hogan, Leighton Contractors, Sinclair Knight Merz and the NZ Transport Agency itself, bringing together specialist skills in a range of safety, engineering, design, construction, environmental protection, management, commercial and support disciplines.

The Causeway Upgrade Project involves raising the motorway 1.5 metres to prevent flooding and debris, and widening it to provide additional capacity in both directions. The shared path alongside the motorway is being raised, widened and upgraded, too. The work is being completed in stages so that disruption to the community, our environment and to traffic is kept to an absolute minimum. We appreciate your cooperation and goodwill during the shared path and bus shoulder lane changes that are already in progress beside the westbound on-ramp at Great North Road.

The upgrade will be finished along with other projects - being delivered by different project teams for the NZ Transport Agency - at St Lukes, Lincoln Road and the Te Atatu Interchange by the time the Waterview tunnels open in 2017. Together those projects are completing the Western Ring Route, an efficient motorway alternative to State Highway 1 (which runs through the city and over the Auckland Harbour Bridge), for traffic travelling south/north, and north/south.

## Phasing graphics

If you prefer pictures to words, take a look at the graphics below that show how State Highway 16 between Great North Road and the Whau River Bridge near Te Atatu is being raised and widened.

### Causeway Upgrade Project - construction phases

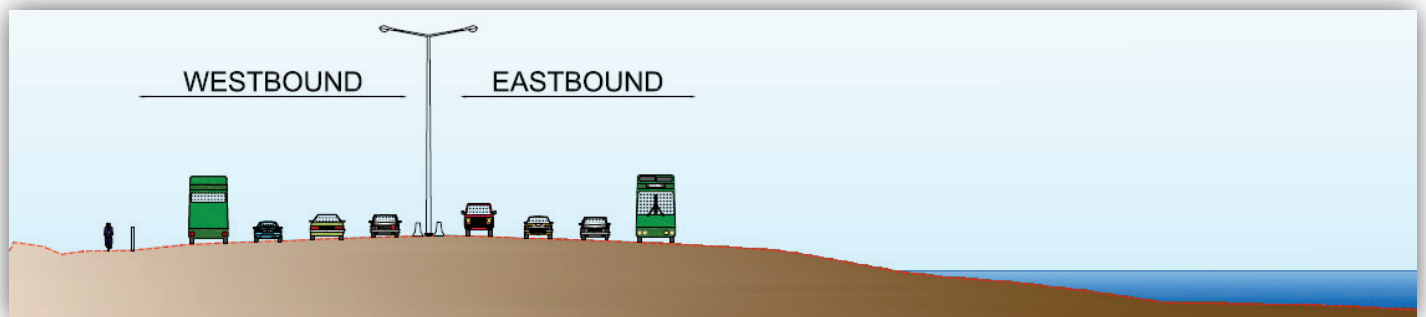


Image above: Existing causeway configuration in 2013

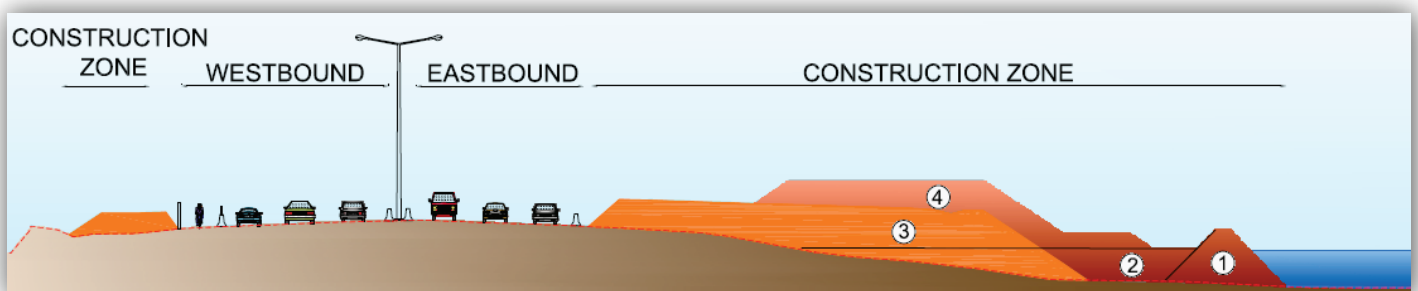


Image above: **Phase 1** - Reduce traffic speed and narrow lanes, construct new eastbound embankment (the red and orange sections on right of image) and new shared path - on left of image

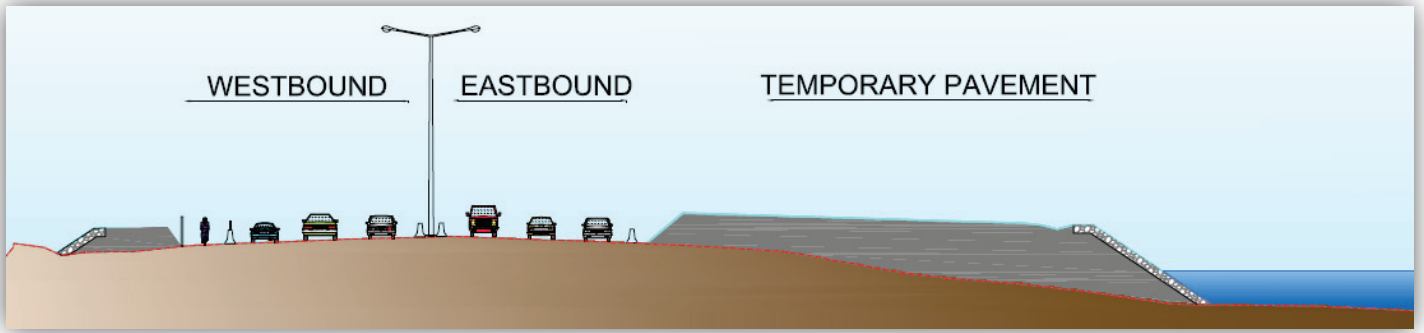


Image above: **Phase 1 when completed** - Coastal revetment, utility services, shared path and temporary pavement

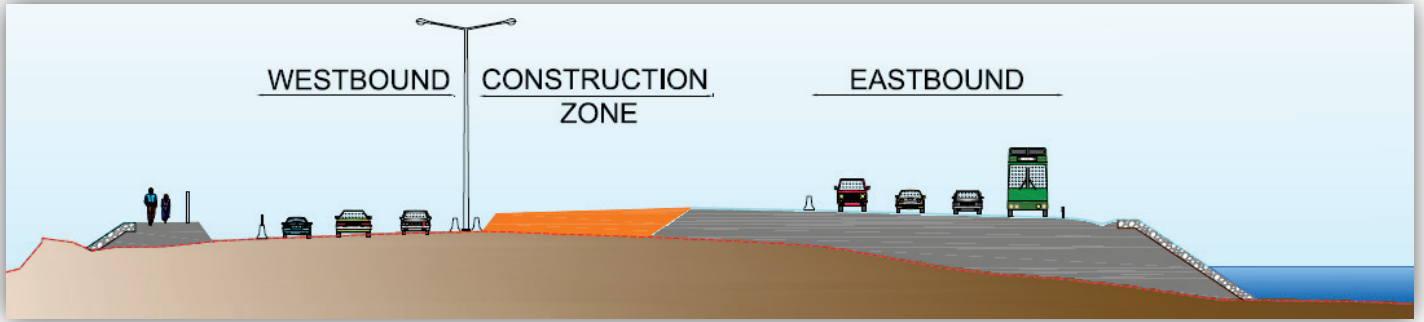


Image above: **Phase 2** - Move eastbound traffic onto new eastbound causeway and raise existing causeway

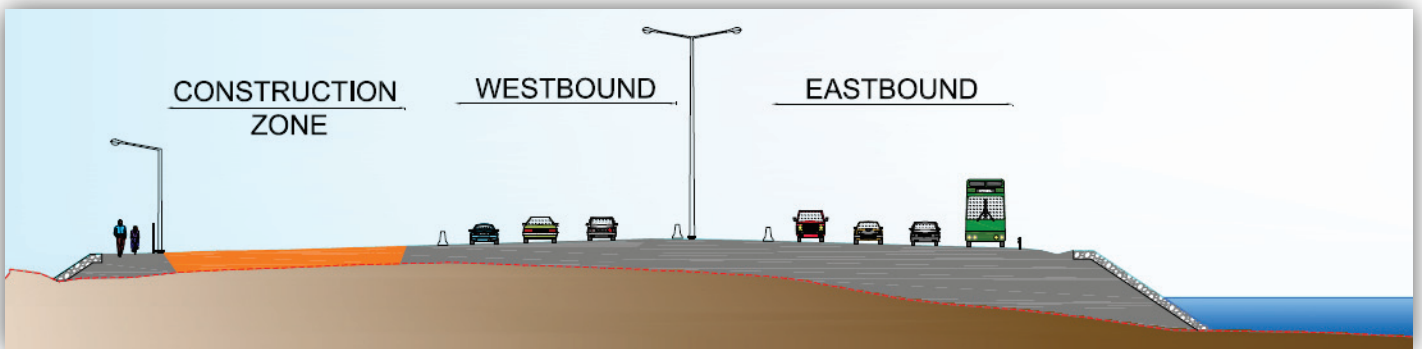


Image above: **Phase 3** - Move westbound traffic onto raised westbound causeway and raise existing causeway

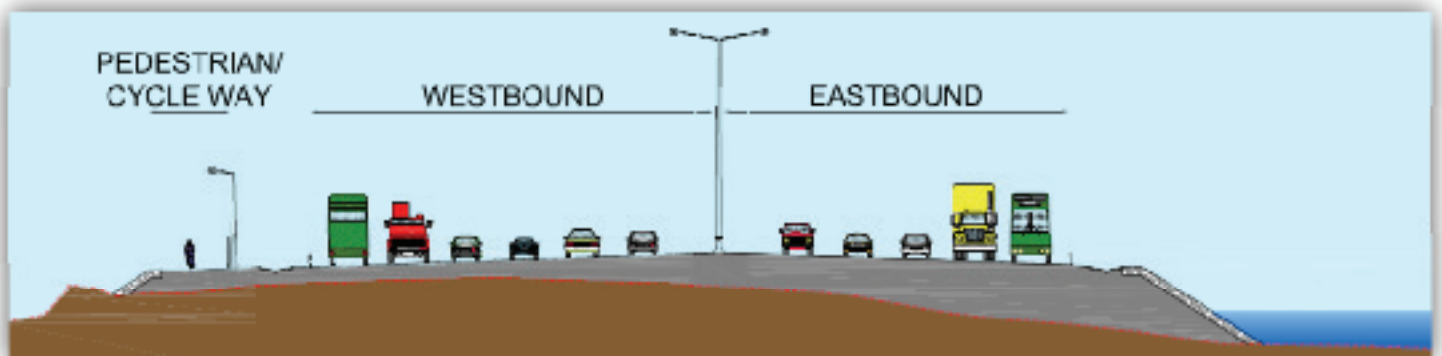


Image above: Final causeway configuration by the end of 2016 - complete median, final pavement and stormwater

If you prefer pictures *and* are short of time, the two images over the page show the causeway in profile as it is now and as it will be by the end of 2016. You can see at a glance the improvements that we will be making to the height and capacity of the causeway. When we know exact dates of traffic flow and lane layout changes as the project progresses we will certainly be letting you know in good time.



## Causeway Upgrade Project – Existing and Final Configurations

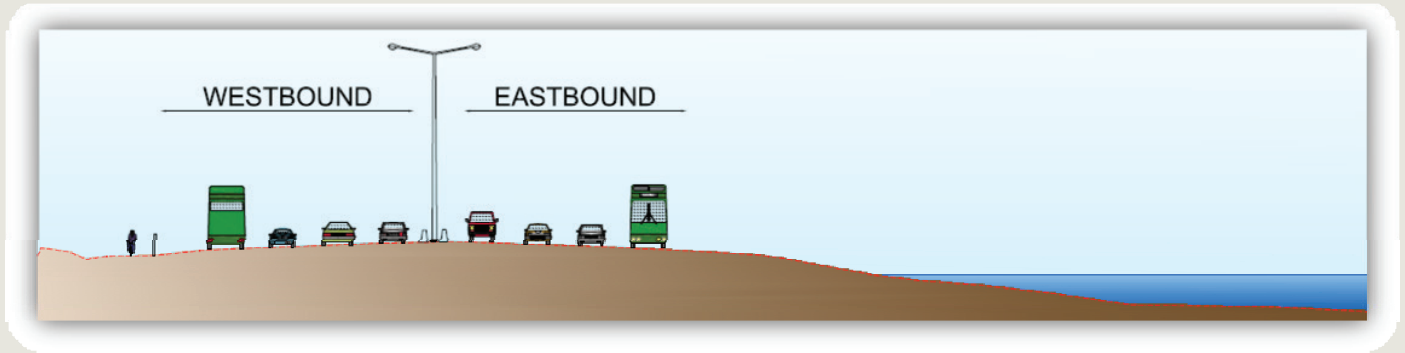


Image above: Existing Causeway configuration in 2013

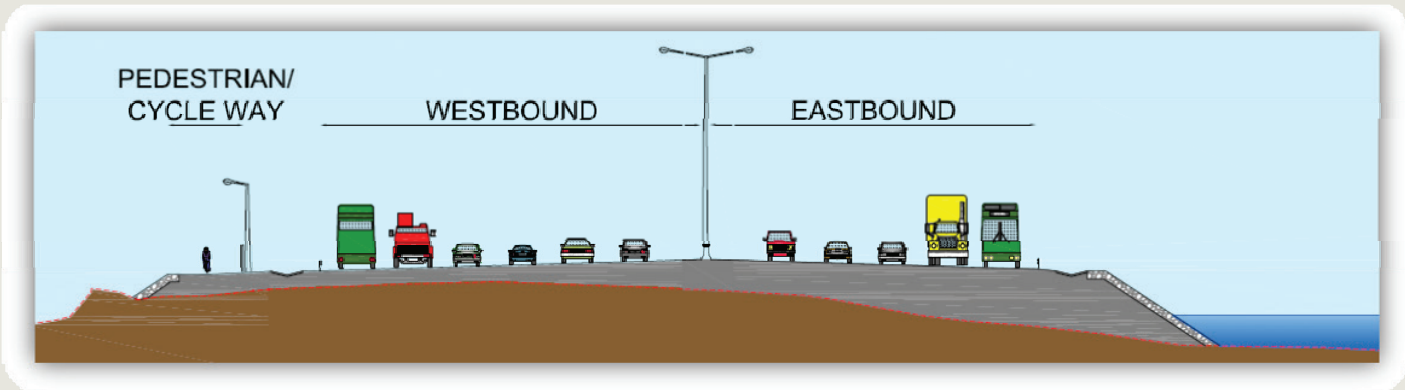


Image above: Final causeway configuration by the end of 2016 - complete median, final pavement and stormwater

The goal of the Causeway Upgrade Project is to help Auckland become a world class city, making life easier for residents, commuters, cyclists, pedestrians, businesses, freight operators and tourists, while looking after our environment and each other in the process. There's lots of work ahead of us to achieve what we have set out to do. Your ongoing cooperation and support will make sure we reach that goal together.

Best wishes from everyone in the team,

Elizabeth Collins

Communications and Stakeholder Manager

### More information

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Photo: Greg Kempthorne



## Causeway Upgrade Project

COMPLETING THE WESTERN RING ROUTE ROAD OF NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE | PROJECT DELIVERED BY THE CAUSEWAY ALLIANCE