



Photo: Greg Kempthorne

The Causeway embankment area alongside State Highway 16. Auckland is to the left and Waitakere to the right

Travelling eastbound on State Highway 16 between the Rosebank Road on-ramp and Great North Road, you'll notice a significant area of reclamation on the seaward side of the motorway. That area – the Causeway – has had 10,000 wick drains installed to remove moisture from the deepest layers of the marine mud, and is being loaded with two to three metres of fill to weigh down the mud and squeeze the water out of it. During the next 12 months the compacting process will take place there and work will then begin to build new motorway lanes on top of it.



80km/h and detours

Reduced speed limits of 80km/h are in place for extended distances along the project, between Te Atatu and the Great North Road Interchange. That is the safest maximum speed with the narrowed lanes of the motorway while the works are taking place and it is being enforced by police, for everyone's safety.

Work is progressing on the motorway at night while traffic is lightest. There are signposted detours along local roads close to the motorway during the night works. The detours may add to your travel time. We appreciate your patience while we get the motorway upgrade job done.

Successful lizard release



A cluster of copper skinks or lizards similar to this one were uplifted from the works area near the Whau River Bridge and transferred at dawn on 1 November to a safe haven at Harbourview - Orangihina on the Te Atatu Peninsula. Matua Heta Tobin (Ngati Whatua) blessed the lizards both before they were uplifted from their original location and on their release. Matua Heta was joined by Causeway Alliance team members and Bioreserches' representatives who had assisted with the lizard trapping and release process. Thanks to Chris Wedding of Bioreserches for providing the photo.

Shared path survey

Our survey of pedestrians and cyclists who use the shared path beside State Highway 16 will be distributed online next week. We're keen to hear about what's working well and what we could do better, so please give us your feedback when the survey links reach you via your cycle shop's Facebook page, Cycle Action Auckland, CCS Disability Action, Forest and Bird and advertising along the shared path.

Keep informed

Regularly updated project information and progress photos are available on our Causeway Upgrade Project website: www.nzta.govt.nz/projects/sh16causeway.

The Transport Agency has set up a website as a 'one stop shop' for information about traffic detours during the works on the Western Ring Route. It's worth checking www.nzta.govt.nz/stayconnected before you travel to make sure you're aware of the possible changes to your route from A to B.

You can also sign up for the Transport Agency's free OntheMove travel information emails at www.onthemove.govt.nz.

More information

nzta.govt.nz/projects/sh16causeway

elizabeth.collins@sh16causeway.co.nz

0800 444 449 (state highways info line)

Schools' visits



Children from Rutherford and Flanshaw Road Primary Schools visited our base, Taupuni ('temporary encampment') to learn about how to be safe around vehicles, why the motorway is being raised and widened, our environmental protection measures and birdlife. They watched an attenuator truck's display of flashing lights, arrows and its yellow crash cushion being raised and lowered, demonstrated by driver, Liz.

Movember

Some of the team are transforming into near-neanderthals this Movember. It's all in support of a good cause - prioritising men's health. Site Engineer Daniel has kindly modelled his Movember look for us here.

