



Protecting our coastline

While driving along SH16 you may have noticed piles of rocks. They are being stockpiled for use to protect the motorway from coastal erosion and flooding by absorbing wave energy. The layers of rock will also protect the coastal habitats and marine life that lives there. When the project is finished this coastal protection will run along both sides of the motorway, between the Whau River Bridge near Te Atatu and the Great North Road interchange, and will use a total of 104,000 tonnes or approximately 5500 truck-loads of coastal rock.

The process for placing the rock starts with a layer of white geotextile cloth. Next, a couple of layers of filter rock with an average size of 240mm go on top of the cloth. Different sizes of primary armour rock are then placed on top of the filter rock, depending on the location where it is being used. For example;

- The bridge corners, which are exposed to high energy waves, use rocks each with an average diameter of 685mm and weighing about 500kg.

- The northern side of the causeway is more exposed to the sea and so uses rocks which are an average size of 520mm and weighing approx 220kg each.

- The southern side of the causeway is more sheltered and uses rocks which are an average size of 320mm and weigh roughly 50kg each.

The rocks are sourced from a number of quarries as well as material cut from the St Lukes Upgrade Project.

Community Liaison Group meeting – 12 August

The next quarterly Community Liaison Group meeting will be on Tuesday 12 August, 7 to 8:30pm at the Pringle Park Bowling Club, Pringle Rd, Te Atatu Peninsula. This meeting will be your opportunity to hear updates and ask questions about the Causeway Upgrade and the Te Atatu Road Interchange Improvements projects. If you have specific areas of interest, please let us know in advance so we can endeavour to include the information in our presentation. We look forward to seeing you there.

Closures and detours

During construction there are some planned night closures to enable our team to complete work safely with as little disruption to traffic as possible. The closures are sign posted, advertised on the Auckland Motorway Alliance (AMA) website (www.aucklandmotorways.com), and on the black and orange electronic variable message signs (VMS) along SH16. When there are unplanned night closures due to urgent work there is not always time to advertise on the AMA website. In those situations the appropriate detour signage and variable message signs are used.

The traffic teams from each of the five projects along SH16 work together to coordinate all planned closures and detours whenever possible and appreciate your patience while we complete this work as quickly and safely as we can.



MEET BRIGITTE DUNBAR

OUR SAFETY, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT ADVISOR



What does a typical day look like?

Most days I visit the work site to check on progress, particularly the various environmental and safety controls we have in place. I work closely with the Auckland Council Compliance Officer, Safety Coordinator and Environmental Specialist from the Well-Connected Alliance to ensure that our work is not harming people or the

environment and that our projects are meeting our environmental obligations. I also coordinate our marine monitoring, which involves taking marine mud samples and counting living organisms in them.

What do you most enjoy about your role?

I love the variety and that I am able to get out of the office and appreciate this unique area of Auckland. I enjoy contributing to our project team culture which goes hand-in-hand with the degree I'm completing in Psychology.

Why New Zealand?

I moved to New Zealand from South Africa and am thankful for my personal freedom, the politically stable environment, the mild climate, a strong currency, easy access to tertiary education, and beautiful surroundings and the biltong is pretty good too!

Where to next?

After finishing on the Causeway Alliance, I would like to take an extended holiday to explore Namibia, Botswana, Malawi and Mozambique via 4WD. When I return to NZ, I'm aiming to gain work experience within the energy sector.

Your questions answered

Is fishing permitted from the cycleway over the Whau River and Causeway bridges on State Highway 16?

No. The NZ Transport Agency does not allow fishing from path structures adjacent to a motorway for safety reasons. Additionally the Causeway Bridge is located within the Motu Manawa Pollen Island marine reserve. Fishing is prohibited within the reserve.

Will the damaged edges of the cycleway, starting from Great North Road heading west for about 500m, be fixed?

The edges of the cycleway in this area will be tidied and straightened following the installation of the cycleway lights, which are scheduled to be done later this year.

Reversing Beepers

During the day, our excavators and other heavy machinery emit a clear beeping sound warning our workers that the machinery ('plant') is moving. The beeps need to be audible over the sound of the passing motorway traffic and are a key tool for keeping our team safe on site.

The plant used for work at night has 'squawkers' or modal directional reversing signals fitted, which quack rather than beep. As there is less traffic at night, the quacking sound is able to be heard by our team. This night time feature is also quieter for our neighbours.

Photographer, Greg Kempthorne, took advantage of welcome winter sunshine during July and captured some stunning images of our thriving city. This photograph is looking east and shows the raising and widening construction on both sides of State Highway 16.



More information

nzta.govt.nz/projects/sh16causeway

info@sh16causeway.co.nz

0800 444 449 (state highways info line)

CAUSEWAY ALLIANCE
working for our **thriving** city