

# NORTHERN CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS



## Northern Busway extension to Albany now open

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency recently opened the latest big development in Auckland's rapid transit network.

The approximately 5km extension of the Northern Busway between Constellation Station and Albany Station means that there is now a more reliable 30-minute route between Albany and the city centre even during peak travel times.

Growing the rapid transport network is helping to make our transport system

safer for everyone at the same time as supporting Aotearoa's move towards a low carbon transport system. Reliable public transport options make it more appealing for people to leave their car at home and hop on the bus to get around. They also create thriving communities by connecting people with whānau and friends, helping

them get to and from work and accessing essential services and education.

Constellation Station has also been upgraded to include an overbridge which connects to a new northbound platform for buses continuing their journey towards Albany.



# SH1 TO SH18 UNDERPASS

The two lane underpass will provide a direct motorway to motorway connection for people and goods travelling from the north on SH1 and heading west on SH18. As the final link of the western ring route, it'll help create a transport system which supports growth, improves customer journeys and enables people and goods to move around the region on a safe and reliable network.

As most of the work building the SH1 to SH18 underpass can't be seen by people travelling through the area, we're heading underground for a special feature on the underpass.

Working in a busy urban environment with over 100,000 vehicles travelling through the area every day, we've built the underpass roof and walls in **five stages**. Each stage was complex and required other phases of work along SH1 to be completed first, in order to minimise the number of lane layout changes necessary. SH1 is the main arterial for travel through Auckland so it's important that we keep people and goods moving.

There's still a lot of work to do building the road layers, fireproofing the roof, installing lighting and much more.



### FIVE STAGES OF BUILDING THE UNDERPASS ROOF AND WALLS

- 1 August 2019
- 2 January 2020
- 3 December 2020
- 4 July 2021
- 5 December 2021

Early 2019



Retaining wall leading to the entrance of the underpass was constructed in early 2019.

2019-2021



Construction followed a 'top-down' method where the piled walls and roof slab are built first.

Mid 2021



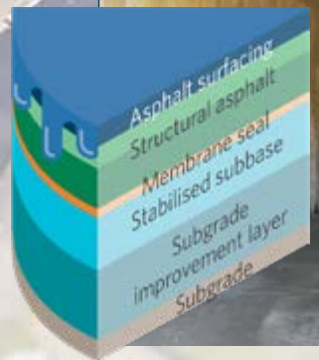
Before our 28-strong team began the big dig to excavate material and form the 'hole' of the underpass, they had to undergo a two-day training course to ensure they learnt the skills required to work underground. We caught this snap of Josh and Paul wearing their self-contained self-rescuer (SCSR) during their training.

Mid 2021- Early 2022



The big dig started in mid-2021 and over the course of many months (including a COVID-19 lockdown), 16,000m<sup>3</sup> of material - the equivalent of 6.5 Olympic sized swimming pools - was removed. The material was sent to a cleanfill site so that it can be recycled and reused.

March 2022



Below SH1 the 120m long underpass provides a seamless connection for people and goods travelling from the north and heading west which will help make journey times around the region more reliable. To build the road itself, many layers like those of a cake are required to ensure it has the necessary strength and durability. Work on the first layer started in March this year.

May 2022

Concrete panels, which measure 8m in height and weigh up to 13 tonnes will line the walls of the underpass and we've recently started putting these in place.





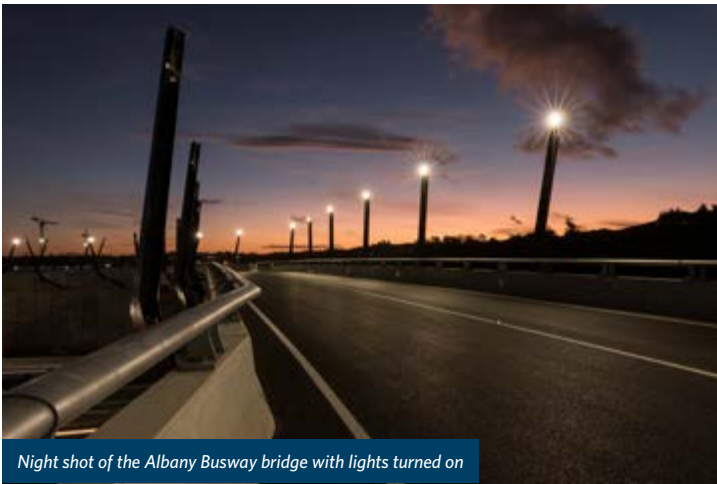
# Busway construction highlights



Constellation Station overbridge which connects to the new northbound platform



Installation of Albany Busway bridge beams



Night shot of the Albany Busway bridge with lights turned on



Laying asphalt on the Northern Busway by Tirohanga Whānui

## DID YOU KNOW?



36,000

DAILY TRIPS COMPLETED

ON THE NORTHERN BUSWAY AT PRE-COVID PEAK REPRESENTING

12%

OF ALL BUS TRIPS ACROSS THE AUCKLAND REGION

BETWEEN ALBANY



AND THE CITY CENTRE

JUST OVER

15,000 PEOPLE

LIVE WITHIN A 10-MINUTE WALK FROM ONE OF THE FIVE NORTHERN BUSWAY TRANSPORT HUBS



1/2 price

ON PUBLIC TRANSPORT UNTIL 31 AUGUST

no better time than now to give it a try yourself!



## CONTACT:

To find out more or provide feedback, please contact our Community Engagement Managers Emma Cushnie and Trish Viall.

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