

SH18 Hobsonville Deviation and SH16 Brigham Creek Extension



A birds eye view of the new Brigham Creek Extension and the roundabout that opens to traffic early next year.

Stretching out north-west

Largely unnoticed by passing motorists, the first significant extension to the Northwestern Motorway in more than 40 years is driving towards completion in 2012.

As the little sister of the bigger SH18 Hobsonville Deviation project, the extra three kilometres of motorway is known as the SH16 Brigham Creek Extension. It runs from the end of the Northwestern Motorway to Brigham Creek Road as part of the Western Ring Route - the strategic alternative to SH1.

The trip will be quicker for motorists heading to Kumeu and Helensville with four lanes and the motorway-standard 100 kph speed limit.

Traffic predictions completed in 2008 when motorway construction began recorded more than 12,400 cars using State Highway 16 each day between Don Buck Road and Brigham Creek Road. Adding the motorway extension is expected to reduce traffic by 70% to just over 3,600 cars each day on the existing SH16 regional route.

For motorists travelling on the new extension towards the city, the first exit will be Lincoln

Road. Those travelling southbound to Westgate will need to keep using the existing regional road.

Ben Shea, HEB Construction's zone manager, explains how the motorway has been built away from the public eye.

"Before we moved any dirt, we constructed seven temporary ponds to collect any dirty water that runs off the top of the open earthworks area."

"Moving the dirt follows a special formula. Our goal is to always shift it as short a distance as possible," Ben says.

"To create the flat level surface for the road we move dirt from the hills and higher ground, such as the ridge on which the existing Hobsonville Road runs and place it into the valleys to give a smooth surface to lay the road on."

As part of the preparation to lay the road, workers dug down five metres below the surface to hit ground solid enough to construct the motorway's foundations.

By autumn next year 80% of the extension will have a final road surface. The roundabout itself that connects to Brigham Creek Road will open early next year. This will leave just the road connecting the extension to the roundabout to be constructed.

Upcoming milestones

- **SH18 under Hobsonville Road takes shape - from November 2010**
- **Brigham Creek Extension roundabout opens - early 2011**

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The path of the new SH16 Brigham Creek Extension is taking shape.






The Squadron Drive bridge will give access to the new Hobsonville Point development.



The SH18/SH16 Flyover is a vital link for motorists travelling between the west and the north shore.



	SH18
	SH16
	New bridge

Artworks light up landmark Clarks Lane footbridge

The striking Clarks Lane footbridge spanning the new SH18 Hobsonville motorway was officially opened in October, combining modern day access for cyclists and walkers across the motorway with an artistic glimpse into the region's past.

Transport Minister Hon Steven Joyce joined Waitakere City Councillor Linda Cooper and NZ Transport Agency representatives in cutting the ribbon to mark the opening of the shared pedestrian and cycle bridge.

Already known locally as the 'canary bridge', the bright yellow 60 metre long structure is the centrepiece of the extensive urban design programme for the new motorway.

The project team also celebrated its collaboration with Waitakere City Council on an arts initiative which has seen local Waitakere artists create strong visual artworks including a ceramic pathway on the bridge. The artworks are part of a design focus intended to enhance the motorway environment.

Ceramic tiles fired from local clay by local artists Matt and Kate McLean, have been paved onto the bridge deck. The clay tiles form a 'carpet' which will also be a feature on the approaches to the bridge early next year.

Each tile features screen printed images of cycling maps and topographical contours from the Hobsonville area, and cycle and truck treads. The tiles are made from a variety of clays from the



The Clarks Lane footbridge opening was an opportunity to also unveil the Sinton Windows artwork.

area, that were part of an extensive pottery and brick making industry that used to be based at nearby Limeburners Bay.

The bridge opening also marked the official unveiling of the 'Sinton Windows' sculpture. The work by artist John Radford includes some of the windows preserved from the original Sinton House homestead - which could not be relocated at the start of motorway construction. The artwork sits alongside the bridge near two historic houses and a church, which were relocated to Clarks Lane.



Meet the team: Mac Van Houtte Earthworks Superintendent HEB Construction

Working on a typhoon shelter for ships in the bright lights of Hong Kong's Victoria Harbour is just one of a long list of successful projects for HEB earthworks superintendent Mac Van Houtte.

That project also included building a six-lane highway and a double-track rail line from Hong Kong's airport to the CBD.

On the Hobsonville project Mac oversees the supervisors and staff on the construction site and hires any additional trucks, diggers and dumptrucks needed to get the work done.

The motorway involves moving almost a million cubic metres of earth, a task for which Mac is suitably qualified with more than 45 years experience in the earthworks and construction industries.

A third generation New Zealander, he started his career in the 1980s in the Huntly mines before working on a redirection of the Waikato River for the refurbishment of a

power station in Arapuni. A successful joint venture bid by his employer gave him the opportunity to work in Hong Kong for two years on the typhoon shelter project, before returning to work around New Zealand.

Most recently he was a key member in constructing another NZ Transport Agency project that Aucklanders will be familiar with - the SH2 Mangatawhiri Bypass that gives a safer trip to Tauranga and the Coromandel. Mac has been with HEB since they started on the motorway project in July 2008, helping to carve out the path of the new motorway.

When he's not dealing with dirt, Mac enjoys playing rugby for the Golden Oldies, fishing and driving his pride and joy, a 1978 cranberry red Chevy Camaro.

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www.nzta.govt.nz/projects/upperharbourmotorway