

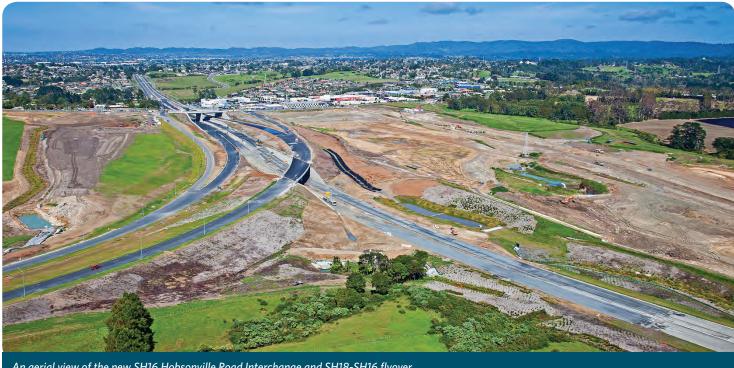


Project update

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SH18 Hobsonville Deviation and SH16 Brigham Creek Extension



An aerial view of the new SH16 Hobsonville Road Interchange and SH18-SH16 flyover.

We're opening early!

The NZTA project team is proud to announce that the SH18 Hobsonville Deviation and SH16 Brigham Creek Extension project is opening early.

An especially wet winter may affect the construction deadlines but all going well both motorways will be open by September this year - six months ahead of schedule.

NZTA State Highways Manager Tommy Parker says the opening is fantastic news for Aucklanders.

"The project will have a significant impact on congestion in north-west Auckland and will provide improved travel times for people and freight between the North Shore and West Auckland," he says.

It's also an important step forward to cater for the expected growth of the Northwest region as Auckland's planners look to find room for 330,000 new dwellings that will be needed within 30 years.

The project has two motorway components: a six kilometre, four-lane Hobsonville motorway

connecting to the Upper Harbour Bridge and Greenhithe sections of SH18 in the east and the Northwestern Motorway (SH16) in the west, and a three kilometre, four-lane extension of the Northwestern Motorway from Westgate to a new roundabout at Brigham Creek Road.

A new interchange at Squadron Drive Interchange on SH18 will open up access to the growing Hobsonville Point development. The new development aims to build 3,000 homes along with schools and community facilities over the next 10 to 15 years.

Fine summer weather and a well planned and managed approach to the motorway's construction has enabled NZTA's contractors and consultants - HEB Construction, Aurecon and Opus - to bring completion forward but plenty of work remains to be completed.

During autumn and winter the final road surface will be laid, more than 200,000 shrubs will be planted and noise walls and road signs will start to appear on the motorway landscape. After the motorway opens some work will take place around Squadron Drive Interchange, Hobsonville Road and other minor works where the motorway connects to local roads.

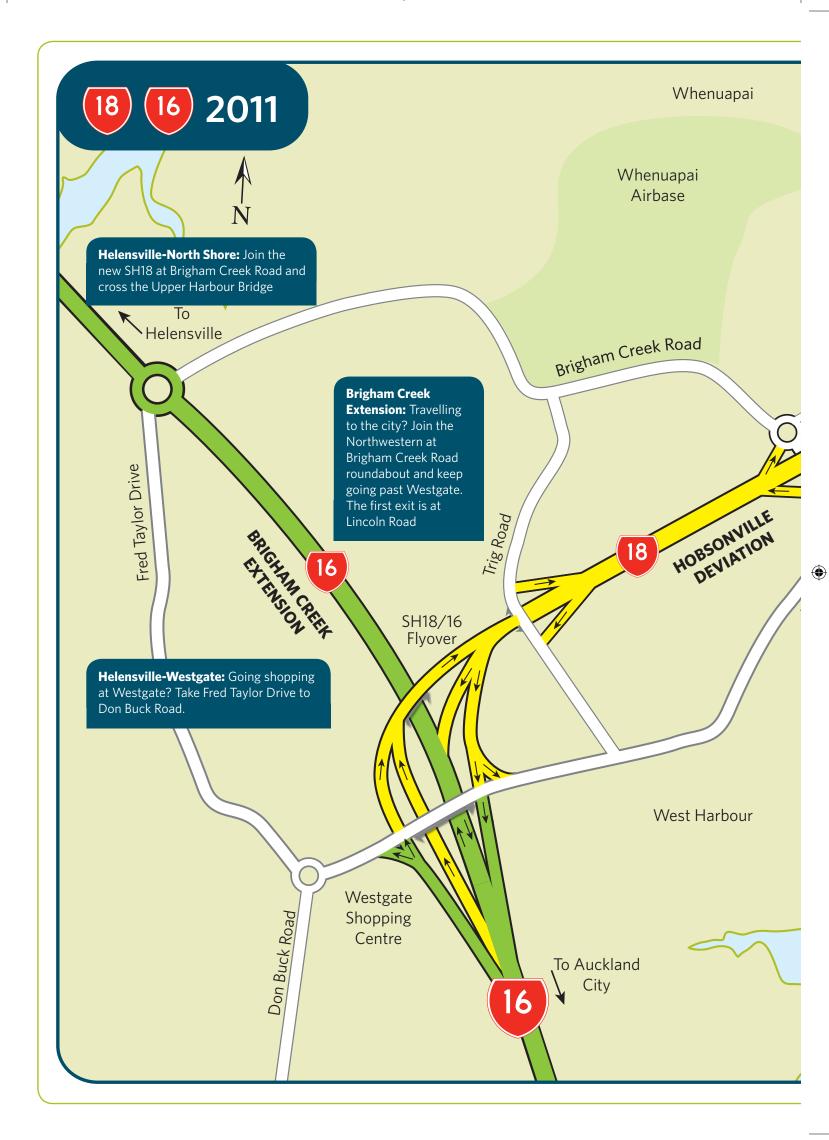
The motorway project completes the northern stretch of the Western Ring Route and brings completion of the route one step closer to improving connections between Manukau in the south, Auckland International Airport, Waitakere and the North Shore.

Turn to the back page for more information on the Western Ring Route and the improvements planned for the Northwestern Motorway.



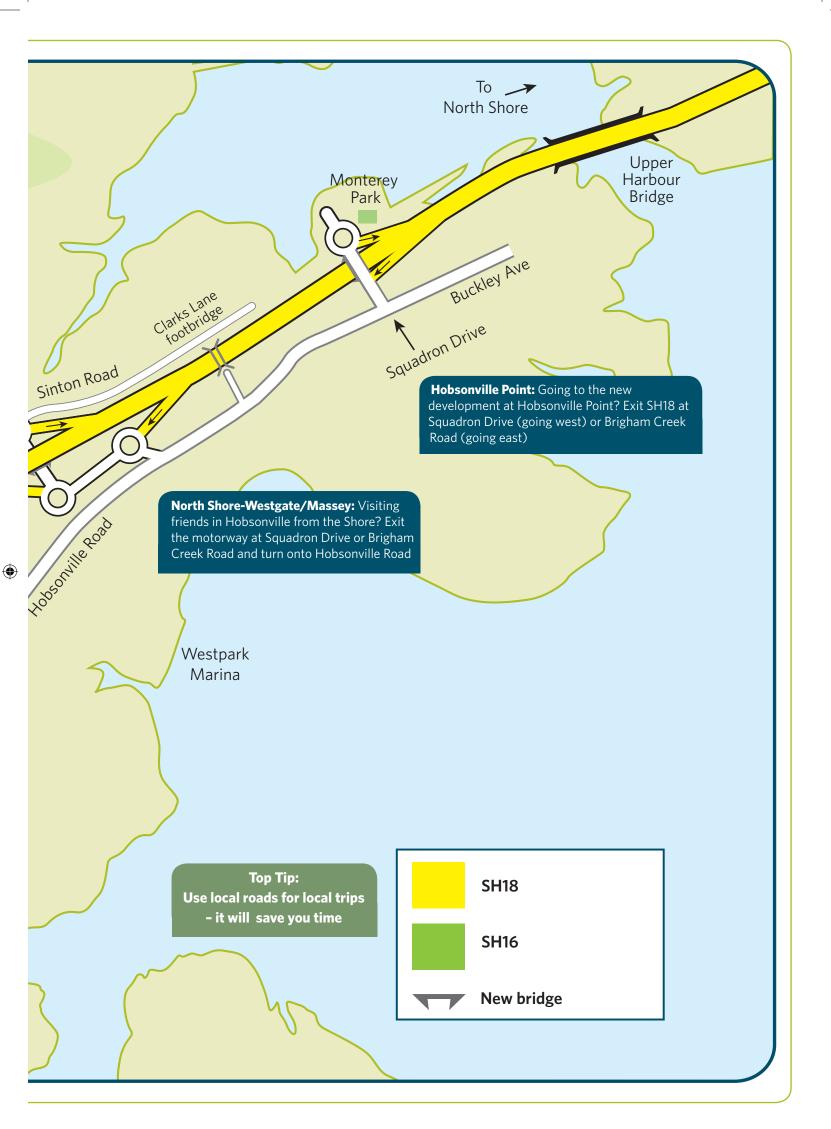






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Cutting travel times - the Western Ring Route

The new Hobsonville motorway is part of the Western Ring Route, a 48-kilometre strategic alternative to State Highway 1 and the Auckland Harbour Bridge comprising SH2O, SH16 and SH18. When complete in 2020, the route will give motorists and freight a real option to bypass the city centre, saving time and money.

As work winds to a close on the northern section of the route, construction on other areas has just begun. Commuters to the central city will have noticed changes at the SH16 Lincoln Road Interchange as it undergoes a \$100m facelift.

A new seven-lane bridge on Selwyn Road will replace the current two-lane bridge, and four new ramps built to improve capacity, safety and traffic flow. Better access to the motorway will reduce queues and improve travel times during busy periods.

The motorway around the interchange will be widened to three lanes in each direction and dedicated bus shoulders added to give potential for quicker bus trips. Walkers and cyclists haven't been forgotten with new connections between Selwood Road and Lincoln Road, and a two kilometre extension of the Northwestern Cycleway west to the Huruhuru Road Overbridge. The entire project is expected to be completed in 2013.

Further south on State Highway 20, the SH20 Maioro Street Interchange project picks up the coat tails of the Mt Roskill Extension motorway opened in 2009. A half diamond interchange is under construction to link the new motorway with the Waterview Connection project. The existing roundabout at the intersection of SH20 and Sandringham Road Extension will be removed and Maioro Street realigned and extended further north to a new intersection with Stoddard Road.

A further section of the SH20 cycleway will also be added to take cyclists from Ernie Pinches Footbridge through to Maioro Street.



Contractors Fletcher Construction are due to finish the \$40m project in March 2012.

Completing the Western Ring Route has been identified by the Government as a Road of National Significance – roads that will enable regional and national economic growth. The SH20 Waterview Connection project will connect the Southwestern Motorway to the Northwestern Motorway with a combination of tunnelled and surface motorway. Alongside this, capacity improvements and interchange upgrades are planned for the Northwestern Motorway between St Lukes and Westgate.

The NZ Transport Agency is now seeking planning permission and resource consents from a Board of Inquiry to complete the final section of the route -Waterview Connection and the capacity

improvements to the Northwestern Motorway. A completed Western Ring Route will be fully opened in 2020.

Want to know more about the Western Ring Route? Visit www.waterviewconnection.co.nz

Meet the team: Kenny See Project Manager, NZ Transport Agency



Kenny See is passionate about solving Auckland's traffic congestion and as a project manager at NZTA he's well placed to help out by delivering the Hobsonville motorway to Auckland motorists.

Kenny replaces Rachel Kirk in overseeing the day-to-day work of the project, but his involvement on the project stretches back three years to an initial secondment at the motorway designer Aurecon to design service relocations and local road signs. Following this he was seconded to HEB Construction for six months on site to actually get his hands dirty.

The highlight of the project so far has been the immense earthworks underway at Westgate to construct the Hobsonville Road Bridge and SH16-SH18 flyover.

Kenny holds a Bachelor of Civil Engineering from Canterbury University and is studying for a Masters in Transportation from Auckland University. Along with construction management, he's interested in the study of public transport and its integration into the wider transport network across Auckland.

As construction on Hobsonville moves towards completion, Kenny has moved to start work on the SH20 Maioro Street Interchange project. The completed interchange will join the existing SH20 Mt Roskill Extension motorway to the Waterview Connection project that is yet to be constructed.

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