

NGĀ HAU MĀNGERE

New bridge opens this month

Opening at the end of August, the new bridge will provide a strategic connection in Auckland's growing network of shared paths and become a community space for locals and visitors to sit, relax and enjoy their neighbourhood.

We hope you can join us to be among the first to check out the new bridge on foot or wheels and pick up a coffee on us too.

Date: Saturday 27 August

Date: 12pm to 2pm

Where: Pop into our information tent on the Māngere Bridge side so you can meet the team, enjoy a free coffee and learn more about its construction.



Upgrading the bridge abutments

'Abutments' is the technical name for the area at the ends of a bridge, it is where the deck connects with the ground on either side, marking the bridge's arrival or departure points for bridge users.

Abutments help support the bridge, but they're also a community space for people to sit, relax and enjoy the surrounding landscape, and there's lots of great features including bench seats and bike racks to encourage this. As a perfect place to pause and cool down on hot summer days, there's also going to be a water fountain installed on the Māngere Bridge side.

There is a raingarden featured on both sides of the bridge abutments, to help capture and treat rainwater before it enters the Manukau Harbour. The raingardens help protect the waterway and were included in the design of the bridge to acknowledge our role as kaitiaki for the environment. In a few months' time, iwi artworks will also be installed at either end of the bridge, and we look forward to sharing more information about these with the community soon.

We've integrated salvaged pieces from the Old Māngere Bridge into the landscaping on the Onehunga side to create a link to the past. Check out our previous newsletter on the project webpage which has more information on the heritage garden.

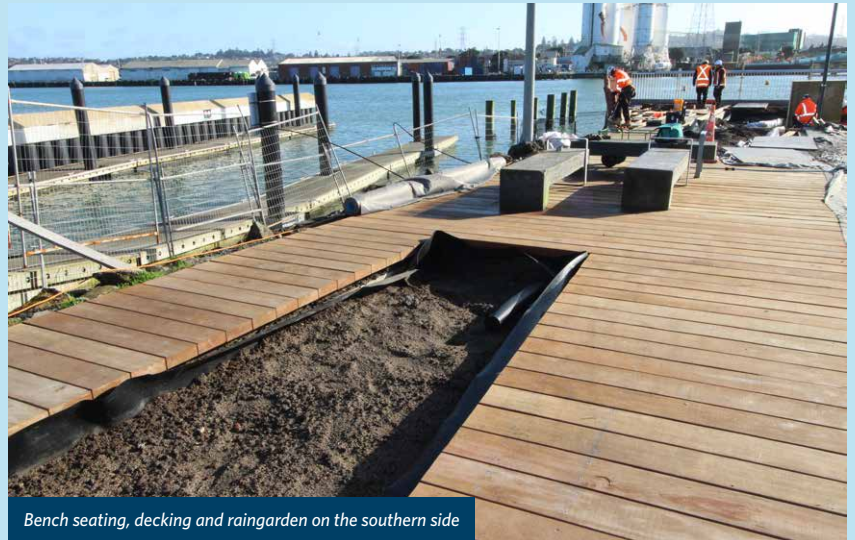
The bridge has been gifted the name Ngā Hau Māngere by mana whenua to reflect the cultural history and landscape in which it sits. In translation it means the 'gentle lazy winds'.



Artistic drawing of the southern abutment



Placement of piece for the heritage garden



Bench seating, decking and raingarden on the southern side

FROM SITE OFFICE TO COMMUNITY SPACE

A small part of Waterfront Reserve has been our home for the past few years and once work is complete, we will begin the important job of transforming the area back into a community space again.

We're in the process of removing our temporary offices, taking down the high

fencing, laying topsoil and planting grass seed and native shrubs. To give the grass the best chance to grow, we'll cordon off the area until early summer.

A big thank you to the local community who have welcomed us into this beautiful part of Tāmaki Makaurau.



A BRIDGE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

Whilst designing the new bridge many years ago, we held workshops with children from Waterlea School, Onehunga Primary School and Māngere Bridge School.

They were part of a series of fact-finding sessions to understand how future generations would like to use the new bridge and what features would make it the best for them.

Sitting in the Manukau Harbour for over 100 years, the Old Māngere Bridge had certainly weathered a few storms and seen much change

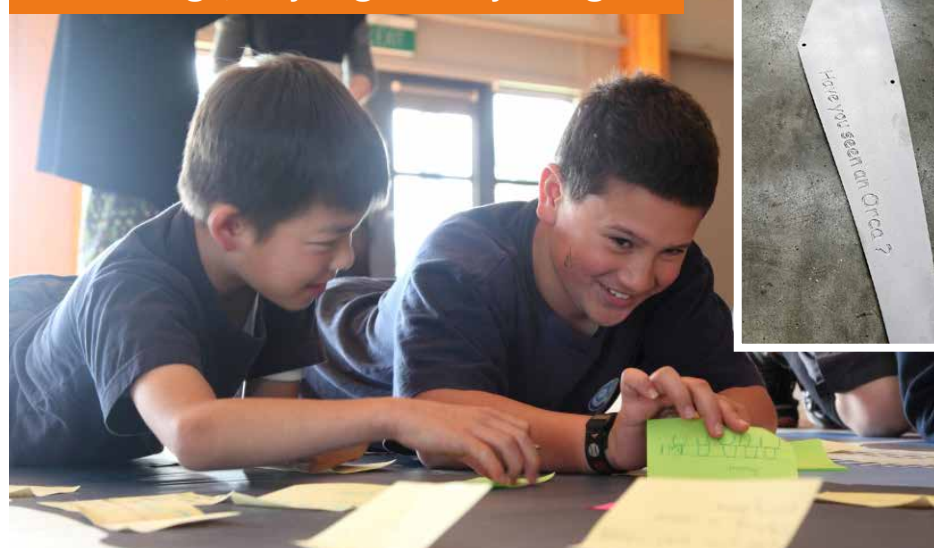
in the surrounding landscape so the children also took the opportunity to think of some interview questions they could ask the bridge to learn more about its life.

When you first step onto the bridge, you'll see their questions and thoughts turned into artwork which weaves across steel panels.

'Are you bored being here?'

'How big is the biggest fish that ever swum under you?'

'Dear bridge, do you get lonely at night?'



Artworks showing fish and children's quotes during construction

THE FUTURE OF THE SH20 UNDERPASS

Since the Old Māngere Bridge closed in late 2018 and while the new bridge has been under construction, people have been able to cross the Manukau Harbour on foot or wheels using the SH20 underpass.

Once the underpass was the only route across the harbour, we made changes to ensure that it was safe for the community. This included removing graffiti, installing monitored CCTV cameras, putting in higher railings along the outer edge for the protection of people travelling on bikes as well as a continuous presence of security guards.

With the new bridge opening we have decided to close the underpass in late 2022. There is no funding to continue to provide a high level of service required on the route to keep it open. People traveling through the area will use the new bridge which caters for people walking and cycling.

The underpass will not be closed until December but from 1 September there will be no CCTV or security guards monitoring the route.



IMPORTANT NOTICE

From 1 September, there will be no security guards on site along the SH20 underpass. To cross the Manukau Harbour, we recommend using the new bridge.

GUARDIANSHIP OF THE BRIDGE

Auckland Council will be responsible for looking after the new bridge when it opens and undertake activities such as sweeping, maintaining the plants, and keeping the area neat and tidy. If you spot a maintenance problem, you can contact Auckland Council directly via their 'report a problem' webpage: www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/report-problem

WHAT'S HAPPENING ON SITE?



Reinstatement of Coronation Road ready for bridge opening



Benches under construction near the fishing bays



Native planting has arrived on site

MEET THE PROJECT TEAM



James Eyre

Engineer's Representative and Consultants Project Manager

What is your role and responsibility in this project?

I supervise construction on behalf of the team who designed the bridge, leading a team of engineers and urban designers to ensure everything is built to required standards. I also have an important role in protecting the environment and the safety on site, ensuring that plans and processes are followed.

What do you enjoy about working on this project?

Not only is the design of the bridge quite complex, but so is the requirement of the permanent and temporary works which

have been necessary to build a bridge across water. With lots of collaboration and expertise from across the team, there's never been a dull engineering-day!

What is the outcome you'd like to see at the end of construction?

I look forward to seeing the bridge being widely and safely used and enjoyed by all. I hope the bridge becomes an attractive shared space that the local community and visitors can be proud of, and I know that it will be looked after by the community and Auckland Council for many years to come.



For more information on the project or to sign up to newsletter updates, please scan the QR code or visit www.nzta.govt.nz/omb

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