

The Causeway Alliance is raising and widening 4.8 km of Auckland's Northwestern Motorway and cycleway between Great North Road and the Whau River Bridge, near Te Atatu. The work is being done to prevent flooding and provide additional lanes for when the Waterview Tunnels open in early 2017.

Whau River Bridge stitch

During September we will be connecting the new Whau River Bridge being constructed on the southern side to the existing bridge in what is commonly referred to as a 'bridge stitch'.

Twelve months ago we stitched the newly constructed northern bridge to the existing structure. To do this we had to close all citybound lanes between Te Atatu and Rosebank roads for a 12-hour period while the concrete connecting the bridges was poured and gained sufficient strength.

The good news is this time, while we work on the southern side, we will be able to keep one westbound lane open throughout the stitching process. This is because the lanes over the bridge are temporarily reconfigured with one westbound lane on the other structure and vibrations from the traffic using this lane will have no impact on the hardening process.



Patiki underpass

When the new Patiki underpass is open to cyclists, they will notice two things. The first is that the track gradient in that area is much easier than the existing overbridge. The second is the underpass walls themselves.

The overall design is of 'Poutama' in tukutuku style. Poutama, the stairway to heaven, is a design from ancient lore that symbolises a climb made to receive the three baskets of knowledge from the gods. Tukutuku is the panel work that is found on the interior walls of marae.

Iwi artists were invited to submit proposals and Reuben Kirkwood of Tika Creative Limited was engaged to develop a Poutama theme.

Rosebank Road citybound on-ramp

In the next few months, we will start to transition lanes onto the newly raised causeway being constructed on the harbour side.

This movement will initially have a temporary impact on Rosebank Road citybound on-ramp users while the new on-ramp is being constructed to meet the new levels.

In mid to late September, the Rosebank Road on-ramp will remain open but will temporarily link directly through to the Great North Road exit for a maximum 4-week period.

It's important to note that drivers will still be able to use the on-ramp but will need to enter the citybound motorway via Rosebank Road and Western Springs on-ramp or via Patiki Road and Te Atatu on-ramp.



We will be talking to businesses and schools in the area as we get closer to the time and more detailed information becomes available.



A SPECIAL VISITOR

This photo of the native banded rail (*Gallirallus philippensis* or *moho pererū*) was taken recently by Jeremy Painting at Harbourview.

Rarely seen because cautiously secretive and excellently camouflaged, the species has

declined in numbers since humans began impacting on their natural wetland habitats.

The size of a small chicken, these beautiful birds are classed as 'at risk, naturally uncommon'.

The presence of banded rails is an important sign of healthy saline wetland environments.

COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP MEETING 18 AUGUST

The next quarterly Community Liaison Group meeting will be on Tuesday 18 August, 7 to 9pm 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 Interchange Improvements projects. If you have specific areas of interest, please let us know in advance so we can include the information in our presentation. We look forward to seeing you there.

From surf to turf

Laurence Kendall, originally from Sheffield, England, came to New Zealand via Australia 2 years ago with the idea that he would put his life guard experience on the Cornwall coast to use at Piha.

Piha never eventuated and through a series of twists and turns he now works as an excavator operator for the Causeway Alliance.

Laurence said he saw the excavator operating and decided that was what



he wanted to do. He says, 'It's a good tool. It does it all. It can dig, lift, push and pull'.

With the support of the Causeway Alliance and the help of his supervisor Andre Wilds, Laurence is now an experienced excavator operator but his aspirations don't end there. Laurence's aim is to become a civil engineer.

More information

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