

SOUTHERN  
 CORRIDOR  
 IMPROVEMENTS  
*Project  
 Update*



*Much of the work has been done at night, such as locating reinforcing in existing structures, as shown here. Soon, much more activity will be noticeable during the day. Photo credit: Rob McConaghy.*

## THE PROJECT BECOMES MORE VISIBLE

*Motorists and residents will have noticed more evidence of the Southern Corridor Improvements project “on the ground” in the last month or so, and there will be a lot more to see in the next few months.*

Since the NZ Transport Agency awarded the contract in August, CPB Contractors (formerly Leighton Contractors) and the

Southern Corridor team have been gearing up for physical work to begin. This has included a lot of investigation work and over 70 engineers working full time developing the design to be ready for construction.

The project is a Design and Construct (D&C) contract, meaning that the engineering design work needs to be developed and is delivered just before construction starts. This is different to many other projects, where often the design work is completed before the contractor is

even brought on board. A D&C approach means we are able to progress this critical project quickly.

This update provides an overview of the work we have completed so far and what you can expect to see over the next few months. We also invite you to join us at our Community Information Evening on **Tuesday 5 April** where you can ask questions and chat with our team. See the back page for the full evening details.

# LANE CHANGES AHEAD

*New temporary median barriers are being installed during night motorway closures.*

Lanes are being shifted slightly and reduced in width to give us safe space to work in the median area. Lane changes are already underway between Alfriston Road and Takanini. The next section to be changed will be between Takanini and Pahurehure Inlet. This will affect both northbound and southbound lanes.

Lanes will be progressively narrowed from 3.5m to 3.25m and the speed limit will be reduced to 80kph while works are undertaken.

When lanes are temporarily narrowed, traffic flows will be affected. These changes may have a noticeable impact on traffic congestion. Consider taking an alternative route or use the train for a faster journey.

Motorists can also help by **keeping to a steady speed** where possible and **avoiding lane changes** through the work area.

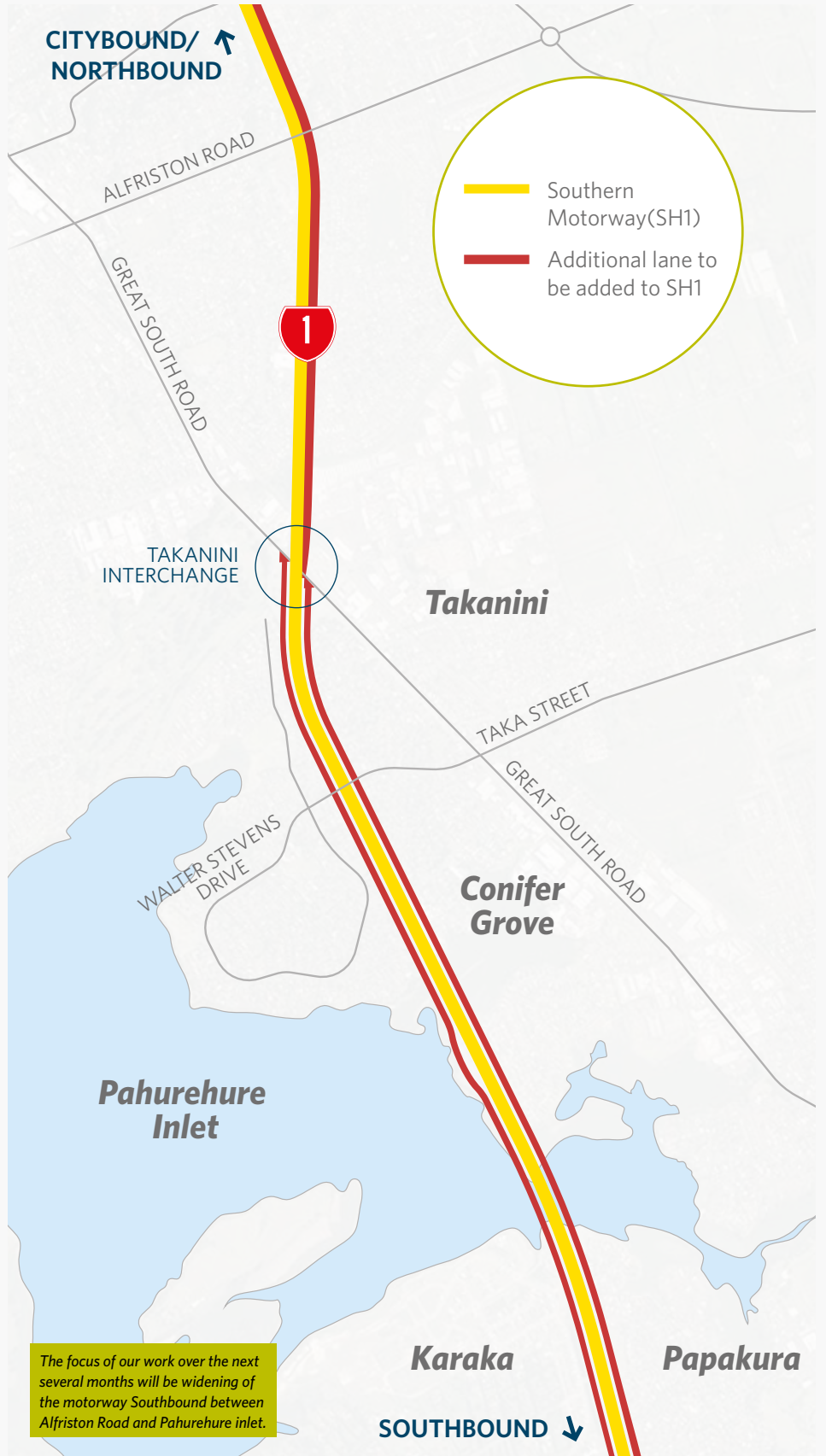
Once safe work zones are in place behind the shoulder guardrail and median barriers, more work can begin during the day. Work in the next few months will include construction of hard stands, relocation of services, clearing of vegetation where necessary and earthworks.

Work is focused on completing the new southbound lane by early 2017. An additional northbound lane is expected to be completed late 2017.

During the work, we'll keep the existing number of traffic lanes open during the day. Some closures of lanes or sections of the motorway will happen at night. **The best way to keep up to date with closures is to receive our weekly traffic bulletins.**

**Remember to:**

- *plan your journey*
- *allow extra time*
- *slow down*
- *drive with care through the work areas*
- *follow signposted detours at night.*



TIMELINE

**EARLY 2016**

WORK STARTS SOUTHBOUND - HEADING NORTH AND SOUTH FROM TAKANINI

**END 2016**

WIDENING HILL ROAD TO TAKANINI COMPLETE

**EARLY 2017**

SOUTHBOUND TAKANINI TO PAHUREHURE INLET COMPLETE

**EARLY 2017**

BEGIN WORK NORTHBOUND FROM PAKAKURA AND SHARED PATH



## PROGRESS UPDATE

*During the last few months, we have undertaken surveying and investigation work along the project.*

Motorists may have noticed our survey pegs with pink flags on them located along the motorway edge. The pegs mark out where topography and services are located and are relayed to our team to include in the design.

Train passengers may have noticed work in the rail corridor at the Takanini overbridge that appeared in the December/January holidays. We can only do this type of work

when the railway line is closed, which is why there will be more work done during long weekends and holidays when rail services do not operate.

In January we worked closely with Transpower to relocate a high-voltage transmission line that would have otherwise been in the way of the new Takanini southbound offramp.

In February, work started on the motorway itself. The existing shoulder was widened and a new temporary guard rail installed to create safe working areas for us beside the motorway.



Geotechnical testing near Puhinui Stream to learn more about ground conditions. Credit: Cameron Stewart.



Installation of the new Transpower monopole near Takanini Interchange. Credit: Glenn West.

## KEEPING THE COMMUNITY IN THE LOOP

*The NZ Transport Agency and its contractors place a high priority on maintaining good relationships with the community, keeping people well informed about what we are doing.*

This project update is being delivered to around 40,000 households in the project area, and further editions will appear every few months until the project is completed in 2018.

We email monthly construction updates and traffic bulletins to interested parties – feel free to sign up to receive them. Just click the link on our website or email us with 'please subscribe me' in the subject line. Our details are over the page.

We also let nearby residents know of any specific works that may affect them directly. If you'd like to speak with project staff, you are welcome to visit our project office which

has a drop-in centre open between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday.

We are in the old Placemakers building at 8-12 Great South Road, Takanini, just north of the Takanini Interchange behind the Gull petrol station.

Feel free to visit us at our next Community Information Evening, which will be from 5pm to 7.30pm on 5 April at our project office. Come along, see our displays and have your questions answered.

### EARLY 2017

WORK BEGINS ON TAKANINI NORTHBOUND ON-RAMP

### LATE 2017

TAKANINI NORTHBOUND ON-RAMP OPENS

### EARLY 2018

GREAT SOUTH ROAD UPGRADES COMPLETED

### END 2018

PROJECT COMPLETED



# LOOKING AFTER OUR LIZARDS AND GECKOS

The Department of Conservation Herpetofauna Database has recorded forest gecko, copper skink, ornate skink and rainbow skink within a 10 km radius of Manurewa since 2004, but we don't know for sure whether they live in our project area. Three of the species that could be found are native, along with the introduced rainbow skink.

A Lizard Management Plan has been prepared to guide us in tracking and finding the lizards. Given that we don't know what we will find, or where, the project will be looking very carefully at key areas along the motorway where the ecologists tell us it is likely that lizards could be found.

If lizards are found in areas which will be directly affected by our works, then they will be trapped and re-released as a group into other areas nearby - all before we disturb their habitat.

We can only trap lizards in the warmer months when they are more active. We will keep you updated on what we find!



Forest Gecko Credit: "Bioresearches Group"



Copper Skink Credit: "Bioresearches Group"



Rainbow (Plague) Skink Credit: "Bioresearches Group"



Ornate Skink Credit: "Keri Neilson/Crown Copyright: Department of Conservation Te Papa Atawhai"

## COME ALONG ON 5 APRIL - MEET OUR TEAM AND HAVE YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED!

You are invited to our next Community Information Evening. Maps and plans will be available to view and a short presentation update will be made at 6.30pm by our Project Manager.

**When:** 5pm to 7.30pm on Tuesday 5 April.

**Where:** Southern Corridor Project Office, 8-12 Great South Road, Takanini (near the Takanini Interchange behind the Gull petrol).

## CONTACT US

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