



Ara Tūhono - Pūhoi to Wellsford

Project update

April 2013

Access at Pūhoi

Following extensive community feedback and further discussions with Auckland Council and Auckland Transport, a northbound off-ramp and southbound on-ramp will be included in designs submitted with the Notice of Requirement (NOR) and resource consent applications for the Pūhoi to Warkworth section.



Introducing Ara Tūhono - the connecting pathway

As part of the NZTA's ongoing engagement with Hōkai Nuku, a new dual name was recently announced for the Pūhoi to Wellsford Road of National Significance. The route is now known as the Ara Tūhono - Pūhoi to Wellsford Road of National Significance. Ara Tūhono means a connecting pathway (Ara meaning pathway/passage and Ara Tūhono means connecting or linking one part to another).

The new name was presented to the NZTA by Hōkai Nuku at a ceremony held on 21 February in the Orewa offices of Auckland Council. Find out more about Ara Tūhono by reading the [media release](#) or viewing the [posters from the event](#) online at www.nzta.govt.nz/puhoi-wellsford.



Further North Alliance

A planning alliance has been formed to prepare the documentation for the statutory approvals to construct the Pūhoi to Warkworth section of the motorway. The Alliance comprises staff from Sinclair Knight Merz and GHD, Chapman Tripp and the NZTA.

The main report to be produced is an Assessment of Effects on the Environment (AEE).



The AEE supports the NOR and resource consent applications by identifying actual or potential effects on the environment arising from the construction and operation of the new highway. The Alliance team is aiming to lodge these documents with the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) in August 2013 with a view to securing consents and a designation by August 2014.

There is no change to the contact details for the Ara Tūhono - Pūhoi to Wellsford project while the Alliance is in place. You can contact the team on puhoi-wellsford@nzta.govt.nz or 0800 P2W NZTA (729 6982).

Hudson Road Improvements

Local contractor Wharehine Group will start work on the SH1/ Hudson Road intersection at the end of April and anticipates finishing the improvements before Christmas.

The improvements include:

- Installing traffic signals at the intersection
- Improving access between SH1 and Hudson Road and the Warkworth Showgrounds
- Widening the intersection
- Left-turn slip lanes (where drivers give way instead of having to stop at the traffic signals)
- Improving access for walkers and cyclists.

Every effort will be made to minimise the impact of construction on traffic flows. There may, however, be times when stop-go traffic management and a lower speed limit are in place through the site for the safety of construction staff and road users.

For more information, including frequently asked questions regarding the suite of Warkworth/State Highway 1 improvement projects, please see www.nzta.govt.nz/warkworth.



Local contractor Wharehine Group is tasked with upgrading the intersection of Hudson Road/SH1 and expect to be finished before the end of the year.

Property

If you're looking at buying property in the Warkworth or Puhoi area, you can find pdf maps of the Puhoi to Warkworth preferred route online at <http://www.nzta.govt.nz/projects/puhoi-wellsford/maps.html>.

There is no indicative route available for the section of motorway between Warkworth and Wellsford and a start date for construction of that section has not been established. If you are looking at buying property north of Warkworth, you can read all the previous newsletters about the project on the website.

On-site investigations

During the past month specialist teams from the Alliance have been visiting Puhoi and Warkworth to walk the route and conduct further investigations.

Thank you to the property owners who have granted us access to their properties. Walkovers and testing in the area is being undertaken by a variety of different teams from the Alliance:

- Geotechnical engineers
- Design engineers
- Erosion specialists
- Planning specialists
- Social impact specialists
- Soil scientists
- Water specialists
- Ecologists
- Noise and vibration specialists
- Surveyors
- Landscape/urban design specialists
- Archaeologists

The geotechnical team is making swift progress to establish several boreholes along the Puhoi to Warkworth route. A borehole is created by drilling or probing into the soil or rock and inserting a PVC pipe that enables future measurement of groundwater. Groundwater levels will be checked monthly for the next six months and then at periodic intervals over the next three years.

Our contact details

For general enquiries, or contact information about the NZ Transport Agency please check our website www.nzta.govt.nz or email us at info@nzta.govt.nz

Contact email: puhoi-wellsford@nzta.govt.nz
Phone: 0800 P2WNZTA (0800 729698)
www.nzta.govt.nz/puhoi-wellsford

Puhoi to Wellsford NZTA Project Manager: Patrick Kelly