

# ARA TŪHONO – PŪHOI TO WARKWORTH: DELIVERING WORLD-CLASS CONNECTIONS

## 2020 IECA ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Ara Tūhono translates to ‘a connecting pathway’, and the connections being made by the first stage of the project, from Pūhoi to Warkworth, will extend far beyond the 18.5km long motorway we are building.

The new motorway will create a robust and reliable transport route between Auckland and Northland, providing significant improvements in safety, more consistent travel times, and a better freight connection between Northland and the Upper North Island. Beyond the road, we are building connections with the land and people.

The Project is not without challenges, particularly the diverse geographical and geological landscape which has tested the Project Team. The challenging landscape and the variable climatic conditions has meant the Team has had to adapt to rapidly changing situations. But with challenge comes opportunity and the Project has taken the opportunity to connect and share lessons learnt from one of the largest earthworks projects in New Zealand with the Project Partnership, community, and the wider Erosion and Sediment Control industry.

Overcoming these challenges has been a collective effort from the Projects Earthworks and Engineering Teams which has allowed us to meet programme milestones while demonstrating that we can work beyond our regulatory framework and still achieve positive environmental outcomes.



*Ōkahu Viaduct artist impression*