

Project update



L to R: Mark Evans, HEB Construction, Marja Lubeck, MP Kaipara ki Mahurangi, Doug Johnson, Tonkin + Taylor, Brett Giddon, Waka Kotahi, Hon Michael Wood, Michael Baker, Ngāti Whanaunga, Tracey Ryan, Aurecon, Ben Hayward Fulton Hogan, Te Warena Taua, Te Kawerau ā Maki, Mook Hohnneck, Ngāti Manuhiri.

Penlink partners put pen to paper

Last Friday, Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency formally announced the successful construction partners for delivering Penlink, the new two-lane, proposed toll road in North Auckland.

HEB Construction, Fulton Hogan, Aurecon and Tonkin + Taylor gathered with Waka Kotahi to formally sign the agreement that saw the group become an alliance to construct the eagerly awaited new connection.

The seven-kilometre road and shared path for people walking and on wheels is part of the Government's \$8.7 billion New Zealand Upgrade Programme (NZUP) and will provide better, safer, more reliable transport options for communities across Whangaparāoa, Hibiscus Coast and Silverdale.

It will enhance the lives of those living and working in these growing communities and this alliance will bring industry leading skills and experience to the table.

At the signing ceremony, Mana Whenua gifted the name **Ō Mahurangi** to the project. This is in recognition of the ancestress Mahurangi, a tohunga (priestess) who lived in Hawaiiki and whose powers are said to have enabled the construction of the great voyaging waka Tainui.

When Tainua waka arrived at what is now known as Wenderholm Regional Park in around 1200, they gave the name Mahurangi to a small island adjacent to the Maungatauhoro headland. The islands' name gave rise to the harbour in which it sits, and eventually to the wider district and the Crown's land purchase.

Waka Kotahi truly values the partnership and relationship with our iwi partners on this project and were humbled by this gesture.