



1 Waterview Connection Tunnel 12d is being backfilled as it progresses. 2 Waterview Connection Tunnel entry. 3 Western Ring Route.

## WESTERN RING ROUTE OPERATIONAL INTEGRATION

Aurecon for NZ Transport Agency

Project Location: Auckland



The Western Ring Route (WRR) extensively contributes to New Zealand's regional and national economy and as such is one of the government's Roads of National Significance. The WRR is a 48 kilometre motorway alternative to State Highway 1 and the Auckland Harbour Bridge via SH20, SH16 and SH18 (see Figure 1), bypassing the city to the west. It links Manukau, the City, West Auckland and the North Shore.

It is the biggest and most complex infrastructure project the NZ Transport Agency has ever embarked upon with a budget of \$2.4 Billion for six connected projects. The WRR projects along the SH16 North-western Motorway were opened in 2016, with the remaining SH20 Waterview Connection and tunnel opened in 2017. The final Lincoln to Westgate project will be completed by 2020.

The Transport Agency required a partner who not only had the requisite technical competencies, but one it could develop an enduring relationship with throughout its tenure. Working together since 2006, the Transport Agency and Aurecon, as its Principal Advisor and Programme Manager, have navigated the WRR programme throughout all phases of programme definition, investment decision making, implementation and operational commencement.

This award submission is for Aurecon's role as Principal's Advisor and Programme Manager from year 2006 to 2018, where Aurecon worked with the Transport Agency from planning phase through to post opening optimisation. Please note Aurecon's optimisation work is ongoing and not subject to this award.

Through the NZ Transport Agency and Aurecon's mutual trust, respect and competencies within this unique partnership, the parties were able to maximise the full range of potential benefits, minimise costs and manage risk to achieve operational integration for the network's operators and managers.

### Judging & Copyright Statement

This project is an entrant in the 2018 INNOVATE NZ Awards of Excellence competition. The winners will be celebrated at our Awards Gala Dinner on Friday, 3rd August 2018 in Hamilton.

Images and text remain copyright of ACENZ and the consultant firm entering the project. Users are asked to give credit to the photographer where this is specified. ACENZ and INNOVATE NZ are trademarks of the Association of Consulting Engineers New Zealand.