

# Southern Corridor

## What is the Southern Corridor?

The current Christchurch Southern Motorway is a two-lane road running between Barrington Street and Curletts Road. The original 1970s design proposed a four-lane, median separated motorway running from Collins Street to rejoin SH1 south of Templeton.

Since then, design work has been completed on stage 1 of the improvements - four-laning the Collins Street to Curletts Road section and constructing a new four-lane motorway to the Springs Road roundabout. Improvements will also be made to Halswell Junction Road between Springs Road and Main South Road. Investigations are also underway on the section from Halswell Junction Road to SH1, south of Waterholes Road (stage 2).

Investigations between Waterholes Road and Weedons Road at Rolleston will commence shortly (stage 3).



## Why is the Southern Corridor needed?

The current roads into Christchurch from the south reach capacity during peak hour travel times leading to frustrating delays for motorists travelling to the Christchurch CBD, Lyttelton Port and industrial areas in the south and east of the city. Traffic volumes and congestion are likely to worsen over the next decade without significant improvements.

The Southern Corridor passes through the area covered by the Christchurch City Council's South West Area Plan that provides the framework for future development of this area. Over the next 35 years the resident population is expected to grow by 30,000 along with substantial expansion of the business and industrial activity at Wigram and Middleton.

With the continued residential growth of Rolleston and expansion of the Izone business park, traffic on SH1 south of Christchurch is expected to increase over coming years leading to greater congestion and longer travelling times.

## What are the benefits of the Southern Motorway project?

The Christchurch Southern Motorway (CSM) project will improve travel time reliability for traffic travelling from the south to Lyttelton Port and the Christchurch CBD and is divided into three stages.

Stage 1 of the project will help relieve congestion in the Hornby area, thereby improving safety and access to the existing and expanding industrial areas around Waterloo Road, Shands Road and Parkhouse Drive.

Stage 2 from Halswell Junction Road to Waterholes Road (south of Templeton) will improve safety, health and the quality of life for residents and businesses in the Templeton and Hornby areas through reducing by half the current volumes of traffic.

Stage 3 of the project, four-laning SH1 from Waterholes Road to Weedons Road at Rolleston, will improve safety and improve travel time reliability.

# What will the Southern Motorway project involve?

The Christchurch Southern Motorway stage 1 will connect the Brougham Street Expressway (SH 73) in the east with Main South Road (SH 1) in the west.

There are three distinct sections to this project:

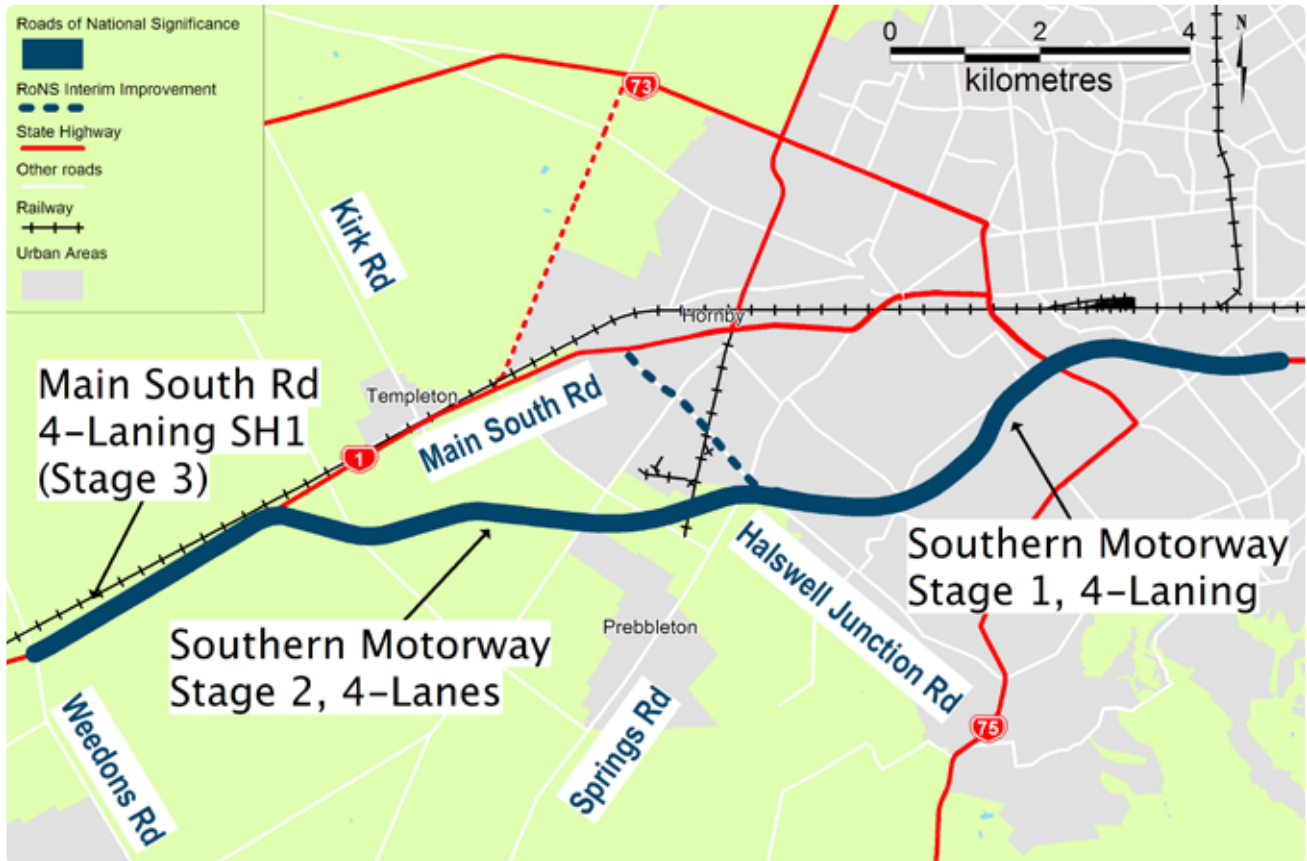
- Upgrade to a four-lane median separated motorway between Collins Street and the Curletts Road interchange with full interchange access at both Barrington Street and Curletts Road, (3km).
- New four-lane median separated motorway built between the Curletts Road interchange and the intersection of Halswell

Junction and Springs roads with underpasses at Aidanfield Drive and Awatea/Dunbars roads, (5km).

- Upgrade Halswell Junction Road, from Springs Road to Main South Road (SH1), with traffic lights at the Shands Road intersection and an upgrade to the Springs Road roundabout, (2.5km). This is a temporary link until stage 2 is constructed.

Stage 2 will consist of a four-lane median separated motorway, from Halswell Junction Road to join SH1 just south of Waterholes Road.

Stage 3 involves four-laning the two-lane SH1 south of Waterholes Road to Weedons Road at Rolleston.



## What stage is the project at?

A contract for the full construction of the Christchurch Southern Motorway stage 1 has been awarded, with preliminary work due to commence in February 2010.

Stage 2 is in the investigation stage and a preferred option will be determined in 2010.

Consultation and preliminary design for stage 3, the SH1 four-laning from Waterholes Road to Weedons Road at Rolleston will be undertaken concurrently with the stage 2 investigation in 2010.

### Want to know more?

Information on all the Christchurch roads of national significance projects is available at the NZ Transport Agency website [www.nzta.govt.nz](http://www.nzta.govt.nz). When projects reach consultation stages, the relevant information will be online for residents and interested parties to make submissions.

The NZ Transport Agency produces Christchurch roads of national significance project update newsletters. If you would like to receive these, fill in the online form at the website and indicate whether you'd like to receive an e-newsletter or be posted a printed newsletter. You can also remove yourself from the mailing list at the website.