

# 1 WHANGAREI IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT OVERVIEW

The NZ Transport Agency (NZTA) is working with Whangarei District Council (WDC) to improve the state highway through Whangarei.

In addition to the recently completed Central Avenue intersection improvements as part of the Selwyn Avenue to Wilson Avenue upgrade, the NZTA has four intersection improvements projects planned to help manage growing traffic numbers, improve safety and make travel easier for locals and visitors travelling in and around Whangarei.

The projects include intersection upgrades, widening of the state highway and roading improvements from Tarewa Road north to Percy Street. All projects are aimed at helping to ease congestion and support economic growth in and around the city.

### The project areas are identified as:

- Tarewa Road
- SH1/SH14
- Selwyn Avenue to Wilson Avenue
- Wilson Avenue to Fourth Avenue
- Kensington Avenue to Manse Street

The projects support the Urban Growth Strategy for Whangarei District and will create jobs locally. The majority of suppliers and subcontractors will be regionally based and the work will provide a boost to the community.













Intersection improvements at Tarewa Road include widening the state highway to four lanes from Tarewa Road to the intersection of SH1/SH14.

The intersection will be signalised to improve safety and to reduce peak time queuing on the state highway by traffic turning right into Tarewa Road.

A free left hand turn will be constructed for state highway traffic entering Tarewa Road and both painted and raised median barriers will improve safety for all road users.

A new bridge will replace the existing bridge north of the intersection with a bridge underpass constructed for pedestrians and cyclists to safely cross the highway.

### **PROJECT OVERVIEW**

- SH1 will be widened to four lanes from Tarewa Road to the intersection of SH1/SH14
- Traffic signals will be installed at Tarewa Road
- A new bridge will replace the existing bridge on the state highway
- A combined pedestrian/cycle underpass will be constructed under the bridge











# 1) WHANGAREI IMPROVEMENTS SH1 / SH14 INTERSECTION

Improvements at the intersection of SH1/SH14 include widening of the intersection and upgrading traffic signalling to improve traffic flows. Left turn lanes on each approach will reduce congestion at peak times and the installation of raised median barriers will improve safety for all road users.

Enabling works will get underway in June at the intersection.

### **PROJECT OVERVIEW**

- The intersection will be widened to improve capacity
- Pedestrian crossing and cycle facilities will be improved
- One extra lane will be provided in each direction
- A free left hand turn will be provided on each approach
- Solid raised median barriers will be installed on each approach
- Residents in North Street will be limited to left turn only access to and from Maunu Road











# 1 WHANGAREI IMPROVEMENTS WILSON AVENUE TO FOURTH AVENUE

The state highway will be widened to four lanes from the SH1/14 intersection to Central Avenue and a raised median installed from south of Fourth Avenue to Kauika Road. A new painted median will be installed from Kauika Road north to Wilson Avenue.

Wilson Avenue will be closed off from SH1, and the new link road constructed by Whangarei District Council from Wilson Avenue to Fifth Avenue will provide the alternative route to/from the state highway.

To meet safety requirements, the intersection with Fourth Avenue will be realigned to remove right hand turns from/to the state highway.

The NZTA are working with Whangarei District Council to link Fourth Avenue to Kauika Road to allow alternative routes for traffic entering the state highway at Central Avenue or Selwyn Avenue. The Cheviot Street intersection will be modified to accommodate the additional vehicles with a right turn bay constructed to assist right turns onto the highway.

### **PROJECT OVERVIEW**

- SH1 will be widened to four lanes from the SH1/SH14 intersection north to Central Avenue
- A painted median will be installed
- The intersection of Fourth Avenue will be realigned to remove right turns from/to the state highway
- There will be free left turn lanes from SH1 into and out of Fourth Avenue
- Whangarei District Council is working with the NZTA to construct a link road between Fourth Avenue and Kauika Road











# 1) WHANGAREI IMPROVEMENTS SELWYN AVENUE TO WILSON AVENUE

Intersection improvements between Selwyn Avenue and Wilson Avenue included widening the state highway to four lanes to improve traffic flows and reduce congestion at peak times.

Traffic signals at Central Avenue have been reconfigured and a free left turn lane installed at the intersections to provide efficient access to/from the city centre.

The Selwyn Avenue upgrade is being scheduled for a start date in 2015.

### **PROJECT OVERVIEW**

- SH1 has been widened to four lanes between Selwyn Avenue and Central Avenue
- A free left turn lane has been constructed at Selwyn Avenue for southbound traffic exiting the state highway
- Free left turn lanes will be constructed at Central Avenue
- Traffic signals at both intersections have been upgraded
- Median barriers have been installed on the state highway at each intersection approach











### 1 WHANGAREI IMPROVEMENTS

### **KENSINGTON AVENUE TO MANSE STREET**

Improvements to the Kensington Avenue intersection and the state highway south to Manse Street aim to reduce traffic queuing at peak times and improve safety for road users and pedestrians accessing Kensington Park.

The proposed roundabout at the intersection of Kensington Avenue will have a dedicated northbound lane to allow vehicles travelling north to continue without stopping, reducing noise as they slow down due to present congestion. This will ensure traffic flows effectively and minimises potential road noise created by heavy transport vehicles stopping on the hill approaching the intersection.

Southbound traffic will have to give way to vehicles turning right into Kensington Avenue which will provide safer access for local traffic and assist in slowing the state highway traffic down the hill towards Manse Street.

Pedestrians will have safer access to Kensington Stadium and neighbouring schools with the installation of traffic islands at the roundabout. The islands will be installed between lanes of traffic to provide safe refuge for pedestrians crossing the state highway.

A raised solid central median installed along the state highway between Kensington Avenue and Manse Street will address the existing high crash rate. The installation of the raised median barrier will restrict traffic from Kohatu Road, Russell Road and Manse Street to left turn access only.

### **PROJECT OVERVIEW**

- A roundabout will be constructed at the intersection of SH1 and Kensington Avenue
- The roundabout will have a dedicated northbound lane
- Solid raised median barriers will be installed from Kensington Avenue to Manse Street
- Traffic islands will be installed on the approaches to the roundabout











## 1 WHANGAREI IMPROVEMENTS

### **KAMO BYPASS STAGE 2**

Kamo Bypass Stage 2 was completed in September 2011. The bypass runs north from the top of Western Hills Drive, intersects with the new Spedding Road link, before joining stage one of the bypass close to the Whangarei golf course.

Traffic volumes on the bypass are anticipated to be 10,000 vehicles per day at the northern end and 14,000 per day at the southern end.

The bypass provides an alternative to Kamo Road, moves traffic away from the city centre and provides much better management of traffic in the northern suburbs of Whangarei.

The recently completed Kamo Bypass was one of six projects planned in Whangarei to help manage growing traffic numbers, improve safety and make travel easier for locals and visitors travelling in and around Whangarei.



official opening of the Kamo Bypass Stage 2, September 2011.



Local residents walked the new bypass before it opened to traffic in September.



Under construction, January 2011



Under construction, August 2011





