



Maunu Road Intersection Improvements

PROJECT UPDATE

December 2013

CHRISTMAS

The team will be taking a break from Friday December 20 until Monday 6 January 2014. This will mean no construction work will occur at the intersection at this busy time and the current intersection layout will remain in place over Christmas and New Year.

THANK YOU

It is never easy constructing a project in the middle of a community, at the intersection of State Highway 1 and 14 and Maunu Road, and the NZ Transport Agency acknowledges that drivers, walkers and cyclists have been affected by the improvements. We certainly appreciate the support we've received from the community and for your continued patience in allowing the team to progress this significant project for Whangarei.

KEEPING UP WITH THE PROJECT

In July the team took the first step in improving the intersection of State Highway 1, State Highway 14 and Maunu Road - one of a series of projects to help improve the state highways through Whangarei.

Our team needed to change the layout of the intersection which required temporarily closing some turns to help traffic keep moving while new traffic lights were installed. In August, the intersection

was once again changed to its current layout. It will remain like this until the project is completed next April.

The improvements will help ensure that the community keep moving more safely and Whangarei is better able to handle the growing demands from everyone who use the state highways - drivers, people who use public transport and those who walk and cycle.

WHAT ARE WE DOING TO THE INTERSECTION?

The safety of those on the road is paramount for the Transport Agency and our improvements at the intersection include upgrading the walking and cycling facilities with new pedestrian islands, along with improved overhead lighting and new traffic lights with smarter technology to react to traffic queues.

The Transport Agency is also widening the intersection to provide a new lane in each direction meaning increased capacity and less likelihood of traffic queuing further back along the state highways.

Quick Facts:

- Widening of the intersection for consistent journey times
- Improved pedestrian crossing and cycle facilities through the intersection
- New signalised intersections at the intersection give safer crossing opportunities for pedestrians.
- An extra lane 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
- Fulton Hogan is delivering the intersection improvements on behalf of the Transport Agency as part of the wider Whangarei Improvements project.



SH14 before work started and SH14 current layout

WHAT'S HAPPENED SO FAR?

From early June a temporary intersection layout was in place which allowed the main construction work to be carried out and minimise the impact on drivers.

A large portion of construction until now has been the relocation of a number of underground services such as gas, telecommunications and water to enable the widening of the intersection.

In addition to the relocation of services, the team has installed new traffic lights, along with the installation of new overhead lighting made possible as the current overhead powerlines are to be relocated underground in the New Year. Also, an extra lane at the intersection on Maunu Road has allowed more traffic to move through the traffic lights.



Relocation of services on Maunu Road

MOVING THINGS HERE AND THERE.

Over the next few months drivers, cyclists and walkers will notice changes at the intersection.

The most significant of changes will be the completion of the upgraded footpaths next February. They will be wider, providing safer access through the interchange.

Once the footpaths have been upgraded, properties which have been affected by the upgrade will have their fences and driveways reinstated. The existing overhead power poles will be removed and new street lighting installed early in the new year.

The final shape of the new intersection will become apparent at this time and the final layout will be in place next April when the project is due to be completed.



The intersection of SH1 /SH14/Maunu Road before the work started and the current layout.

WATER AND LIGHTENING

In early October, drivers turning right from SH1 into SH14 and heading through SH14 would have noticed a change in the amount of time they had to get through the green lights. A lightning strike in late September caused a hardware fault in the traffic signals which was immediately rectified.

More recently, necessary work to upgrade the town's backup water supply pipeline

caused drivers some delays. The work required a lane closure which had been scheduled for when traffic volumes were lower. However, due to an impending storm, the work was brought forward so that it could be undertaken safely. The Transport Agency apologies for these delays and appreciate the patience shown by drivers.

TIS THE SEASON

As holiday makers head in and out of Whangarei, there may be some delays so please allow extra time to make sure you and your family get to your destination on time, and most importantly – safely.

Have a great break and please keep safe.



CONTACT US:

If you have got any concerns, compliments or would like to talk with our friendly project team, you can contact us on **0800 PROGRESS (0800 776-4737)**

Information on the Whangarei Improvements can be found on the NZ Transport Agency website: www.nzta.govt.nz/projects/whangarei/