

Waikato & Bay of Plenty state highway works February 2025



Photo: SH2 Snodgrass Road rebuild

When the sun continues to shine, road workers across the Waikato and Bay of Plenty are continuing to make significant progress on many worksites.

NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) and its contractors are completing an ambitious programme to improve safety and resilience of the state highway network, making the most of the summer months in which they're able to reseal and re-construct roads, says Sandra King, Bay of Plenty System Manager.

“The recent spell of good weather has allowed our contractors to make great progress on their maintenance programmes, some ahead of schedule, across both regions. Examples include completing the rebuild of both State Highway 2 north of Tauranga at Snodgrass Road and State Highway 27 in Matamata, several asphaltting sites on State Highway 29 Kaimai Range and the scheduled closure on the Kaimai Range.

“We appreciate everyone’s patience, especially where we have road closures and detours, or multiple worksites in the same area. This scale of work shows our investment in the region, and commitment to improving people’s journeys.

“Due to the work taking place there will inevitably be delays to some journeys. As always, our key focus is to keep road users and contracting crews safe at all times,” says Ms King.

This work forms part of the government’s \$2.07 billion investment into road and drainage renewal and maintenance across 2024-27 via the State Highway Pothole Prevention fund.

To plan ahead and see where disruptive works are, people can use the NZTA Journey Planner (journeys.nzta.govt.nz) This is kept up to date in real time so you can see all disruptive activity and potential hazards on the state highway network.

Bay of Plenty

Tauranga

- **SH2/Fifteenth Ave:** Major works to build the connection from Fifteenth Ave to SH29/Takitimu Drive Toll Road are in progress as part of the Takitimu North Link project. Works involve the building of a 120m long retaining wall and earthworks, this is well underway, and we are preparing to start the construction of the single lane bridge connecting SH2/Fifteenth Ave to SH29/Takitimu Drive Toll Road. Piling will start in March and take approximately 3 months, and construction of the bridge will take approximately 12 months to complete. One lane at SH2/Fifteenth Ave near Edgcumbe Road is closed while this work takes place, this is likely to remain in place until mid-2026. [More information.](#)
- **SH29 Kaimai Range:** The Kaimai Range will be closed overnight from Sunday 16 to Friday 21 February (4.30am) from 8pm to 4.30am to allow road resurfacing and maintenance to take place. The closure points on the western side of the Kaimai Range are at the SH29/SH24 and SH29/SH28 intersections and on the eastern side of the Kaimai Range at the SH29/Cambridge Road intersection. Detours are available for all vehicles southbound via Rotorua and northbound via SH2 Karangahake Gorge. Emergency services will have access at all times, residents can access their property from the relevant side of the closure. [More information](#)
- **SH29 McLaren Falls Road:** Until Tuesday 11 March, temporary traffic management, lane shifts, and a closure of the Lower Kaimai passing lane will be in place from Poripori Road until just after McLaren Falls Road. This is to enable drainage maintenance work to take place. There will be a reduced speed limit of 50km/h through the site, and 30km/h at the intersection with McLaren Falls Road to ensure the safety of the community and our team. 3 lanes will be open at the weekends.
- **SH2 Bethlehem:** SH2 city bound lanes at Bethlehem, between Te Paeroa Roundabout and Moffat Road Roundabout, will be closed overnight Wednesday 19 February from 8pm and 6am for maintenance works on 2 small patches. There will be a detour in place for all vehicles via Te Paeroa Road, Carmichael Road and Bethlehem Road.
- **SH29 Tauriko West between Redwood Lane and Cambridge Road:** Project construction is ongoing at multiple sites on SH29, with shoulder closures, reduced speed limits and mobile operations in place. From Thursday 20 February to Sunday 23 February there will be night works to relocate safety barriers and guardrails between 808 SH29 and Tauriko Village with stop/go and a temporary 30km/h speed limit in place at nights. On Saturday 22 February, during the day, there will be a lane shift and a temporary 30km/h speed limit in place at Tauriko Village, between Gargan Road and Cambridge Road, and 50km/h on SH29 on both approaches, for power pole relocation works. The weather contingency date for these works is Saturday 1 March. People are advised to expect delays. Motorists and cyclists are urged to drive and ride with extra care and adhere to the reduced speed. [More information](#)
- **SH2 Hewletts Road crossing:** There will be a 24-hour closure on SH2 Hewletts Road between Newton Street and Maunganui Road allowing KiwiRail to replace railway lines, sleepers and to resurface the road. The closure will take place from 6am Saturday 15 through to 6am on Sunday 16 February. There will be a detour available for all vehicles via Newton Street, Hull Road and Maunganui Road.

- **SH2 Tauranga Eastern Link Toll Road (TELTR):** The Tauranga City Council led project continues. A 2km section of SH2, just past the Kaituna River Bridge, continues to be reduced to a single lane in each direction allowing construction of the Pāpāmoa East Interchange to progress. This closure will remain in place for the duration of construction, with a temporary 70km/h speed limit in place. [More information.](#)
- **SH2 TELTR:** The Quayside Properties Ltd led Rangiuru Business Park Interchange project continues. [More information](#)
- **SH29 Takitimu Drive Toll Road:** Ongoing works in this area for the Takitimu North Link project include the construction of a flyover bridge and southbound slip lane. On Sunday 16 February, SH29/TDTR will be closed for 1 night from 8pm to 5am to install barriers, this will result in the temporary removal of the southbound passing lane during construction. A reduced speed limit of 70km/h remains in place while crews are working behind the barriers. Traffic is anticipated to be diverted onto the flyover bridge and southbound slip lane in late 2025 while works continue. [More information.](#)

Western Bay of Plenty

- **SH2 Apata Station Road to Wainui South Road:** Road construction works are underway in preparation for the new roundabout. Lane shifts are in place along with speed restrictions. There will be intermittent stop/go traffic management in place which may cause longer delays. Follow the temporary signs and directions of the traffic management team and watch for layout changes. Expect minor delays.
- **SH2 Pahoia Road to Plummers Point Road:** Service installation and lane shifts are in place along with speed restrictions. There will be intermittent stop/go traffic management in place which may cause longer delays. Follow the temporary signs and directions of the traffic management team and watch for layout changes. Expect minor delays.
- **SH2 Ōmokoroa Road:** Road construction and service relocation works are underway in preparation for the new roundabout. Lane shifts are in place along with speed restrictions. There will be intermittent stop/go traffic management in place which may cause longer delays. Follow the temporary signs and directions of the traffic management team and watch for layout changes. Expect minor delays especially during peak times. [More information](#)
- **SH2 Minden Road – Takitimu North Link Stage 1:** Shoulder closures and stop/go traffic management are in place as part of the Takitimu North Link project works. Please take direction from staff on the ground and slow down through the work site while works continue.

Rotorua

- **Tarawera Ultra Marathon, Rotorua:** The event starts on Saturday 15 February with the first group starting 4am from Te Puia. The cut off time for competitors is 4pm Sunday 16 February. Approximately 4000 competitors are expected to take part in the event over the 2 days. Event parking is at Te Puia and traffic management along the state highway sections of the course. Motorists should be aware of competitors on the road and follow any temporary speed limits in place.

- **SH30 Te Ngae Road-Wharenui Road, Rotorua:** Work is underway at the SH30 Te Ngae Road and Wharenui Road intersection with Wharenui Road closed to through-traffic from the intersection until May. Pedestrian/cycle access is retained. Wharenui Road can be reached via Coulter/Glenfield or Brent/Reeve roads. On SH30 Te Ngae Road traffic management including speed restrictions are in place. A temporary pedestrian refuge is in place 250m south of the intersection. [more information](#)
- **SH5 Rotorua:** Those travelling between Rotorua and Tīrau on SH5 will encounter 2 major road rebuilds and are advised to allow extra time when planning their journeys through this section of highway. The first is an approximate 2km stretch of SH5 just west of Oturoa Road Mamaku, with the second just east of Tapapa. Both are expected to take 2 further months to complete and will have stop/go traffic management and temporary speed restrictions in place during this time. [More information.](#)
- **SH36 Te Pu:** A road rebuild has started on SH36, Te Pu north of Dudley Road and is expected to finish in early April. Works will take place from Monday to Friday between the hours of 7.30am and 5.30pm with prioritisation for peak morning and evening traffic flows, weather permitting. Expect delays while the work is taking place as there will be stop/go traffic management in place with a 30km/h speed limit.

Eastern Bay of Plenty

- **SH2 Ōpōtiki:** Drilling works will take place at the intersection of SH2 and Wainui Road near Ōpōtiki from Monday 17 to Friday 21 February. Shoulder closures will be in place and road users should be aware there may be 3-way stop/go traffic management operating at the intersection during this time.
- **SH2 Waioweka Gorge:** Work to repair SH2 through the gorge is progressing well, the first site is complete and awaiting line marking. The second site was due to be completed on the 17 and 18 February, this has now been postponed due to the predicted unfavourable weather. This means that SH2 Waioweka Gorge will now be closed Monday 24, Tuesday 25 and Wednesday 26 February between 10am and 6pm (with soft closure times being 9.40am and 5.40pm).
- **SH35 Ōpape:** Underslip repairs have started and expected to finish in early April. The work will take place between 7am and 5pm Monday to Saturday. There will be stop/go traffic management and a temporary speed limit of 30km/h in place while work is underway. While the site is unattended there will be temporary speed limit of 50km/h in place.
- **SH30 Awakeri:** 1 night of chipsealing will take place on SH30 near Pine View Lane on Sunday 16 February, there will be stop/go in place and at times stop/stop traffic management on both lanes, vehicles will be held for no more than 5 minutes at a time.

Waikato

- **SH1 Tīrau to Waiouru overall programme:**
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SH1 between Tūrangi and Waiouru: The Desert will remain closed until approximately mid-March. The detour (from north to south) is via SH41, SH47, SH4, SH49 and back to SH1 in Waiouru and adds around 30 – 40 minutes to journeys. Access onto the work zones is limited,

and those authorised to access will face delays. The work on Mangatoetoenui Bridge is on track to finish on 21 February. Until then, there is no access across the bridge during this time for anyone. DOC campsites and walks are closed. SH46 onto SH1 and vice versa is only accessible for those with passes.

There is a new temporary speed limit at the intersection of SH4 and SH47 at National Park, which is the detour while SH1 Desert Road is closed. From today (Friday 14 February) the current speed of 80km/h will be reduced to 50km/h while this road is being used as a detour for SH1. We have also added warning signage, such as "Queues ahead" and "Major intersection ahead". As soon as the signs are up, this temporary speed will be enforceable.

SH1 Pūtāruru to Lichfield: SH1 will be closed from 5am Monday 3 March from SH1/Princes Street, Putāruru to Vosper Road/SH1 Lichfield intersection for approximately 4 weeks for road rebuilding from Domain Road to Pinedale Road. There will also be some night closures in early April for the final surfacing of the road rebuilds completed last year between Vospers Road and Rollett Road. All north and south bound vehicles will be detoured 24/7. The detour for light vehicles (ie all vehicles you can drive on a Class 1 licence) will be:

- Northbound: via Vospers Road, Kells Lane, Lichfield Road, Golf Street, Arapuni Street, Princes Street
- Southbound via Princes Street, Arapuni Street, Grey Street, Lichfield Road, Vospers Road
- Heavy vehicles - Northbound and Southbound via SH5 Rotorua

SH1 Ātiamuri to Wairakei: SH1 will be closed from 5am Monday 3 March for approximately 4 - 5 weeks to rebuild the southern end and finish the safety improvements and road rebuilding closer to Ātiamuri. The closure is from SH1/SH30 intersection to the SH1/SH5 intersection (Wairakei Roundabout). All north and southbound vehicles will be detoured 24/7. The detour for light vehicles (ie all vehicles you can drive on a Class 1 licence) is via SH30, SH32 and Poihipi Road to Wairakei Drive and vice versa. Heavy vehicles detour - northbound and southbound via SH5 Rotorua.

East Waikato

- **SH25 Tairua:** Repairs to a large underslip at Pumpkin Hill near Sailors Grave Road, just north of Tairua, are underway. The road is reduced to a single lane as our contractors rebuild the road surface. Temporary traffic lights will be in place 24/7 to manage traffic flows through the site. [More information.](#)
- **SH25 Onemana:** A road rebuild will take place from Tuesday 28 January until Saturday 22 February between the times of 6am and 6pm between Normans Access Road and Liddell Road. Stop/go traffic management will be in place during this time. Delays of up to 20 minutes are expected.
- **SH26 Onetai Stream Bridge Replacement:** Work is underway to replace the Onetai Stream Bridge, on SH26 between Puriri and Hikutaia. The road is closed to all traffic for up to 4 weeks while the old bridge is demolished and the new bridge deck installed. Northbound traffic will use SH2, Orchard and Bush roads and SH25. Southbound traffic will use SH25, Hauraki Road and SH2. There will be access to all businesses along SH26 throughout construction. [More Information](#)

- **SH27 Waharoa:** Resealing works on SH27 outside the Matamata Aero Club continue, with stage 1 having been completed, stage 2 is now underway. The road is fully closed for 4 weeks, until Saturday 1 March. Detours will be clearly signposted and add approximately 13 minutes to journeys. [More information](#)

Central Waikato

- **SH5 Mamaku Ranges:** A road rebuild is underway, with stop/go traffic management in place between 6am to 6pm. The work will continue through to mid-March. 10 minute delays can be expected.
- **SH1/SH5 Taupō:** Drivers travelling near the Taupō Commercial Vehicle Safety Centre – under construction at the SH1/SH5 roundabout – need to be aware of changing road layouts and speed restrictions from Monday 17 February. Contractors will be installing in-road weigh-in-motion scales and associated camera technology and signage boards until May. These will be installed on 5 of the roads heading towards the safety centre, including SH1 and SH5. Temporary lanes and speed restrictions will be in place.

West Waikato

- **SH1C Kahikatea Drive:** From Sunday 16 February for 4 nights SH1C road resurfacing will take place between Gallagher Drive and Greenlea Lane, between 8pm and 5am each night. While the work is taking place the road will be closed with detours for light vehicles via Cobham Drive, Tristram Street, Norton Road and Hall Street to re-join SH1C. Buses, HPMV's, overweight and over dimension vehicles will be stacked and allowed through the worksite at intervals.
- **SH3 Normandy Ave, Hamilton:** Work will continue on SH3 near Normandy Ave on Sunday 23 and Monday 24 February between 8pm and 6am each night between Stewart Place and Mahoe Street. When the work takes place, SH3 Ōhaupō Road will be closed to through-traffic between Collins Road and Mahoe Street, including Normandy Avenue. Light vehicles will be detoured via Collins Road, Prisk Street, Mahoe Street and Lorne Street to rejoin SH3.
- **SH1C Cobham Drive, Hamilton:** 5 nights of resurfacing will start on Sunday 23 February on Cobham Drive between Lorne Street and the local road section of Cobham Drive, from 8pm to 5am each night. There will be stop/go traffic management in place and the local road section of Cobham Drive will be closed at the SH1C intersection.
- **SH1/SH29 Piarere intersection:** The temporary SH1, Hamilton approach road remains in use while work continues on the permanent configuration, which is planned to open on Tuesday 25 February. To enable traffic to be switched onto the new approach, temporary traffic management will be in place, with the roundabout reduced to 1 lane for the day. Prior to the switch, line marking will be undertaken under stop/go on Monday 24 February from 8pm to 4am. Motorists should expect delays of around 10 minutes during this time. NZTA thanks motorists for their patience and asks drivers to stick to temporary speed limits and take extra care when travelling through the area while people adjust to the layout. [More information](#).
- **SH3 Carroll Street, Te Kūiti:** From the end of this week council contractors will be replacing a large watermain between Carroll Street and Duke Street in Te Kūiti, this is estimated to take

around 5 weeks. Once completed a road rebuild will start and due to be completed in May. During work there will be a single lane closure on Carroll Street with northbound traffic detoured via Taupiri Street for light vehicles and Te Kumi Station Road, Esplanade and Te Kūiti Road for trucks and heavy vehicles.

- **SH3 Ōhaupō township:** A road rebuild is underway on SH3, Ōhaupō Road in the Ōhaupō township. This is expected to be complete late February. While the work is taking place, northbound light vehicles will be detoured 24/7 via Ryburn Road and Forkert Road, which will add approximately 8 minutes to the journey. Heavy vehicles including buses, overweight and over dimension vehicles will be stacked and allowed through the worksite with delays of up to 30 minutes. The southbound lane will remain open to all traffic. [More information](#)
- **SH30 Bennydale:** A second road rebuild site near Kiwi Place is underway, expecting to be complete by late February. Enabling works will be done first between 7am and 7pm each day with stop/go traffic management in place. Once the site has been prepared the road rebuild will start, with stop/go traffic management in place and a temporary speed limit of 30km/h. Delays of up to 20 minutes can be expected.

North Waikato

- **SH1 Bombay interchange to Nikau Road:** There will be a full southbound closure on Wednesday 19 February between 8pm and 5am for general maintenance. Traffic will still be able to travel south using one of the northbound lanes. Please slow down and follow traffic management instructions.
- **SH2 Wyatt Road to Kopuku Road:** Stop/go traffic management will be in place between 9pm and 5am on Sunday 16 and Monday 17 February for road resurfacing. Please follow traffic management directions and stop when asked.
- **SH2 Okaeria Road to Steen Road:** Stop/go traffic management will be in place between 9pm and 5am on Sunday 16 and Monday 17 February for line marking. Please follow traffic management directions and stop when asked.

Tairāwhiti Gisborne/Hawke's Bay

- **SH5 Napier to Taupō:** Recovery alliance Transport Rebuild East Coast (TREC) continues to progress safety improvements, as well as repair, recovery and maintenance activities at multiple sites on SH5 between Eskdale and Waipunga. [More information](#)

Taranaki

- **SH3 Tongaporutu:** A road rebuild has begun between Pilot Road and Rapanui Road, taking 1 month to complete Monday to Saturday between 7am and 7pm each day with a finish date of Friday 7 March. While the work is taking place there will be stop/go traffic management in place with a 30km/h speed limit, delays of up to 10 minutes can be expected.

The above information is accurate at the time of release. Many of the above works are dependent on a number of factors, particularly weather, and may be postponed at short notice. For up-to-date information on road works, traffic, detours and delays, motorists are encouraged to visit the NZTA Journey Planner website (journeys.nzta.govt.nz).

NZTA thanks motorists for their patience while we complete this essential work to keep the state highway network safe, accessible and resilient.

Plan ahead for a safe, enjoyable journey. Keep up to date with:

- Traffic updates: journeys.nzta.govt.nz/traffic
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/nztawbop>
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/nztawbop>
- Journey planner: journeys.nzta.govt.nz
- Phone: 0800 4 HIGHWAYS (0800 44 44 49)