

1 Caversham Highway Improvements

Four-laning construction update

The construction work is nearly complete, and the new highway lanes are open!

This project has been completed ahead of its programmed completion date, and to budget expectations.

Pedestrians can now use the re-furbished Goodall Street footbridge, and then share with cyclists the new and improved pathway between Barnes Drive and Kensington Hill – across the new Glen Bridge. Remaining work involves landscaping and restorative works in the Bridge Street/Glen area. The noise fence in this area will be extended at a later date closer to the former Glen on-ramp.

The final road surfacing layer on the new four-lane Caversham bypass will be placed in January 2013, when seasonal conditions are more favourable, and allowing an opportunity for any settlement on the carriageway to level out. Doing this bit of work in four months time will provide motorists with a smoother and quieter road surface.

Key project benefits for road users:

- easier traffic flow, especially at peak morning and late afternoon travel times
- both lanes of the highway are separated by a median barrier for protection from head-on crashes, and wide road side shoulders for safety and emergency breakdowns
- a shared walking and cycling path that is fully separated from traffic by fencing and safety barriers.

An event marking the formal completion of this project is planned for 9 October 2012.



Website

The following website has the latest project information. It also has a web camera link that allows you to view construction progress in the Glen area and monitor traffic flows along the existing Glen Bridge.

www.nzta.govt.nz/projects/caversham-highway/

Contacts and feedback

Please contact Simon Underwood if you have questions regarding any aspect of the project:

Simon Underwood, NZ Transport Agency

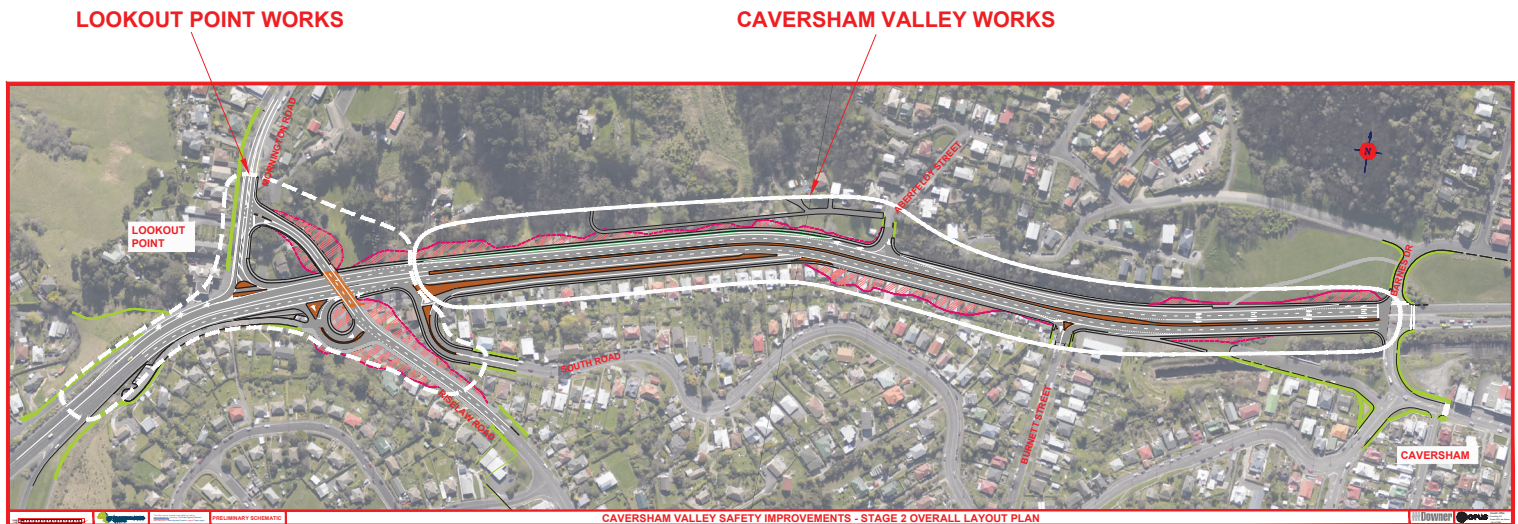
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Caversham Valley Safety Improvements update

With the first stage of the project (Caversham four-laning) largely complete, focus now shifts to the second stage of the project: the Caversham Valley Safety Improvements.

This involves safety improvement work on State Highway 1 between Barnes Drive and Lookout Point (and over to Short Street). Refer to the image below:



What's next?

Pre-construction planning, including the development of a detailed construction programme, is currently being carried out by the project contractor, Downer.

Houses within the project area that are owned by the NZ Transport Agency will be progressively removed from November onwards, with excavation and road construction work starting in early 2013.

Construction work will be carried out in two stages:

1. Caversham Valley works – between Barnes Drive and up to South Road
2. Lookout Point works – including the Riselaw Road bridge and over to Short Street

Starting the Caversham Valley works first allows the contractor to move seamlessly from the just completed four laning of the Caversham bypass while final land requirements for the Lookout Point works are concluded.

The Caversham Valley works will be largely completed by July–August next year (final road surfacing may be held over to the following summer). While about 14 months have been allowed for completing the Lookout Point works, exact completion timeframes cannot be finalised until all land requirements have been wrapped up.

What can residents and road users expect?

Regular users of Short Street, Riselaw Road and Mornington Road are unlikely to see any changes to these roads during this first stage of works.

One of the advantages of starting this section of the project first is that Caversham Valley residents will see the earlier completion of a new service lane offering them safer access and parking.

Bus routes will only change once the Lookout Point works commence, and any change is unlikely to occur before July next year. Closer to that time, we will be

working with the Otago Regional Council to provide timely information about the route changes for bus service customers.

Current highway access for Aberfeldy Street and Burnett Street residents will be continued as far as possible (recognising that Burnett Street is also part of the current bus route), although some work activity at these intersections will be required from time to time.

Ecology and history

The Caversham Valley works area includes habitat enhancements for the Caversham Valley Peripatus, a rare and ancient invertebrate. As their habitats are ecologically delicate, public access is not encouraged, although photographs of restorative work on their habitat will be posted on the project website (see below for details).

An archaeological assessment of the valley is also available on the site.