

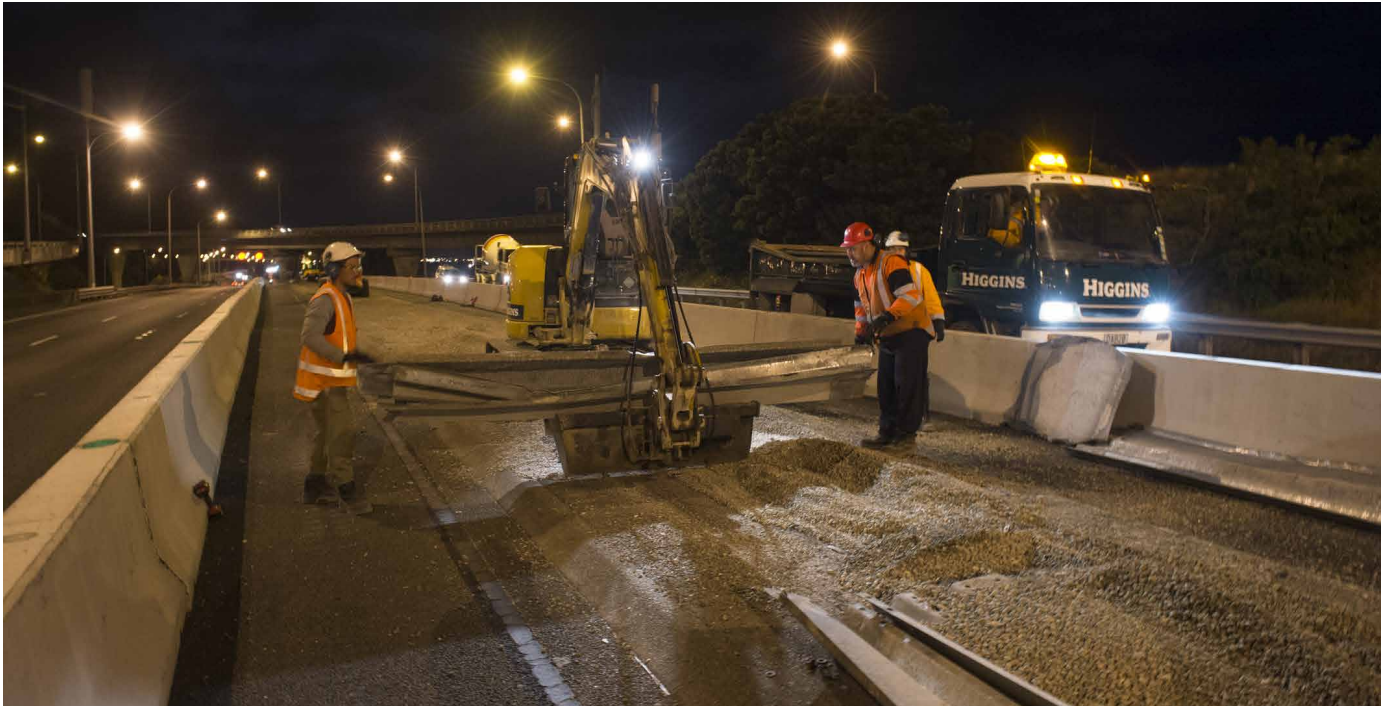


# Ngauranga to Aotea Quay upgrade

Putting the smarts into Wellington's urban motorway

PROJECT UPDATE NO. 2

MARCH 2015



The NZ Transport Agency's upgrade of the Ngauranga Gorge to Aotea Quay section of Wellington's urban motorway is in full swing. The project aims to reduce congestion, make journey times more dependable, and improve safety on the region's busiest road. It'll result in New Zealand's first ever 'smart motorway'.

## REPLACING THE MEDIAN BARRIER GAINS UP TO 3M ROAD WIDTH FOR THE NEW NORTHBOUND LANE

Replacing three kilometres of gravel-filled central median safety barrier is the most complex, longest and disruptive part of the project. The 15 month process started at the northern end of the site and is due to reach Aotea Quay in March 2016. From late March, crews will be on site 24 hours a day. The speed limit is lowered in the area of the barrier work.

Here's how it's done:

1. The road shoulder is narrowed and the lanes are repainted to create three, slightly narrower lanes (from 3.5m to 3.2m).
2. Traffic is moved away from the central barrier to run on the outside lanes.
3. A temporary concrete barrier is installed closing off one lane on each side of the existing central median barrier. This provides the space for the work to take place.
4. Gravel is removed and the barrier is demolished and removed. Its concrete foundation is then broken up and removed and the new concrete barrier is extruded on site.
5. The temporary barrier is removed and moved to the southern end of the site, moving the work towards Aotea Quay.

The concrete extruding machine spent two weeks on site in early March and completed the first section of new barrier.

## EXTRA CARE NEEDED DRIVING THROUGH THE WORK AREA

Driving through our construction zone is not business as usual. It poses risks to both road users and construction crews alike. The lanes are narrower than usual in some places, the speed limit and traffic patterns can change often, and construction vehicles

enter and exit work areas. There's a lot going on that could distract your attention. Please take extra care to keep yourself, your passengers, road workers and other road users safe, and to keep traffic moving as smoothly as possible.

### Tips for driving through the Ngauranga to Aotea Quay construction zone:

- **Plan ahead** - check the website and sign up for Twitter updates to stay informed of traffic conditions.
- **Follow the posted speed limit and other traffic control signs** - the legal speed limit is lowered in some areas. Crews on site, narrower lanes and shortened merge/diverge areas make the posted temporary speed limit the safe limit at all times.
- **Avoid distractions** - give the road your full attention and expect the unexpected - road surfaces and traffic patterns will change often.
- **Maintain a safe following distance** from other vehicles - so you can react if other drivers get distracted.
- **Give wide vehicles plenty of space** on narrower lanes.
- **Tell us what you think** - we're keen to hear about your experiences - both good and bad - about travelling through our site.

*Thank you for your patience and for taking care though our site while we build Wellington's smart motorway.*



**i CONTACT**

Email us and/or sign up for our newsletter at [ntaq@nzta.govt.nz](mailto:ntaq@nzta.govt.nz)

Find out more at [nzta.govt.nz/smartmotorway](http://nzta.govt.nz/smartmotorway)

Transport for Wellington [tfw.govt.nz](http://tfw.govt.nz)

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**Slower today**

**better tomorrow**