



## Christchurch Motorways



An introduction to the Christchurch roads of national significance project



Traffic on Russley



Russley/Memorial Gateway Bridge



Johns Road  
© Aerialist



# Our future

## Getting there safer and sooner

The Christchurch Motorways project was started in 2009. It is one of New Zealand's seven roads of national significance which will make a significant contribution to supporting the country's economic growth and development.

Following the Canterbury earthquakes, the Christchurch Motorways three corridors to the north, west and south of the city are even more essential as the city's rebuild gets underway.

Christchurch remains a great place to live, work and do business. With the Lyttelton Port of Christchurch and the Christchurch International Airport, it is the transport gateway for business, whether exporting or importing, producing for the local, regional or national economy or for the many thousands of national and international visitors and tourists coming to the South Island.

Ensuring our economy can continue to grow requires highways capable of moving both people and freight safely and efficiently to avoid the costs and frustrations of traffic congestion.

Rapid growth in and around Christchurch, particularly in the fast-growing Selwyn and Waimakariri districts, and to the west of Christchurch since the earthquakes, is placing a real strain on the state highways to the north and south of the city and around its western edge. This is making access to the airport, Lyttelton Port and communities to the north and south of Christchurch both frustrating and costly in terms of time and resources.

The Christchurch Motorways project will help relieve traffic congestion into and around Christchurch, saving everyone time and money. This highway and motorway construction programme is the most ambitious ever seen in Christchurch.

The government's investment in this project will not only increase the capacity of roads to handle increasing freight traffic, but will improve safety for all road users. In addition it will provide an injection of government money into the local construction industry, providing employment and other benefits for our region. By improving our roads, we are supporting the rebuild and improving our future.



Russley/Memorial Gateway Bridge

### Improving lifestyles

The impact of the Christchurch roads of national significance programme will benefit more than just road users and businesses in the city and around the region. The construction programme will create hundreds of jobs, improve access to facilities and destinations in Christchurch and beyond, and allow communities to reclaim their suburban streets, in particular for pedestrians and cyclists.

### Our travel benefits

- Reduced peak-hour traffic congestion, improving access in and out of Christchurch.
- Reduced travel time (eg expected 15-minute reduction when the Southern Motorway is completed).

### Our economic benefits

- Over \$800m injected into the Christchurch and Canterbury economy during the next 10 years, providing hundreds of jobs directly and indirectly.
- Faster, safer and more efficient movement of freight in and out of Lyttelton Port and Christchurch International Airport, and around the western edge of the city
- Goods and produce get to market quicker, at a reduced cost and fresher, meaning everyone benefits.
- Reduced vehicle operating costs results in fuel savings and lower emissions – better for the bank balance and the environment.

### Our communities' benefits

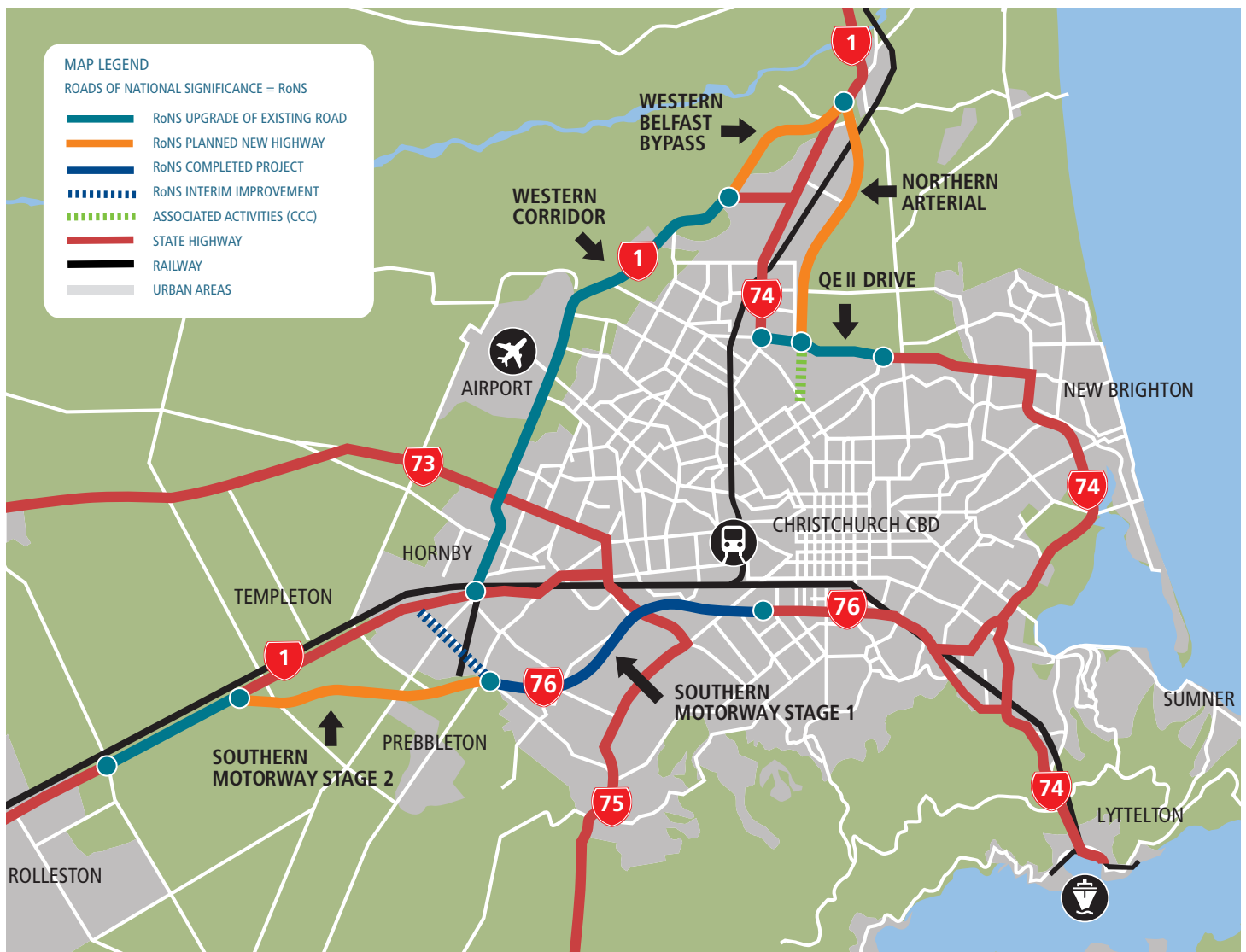
- Reunited communities, such as Belfast which is currently separated by the busy Main North Road - the Western Belfast Bypass and the Northern Arterial projects will reduce through traffic by 30,000 vehicles per day.
- Heavy traffic will move off suburban roads, away from housing, schools, parks and local shops making them safer and more pleasant for walking, cycling and public transport.
- The freeing up of local roads will allow passenger transport to run more efficiently and to schedule.

# Introducing Christchurch's roads of national significance

The Christchurch roads of national significance cover the following sections of state highway:

- The Northern Arterial**  
 A new road bypassing Belfast to the east to connect with QEII Drive and through to the Central City.
- The Western Belfast Bypass**  
 A new road bypassing Belfast to the west and connecting with SH1 at The Groynes.
- Western Corridor**  
 Four-laning SH1 (Johns, Russley and Carmen Roads) from The Groynes to Main South Road in Hornby.
- The Southern Motorway Stage 1**  
 From Collins Street to Halswell Junction Road (SH76) – completed December 2012.
- The Southern Motorway Stage 2**  
 A new motorway from Halswell Junction Road to the Main South Road (SH1) near Robinsons Road and the widening of SH1 from Waterholes Road to north of Rolleston.

These roads provide critical routes to the airport, the Christchurch central business district and Lyttelton Port.



# Implementing Christchurch's roads of national significance

The Christchurch roads of national significance will be built as a number of individual projects during the next decade. A balance needs to be struck to ensure the roads are constructed, while limiting disruption to motorists and freight operators using the roads, and ensuring local contractors have realistic timelines to build the roads safely and to the required standard.

The table below provides a summary of the individual project, their current status and next steps.

PROJECT	WHAT'S INVOLVED	WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?
<b>Northern Corridor</b>		
Northern Arterial and QEII Drive Four-laning	New four-lane highway to link Northern Motorway with QEII Drive, and four-laning QEII Drive from Main North Road to Innes Road	Consenting, followed by construction 2016-19
<b>Western Corridor</b>		
Western Belfast Bypass	New four-lane road bypassing Belfast from the Northern Motorway to The Groynes	Detailed design and consenting, followed by construction 2014-18
John Road - Groynes to Sawyers Arms	Four-laning existing highway and intersection upgrades	Consenting begun, construction 2014-17
John Road - Sawyers Arms to Harewood	Four-laning existing highway and intersection upgrades	Construction underway, completion early 2014
Russley Road - Harewood to Avonhead (and the Southern Airport Access south of Avonhead Road)	Four-laning existing highway, limited access at some intersections, Russley/Memorial roundabout replaced with an interchange and new Southern Airport Access	Detailed design and consenting, followed by construction 2015-19
Russley Road - Avonhead to Yaldhurst (four-laning only)	Four-laning existing highway and intersection upgrades	Project completed in May 2013
Carmen Road - Yaldhurst to south of Waterloo	Four-laning existing highway and intersection upgrades	Construction underway, completion mid-2014
<b>Southern Corridor</b>		
Christchurch Southern Motorway Stage 1 (and Halswell Junction Road upgrade)	Duplication of existing Christchurch Southern Motorway and new motorway extension to Halswell Junction Road	Project completed in December 2012
Christchurch Southern Motorway Stage 2	New four-lane motorway from Halswell Junction Road to Robinsons Road and four-laning existing highway from Robinsons Road to north of Rolleston	Detailed design and consenting, followed by construction 2015-19

## Want to know more?

Information on all Christchurch roads of national significance projects is on the NZ Transport Agency website: [www.nzta.govt.nz/Christchurch-Motorways/](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/Christchurch-Motorways/)

Members of the public are encouraged to give feedback on the plans for all these projects. When projects reach consenting stages, it will also be possible to make submissions to the consenting authority concerned.

The NZ Transport Agency produces project update newsletters for Christchurch's roads of national significance project. If you would like to receive these, fill in the online form on the website.

