What happens next?

The NZ Transport Agency (NZTA) is developing the design and construct applications for the Christchurch Southern Motorway Stage 2 (CSM2) including Main South Road four-laning stages of the project. The project has been assessed under the National Environmental Standards (Roads) (New Zealand) 2010. The NZTA also has an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) in place to manage the environmental effects of the project. The EMP is subject to independent (external) review by the Environment Canterbury. The key elements of the EMP are:

- NZTA’s marketing -NZTA has a marketing strategy in place to inform the public about the project.
- NZTA’s public safety - NZTA will undertake measures to maintain public safety during the construction phase.
- NZTA’s noise and vibration - NZTA will implement measures to minimize noise and vibration.
- NZTA’s dust management - NZTA will implement measures to minimize dust.
- NZTA’s traffic management - NZTA will implement measures to manage traffic during the construction phase.
- NZTA’s water quality - NZTA will implement measures to protect water quality.
- NZTA’s vegetation clearance - NZTA will implement measures to protect vegetation.
- NZTA’s roadworks - NZTA will implement measures to protect roadworks.
- NZTA’s social effects - NZTA will implement measures to manage social effects.
- NZTA’s vegetation management - NZTA will implement measures to protect vegetation.
- NZTA’s stormwater management - NZTA will implement measures to manage stormwater.
- NZTA’s ecological effects - NZTA will implement measures to protect ecological effects.
- NZTA’s cultural effects - NZTA will implement measures to protect cultural effects.
- NZTA’s operational effects - NZTA will implement measures to manage operational effects.
- NZTA’s risk management - NZTA will implement measures to manage risks.
- NZTA’s transport management - NZTA will implement measures to manage transport effects.
- NZTA’s noise and vibration - NZTA will implement measures to manage noise and vibration.
- NZTA’s dust management - NZTA will implement measures to manage dust.
- NZTA’s traffic management - NZTA will implement measures to manage traffic.
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The project includes the four-laning of the Main South Road (SH1) from north of Rolleston to near Robinsons Road and a new section of the Main South Road between the Christchurch Southern Motorway Stage 1 (nearing completion) close to Halswell Junction Road.

Since the last newsletter we have refined and finalised the plans and alignment for the project, taking into account the feedback received from the community.

The Main South Road (SH1) section will be widened toward the west from Rolleston to near Robinsons Road to allow for two more lanes and a central median with a safety barrier. A strip of land up to 22m wide will be purchased for road improvements from properties on the western side of the Main South Road (SH1), 10m of which is subject to an existing designation. Access up to this section of the Main South Road (SH1) is being removed from side roads and private driveways to improve safety.

The new motorway section will also be a flat motorway, with two lanes in each direction. It will have a central median and safety barrier separating oncoming traffic. When finished, this road, along with the Christchurch Southern Motorway Stage 1, will be known as State Highway 12 (SH12).

1. The Main South Road (SH1) will be widened to four lanes each way from the crossing north of Rolleston to Robinsons Road with a central median and safety barrier to separate oncoming traffic. The existing Rolleston Drive traffic signals will not change as part of this project.

2. A full grade-separated interchange at the Weedsonton Road/Main South Road (SH1) intersection will allow full access to and from Weedsonton Road while allowing Main South Road (SH1) to remain free flowing. A minor realignment of Wavertree Road and Hamptons Road will increase safety at this intersection.

3. The motorway will be built close to the existing ground level.

4. The existing Rolleston Drive traffic signals will not change as part of this project.

5. Emergency services will be able to cross the median and safety barrier at identified locations.

What's new since last time?

1. A new local road running from the railway line will provide alternative access to properties along the western side of the Main South Road.

2. Alternative access to properties along the east side of the Main South Road will also be developed. A new road to the east between Robinsons Road and Berketts will provide access to some of these properties.

3. A roundabout will be built at the Davenport Rd/Main South Road (SH1) intersection. 

4. A roundabout will be included on Robinsons Road.

5. John Paterson Drive will be realigned for safer access.

6. A new cycleway will link the Christchurch Southern Motorway Stage 1 Cycleway with the existing Little River Rail Trail.

7. Birkenhead Road will become two non-caldecourt roads.

8. A full diamond grade-separated interchange at Shands Road (south of Marshs Road) will allow the new motorway to be free flowing, while providing access to and from Shands Road via on and off ramps.

9. Halswell Junction Road and Springs Road will go over the motorway on bridges. Cycle lanes are included.

10. Access ramps at Halswell Junction Road will provide access to the city on the Christchurch Southern Motorway and from the city to Halswell Junction Road.

Key features

- The new motorway section will also be a flat motorway, with two lanes in each direction.
- A central median and safety barrier will separate oncoming traffic. (The existing Weedsonton Drive traffic signals will not change as part of this project.)
- A full grade-separated interchange at the Weedsonton Road/Main South Road (SH1) intersection will allow full access to and from Weedsonton Road while allowing Main South Road (SH1) to remain free flowing.
- The motorway will be built close to the existing ground level.
- Lascalside Road will be restricted to a left turn into Main South Road (SH1) only.
- Birkenhead Road will be restricted to left turns in and out of Main South Road (SH1).
- Robinsons Road will pass under Main South Road (SH1) and connect with Curraghs Road.
- Wavertree Road will pass over the new motorway on a bridge. A minor realignment of Wavertree Road and Hamptons Road will increase safety at this intersection.
- Trents Road will pass over the new motorway.
- Birkenhead Road will become two non-caldecourt roads.
- A full diamond grade-separated interchange at Shands Road (south of Marshs Road) will allow the new motorway to be free flowing while providing access to and from Shands Road via on and off ramps.
- Halswell Junction Road and Springs Road will go over the motorway on bridges. Cycle lanes are included.
- Access ramps at Halswell Junction Road will provide access to the city on the Christchurch Southern Motorway and from the city to Halswell Junction Road.
- A cycleway link will connect the Christchurch Southern Motorway Stage 1 Cycleway with the existing Little River Rail Trail Cycleway. Pedestrian and cycle facilities will be included on all local roads.
- Emergency services will be able to cross the median and safety barrier at identified locations.