Now in its third year of construction, the Christchurch Southern Motorway Stage 2 (CSM2) project is gearing up for the most important construction season yet.

With more than 215 people currently working on-site, the project is nearly two-thirds complete. The opening of new local road Justine Drive and the extension of John Paterson Drive to connect up to Halswell Junction Road happened earlier in 2018. Extensive earthworks, utility relocations and drainage across the entire 14.5km CSM2 alignment have made way for all aspects of the project to take form. Large stretches of the alignment have been formed, sealed and landscaped.

A number of project milestones were achieved in the last quarter of 2018. Firstly, traffic on Main South Road (SH1) was switched onto the new northbound lanes, between Hoskyns Road and Robinsons Road.

Widening Main South Road (SH1) to two lanes in each direction while maintaining traffic flow is a large and complex operation. This switch allowed construction of the southbound lanes to commence. Following the traffic switch, the remaining beams at the Weedons Interchange have been installed.

The first of the project’s eight bridges, the Trentham Road bridge, opened to traffic in December 2018. Trentham Road had been closed during construction of the bridge. A temporary road at Springs Road was also opened during November making way for the underpass construction to commence.

Temporary roads are still operating at Halswell Junction Road and Shands/Marshs Road which continue to keep traffic moving through these busy areas.

During September 2018 the first of 40 beams were installed at the Halswell Junction Road interchange and when completed the interchange will link motorists with the Christchurch Southern Motorway Stage 1 (CSM1) at Halswell Junction Road.

To the side of the interchange, the extension of the Owaka subway is nearing completion. An off-road pedestrian/cyclist shared use path will connect the Owaka subway to the existing Little River Rail Trail via local roads. A shared pedestrian and cycle path will be provided on all local road bridges on CSM2.

Traffic management around the Shands/Marshs interchange will continue to change as phases of the interchange construction are completed.

Construction to connect Robinsons Road with Curraghs Road by passing under Main South Road will commence this year. During 2019, access will be provided from Main South Road to Larcombs Road. The final layout will see Larcombs Road become a cul-de-sac and Berketts Road will be left turn in and left turn out on Main South Road.

Keep an eye out for the regular drone flyovers which document the progress being made by the Downer McConnell Dowell construction team on the CSM2 project. These will be available for viewing on nzta.govt.nz/projects/christchurch-motorways/christchurch-southern-corridor/christchurch-southern-motorway-stage-2/
KEY FEATURES

- Main South Road (SH1) is being widened to two lanes in each direction from the passing lanes north of Rolleston to Robinsons Road.
- A new section of motorway is being built from Weedons Interchange to join the Christchurch Southern Motorway Stage 1 (CSM1) at Halswell Junction Road.
- A median safety barrier will separate oncoming traffic.
- The existing Rolleston Drive and Hoskyns Road traffic signals will not change as part of this project.

A Full interchange with Weedons Road passing over SH1 Main South Road (grade-separated). This will allow full access to and from Weedons Road and Weedons Ross Road, while allowing Main South Road to remain freeflowing. *Planned timeframe mid-2019*

B Weedons Road will be realigned at Levi Road with the priority changing at this intersection. *Planned timeframe early/mid-2019*

C Manion Road, a new local road, opened to traffic in 2017 and now provides access to properties along the western side of Main South Road. Direct access to properties along both sides of Main South Road has been removed to improve safety and traffic flow. *Opened to traffic 2017*

D Justine Drive, a new local road, opened to traffic in 2018 and provides alternative access to properties along the eastern side of Main South Road. *Opened to traffic 2018*

E Larcombs Road will become a cul-de-sac at Main South Road. *Planned timeframe mid-2019*
1. Berketts Road will be restricted to left turns in from Main South Road and left turns out to Main South Road. **Planned timeframe mid-2019**

2. Robinsons Road will pass under Main South Road to remain connected with Curraghs Road. **Planned timeframe 2019**

3. New local road, Tiptree Lane was formed. **Opened to traffic 2017**

4. A new grade separated ‘Y-junction’ north of Robinsons Road will be included. **Planned timeframe 2019**

5. A new roundabout will be built at the Dawsons Road/Waterholes Road/Main South Road intersection. **Planned timeframe 2020**

6. Waterholes Road will pass over the new motorway. A minor realignment of Waterholes Road and Hamptons Road will improve safety at this intersection. **Planned timeframe early 2019**

7. The new Trents Road bridge opened to traffic late 2018 and now passes over the motorway. **Opened to traffic late 2018**

8. Blakes Road has now been cut by the motorway and has become two cul-de-sacs. **Planned timeframe 2019**

9. A full grade-separated interchange at Shands Road (south of Marshs Road) will allow the new motorway to be freeflowing while providing access to and from Shands Road via on and off-ramps. **Planned timeframe 2019**

10. A new walking and cycling path will connect the CSM1 shared path with the Little River Rail Trail. **Planned timeframe 2019**
On and off-ramps at Halswell Junction Road will provide motorway access to and from the city for all vehicles. Halswell Junction Road and Springs Road will pass over the motorway.

**Planned timeframe 2019**

John Paterson Drive is now realigned to join Halswell Junction Road to provide safe access.

**Opened to traffic 2018**

CSM2 will be able to carry more than double the traffic volumes of the current route with improved access to Christchurch and Selwyn districts. It will bring significant economic benefits for Canterbury and the wider South Island.

The project is expected to:

- halve travel times between Rolleston and Christchurch CBD at peak times from around 30 minutes to about 15 minutes (based on 2041 traffic figures)
- reduce congestion and crashes on the surrounding road network
- support continuing growth across the wider Selwyn District
- reduce traffic volumes on State Highway 1 (Main South Road) through Templeton, including over 2000 fewer trucks per day
- reduce traffic volumes on many local roads making them safer for pedestrians, cyclists and public transport.

Without the new motorway, traffic volumes on Main South Road would be expected to double in the next 15 years making access to and crossing Main South Road difficult and less safe.
TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT AND KEEPING SAFE

Our traffic management signage is aimed to be very visible to protect workers, cyclists, pedestrians and motorists from hazards associated with the work being undertaken as the motorway is built. Signage is crucial, especially where changes in speed are needed, changes are being made to traffic routes, and to indicate safe paths for pedestrians and cyclists.

While it is tempting to look at the activity going on around the project, between negotiating the road, adhering to the signage and navigating road changes, full concentration is needed.

Safety is the project team’s number one priority on site at all times, to not only keep the ground crews safe but also road users.

SEQUENCING

The work on this project is deliberately staged and sequenced. This means that while some parts may look complete, for example the bridges, the connecting roads are still being finalised.

ENVIRONMENTAL

Ever wondered what happens to trees that are removed to make way for the new motorway alignment? As part of NZTA’s sustainability profile, trees are chipped and the mulch is used across the project’s landscaping areas.

Landscaping on the project occurs yearly between April and October. Areas are prepped prior to planting. Embankments have mulch applied and planted with low maintenance species suitable for the area. Swales alongside the new alignment will be grassed.
WEEDONS ROAD INTERCHANGE

Originally planned for earlier completion, the interchange at Weedons Road is taking longer than expected. It is now due for completion by mid-2019 providing the weather allows.

We apologise for any inconvenience this delay may cause the local residents and road users, but be assured, there is and has been a lot of work going into this including the laying of power cables underneath the ground. The last of the 58-tonne bridge beams have now been craned into place.