The government has identified seven essential state highways projects that are linked to New Zealand’s economic prosperity. Called the roads of national significance, the NZ Transport Agency (NZTA) is charged with substantially completing this programme of state highway improvements within the next 10 years. The roads of national significance programme represents one of New Zealand’s biggest ever infrastructure investments.

The seven roads of national significance projects are based around New Zealand’s five largest population centres as shown on the map. The focus is on moving people and freight between and within these centres more safely and efficiently.

Wellington Northern Corridor

The Wellington Northern Corridor runs from Wellington Airport to Levin and completing it will assist regional and national economic growth as well as delivering a range of benefits including:

- support for a growing regional population
- support for the transport of increasing freight volumes
- relief from the current road congestion
- improved safety for road users
- improved journey time reliability
- improved access to Wellington’s key facilities such as the port, central business district, airport and hospitals.

The Wellington Northern Corridor is made up of the following eight sections as shown on the map. The focus for the next two to three years is on investigations and consents. Following this, construction work will be undertaken.

Phase 1
Transport improvements around the Basin Reserve
Ngauranga to Aotea Quay
MacKays to Peka Peka
Peka Peka to Otaki

Phase 2
Linden to MacKays (Transmission Gully)

Phase 3
Airport to Mt Victoria Tunnel (including tunnel duplication)
Terrace Tunnel duplication
Otaki to Levin