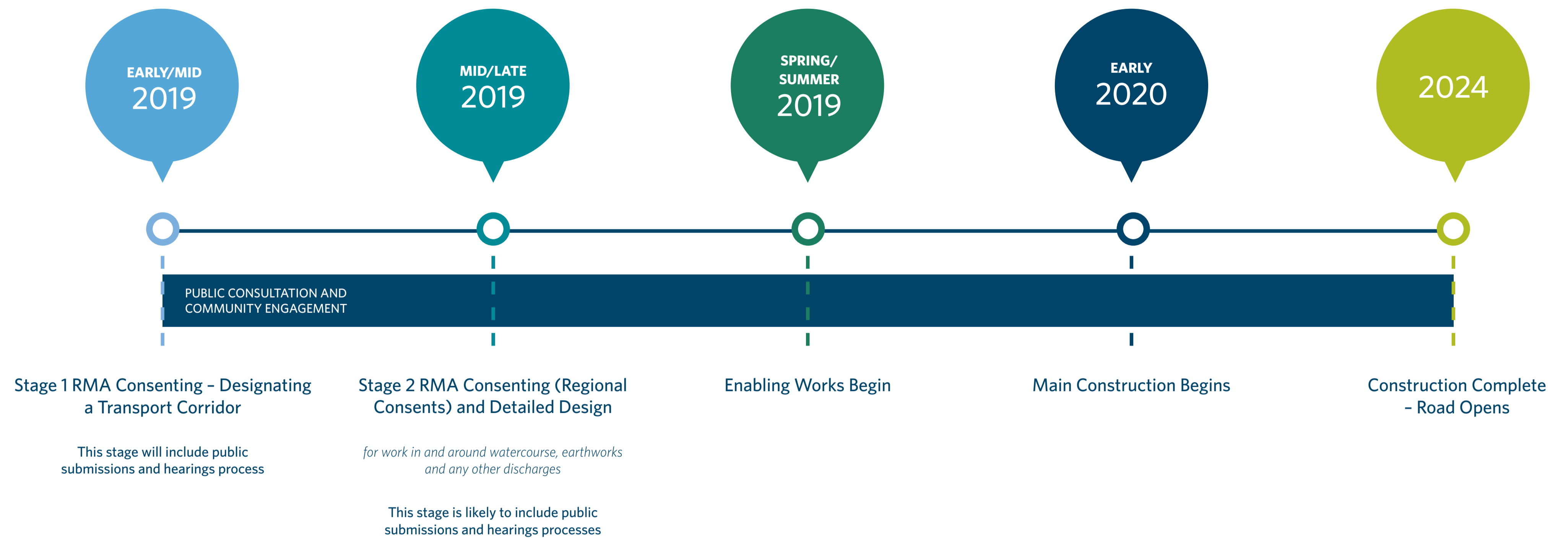


Te Ahu a Turanga: Manawatū Tararua Highway Project What's Happening Now?

Te Ahu a Turanga: Manawatū Tararua Highway project has lodged a Notice of Requirement (NoR) to designate land for the proposed road corridor with the Manawatū District, Palmerston North City and Tararua District Councils. The NoR is a critical step to obtain statutory Resource Management Act (RMA) approvals to authorise the proposed new road across the Ruahine Ranges.

Timeline



THE DESIGNATION WE ARE SEEKING WILL:

- identify the land corridor within which the proposed road will be constructed
- provide a framework within which the design of the new road and any mitigation must occur
- provide certainty for the community and affected landowners about location and the nature of the works
- protect the designated land from activities that may compromise the proposed work

Our Consenting Strategy

We are working closely with all of our partners and stakeholders to commence construction as soon as possible and provide the right 'whole project' solution. Our consenting strategy has three main steps:

STEP 1:

NOTICE OF REQUIREMENT (NOR)

- The NoR will designate a land corridor within which the road will be designed, constructed, maintained and operated.
- Conditions in the NoR will specify how the project will manage environmental and site constraints.
- Once construction is complete the corridor designation will be amended to a size that is appropriate for the maintenance and operation of the state highway.

STEP 2:

DEVELOP THE DESIGN OF THE PROJECT AND SECURE RESOURCE CONSENTS FROM THE REGIONAL COUNCIL

- The resource consents will seek to authorise earthworks, discharges to air, land and water, and works in water courses.
- We may seek resource consents earlier in order to allow enabling works to commence.
- This work is planned to be commenced next year (some ecological survey work needed to support these applications is already underway).

STEP 3:

FINALISE THE DESIGN OF THE PROJECT AND PROVIDE AN OUTLINE PLAN

- This will include detail on how effects are intended to be managed, as well as provide designs that confirm the bulk, location and shape of works.

WHAT NOW?

As part of the councils' processes they will publicly notify people and ask them to lodge submissions on the NoR.

On the closing of public submissions the NZ Transport Agency will be provided copies of all submissions and will consider the comments provided.

This will be followed by a public hearing where the Transport Agency and submitters are able to present their information, if the submitters wish to do so.