

# SH3 - SH37 to Te Kuiti safety improvements

## Safer roads for safer journeys

We want to make the 9km section of State Highway 3, from the State Highway 37 intersection at Hangatiki through to the township of Te Kuiti, safer for all road users. This project is part of the Government's Safe Roads and Roadsides programme which aims to prevent 900 deaths and serious injuries on rural state highways over the next six years.

### What are the issues with this road?

This section of SH3 is classified as a medium to high-risk crash zone. The most common type of crashes result from motorists losing control of their vehicles and hitting hazards along the road such as trees, fences and power poles. These kinds of crashes often result in serious injury or death.

### Deaths and serious injuries over the past decade

9 Serious crashes



2 People died



9 Seriously injured



### How can I find out more and share my ideas?



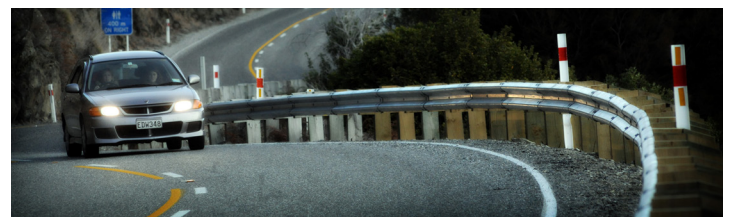
Send us an email [team@saferoads.co.nz](mailto:team@saferoads.co.nz) and let us know your thoughts.



Talk to us in person. Email us at [team@saferoads.co.nz](mailto:team@saferoads.co.nz) and we'll be in touch to arrange a suitable time to talk to you.



Provide feedback online at [nzta.govt.nz/sh3-sh37-feedback](http://nzta.govt.nz/sh3-sh37-feedback) and let us know what you think before 8 November.

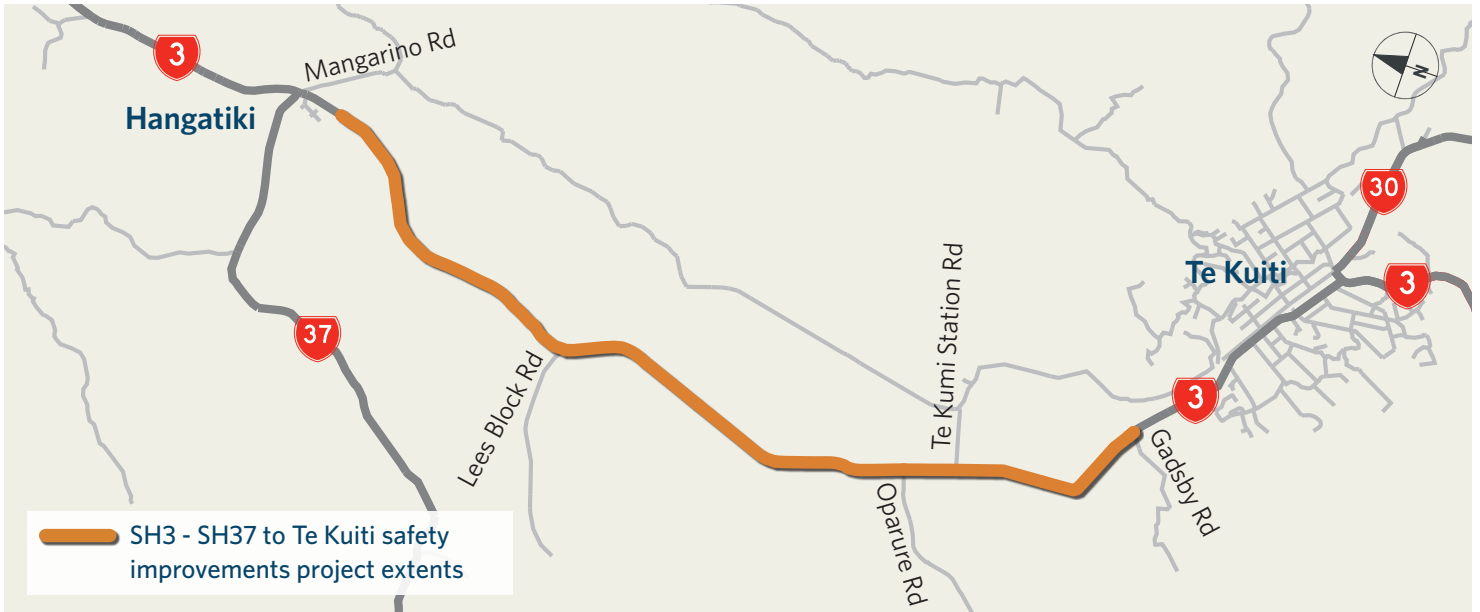


### What we are proposing to make this stretch of SH3 safer

We want to improve the safety features of the highway by installing flexible road safety barriers on the sides of the road to reduce the risk of run-off-road crashes. We'd also like to add rumble strips to parts of the road, improve signage, widen shoulders and improve intersections.



There's more information on our website:  
[nzta.govt.nz/hangatiki-to-te-kuiti](http://nzta.govt.nz/hangatiki-to-te-kuiti)



SH3 - SH37 to Te Kuiti safety improvements location map

## How does this work fit into the Government's road safety strategy?

Improving the safety of rural roads and roadsides is a key action of the government's road safety strategy, Safer Journeys, which is based on the Safe System approach. This approach acknowledges that people make mistakes and aims to create a more forgiving transport system where mistakes do not result in death or serious injury. The approach looks across the entire road system to improve safety - including the safety of roads and roadsides, vehicles, encouraging safer speeds and driver behaviour.

## What are flexible road safety barriers?

Flexible safety barriers are built from steel wire ropes mounted on posts that are designed to break when hit. Their main purpose is to stop traffic leaving the road and colliding with solid objects such as other vehicles, trees, poles, or rolling. Flexible safety barriers differ in that they 'catch' vehicles that accidentally leave the road before they hit something less forgiving - when a vehicle hits the wire rope safety barrier, the cables flex, slowing down the vehicle, keeping it on the road and redirecting it away from the hazard.

## How will I access my property if side barriers are installed?

Gaps are left in the side barrier for access to driveways, intersections and turning areas. These are wide enough for buses to park and vehicles to pull over.

## Have these road safety improvements been successfully implemented elsewhere?

Improvements such as shoulder widening, side safety barriers and rumble strips have been systematically tried and tested on other rural state highways. They have been proven to significantly contribute to reducing deaths and serious injuries on rural roads.

## Isn't it better to run off the road than to hit a solid object like a side barrier?

If a car or motorcycle runs off the road, it's safer to hit a side barrier than a hazard on the side of the road, such as a tree, fence, power pole or ditch.

## What's happening, and when?



**November 2016:** Feedback assessed, design finalised



**January 2017:** start construction



## More Information

**Tony Richardson**  
Project Manager



[tony.richardson@saferoads.co.nz](mailto:tony.richardson@saferoads.co.nz)



[Facebook/nzta](https://www.facebook.com/nzta)



[nzta.govt.nz/hangatiki-to-te-kuiti](http://nzta.govt.nz/hangatiki-to-te-kuiti)