Southern Motorway stage 1

The construction of a four-lane road between Collins Street and Halswell Junction Road will provide a faster, safer route between the city, Lyttelton Port and south west Christchurch. The current roads reach capacity during peak hour travel times leading to frustrating delays for motorists.

The upgrade is commencing sooner than expected thanks to the government identifying the Christchurch Southern Motorway as a road of national significance. Funding has been made available so now Christchurch and Canterbury motorists will get to benefit.

What are the benefits of the Southern Motorway?

The benefits include:

- **Faster trips - shorter travelling times** The extra lanes will reduce peak-hour traffic congestion, making travelling times shorter and more reliable.
- **Improved access** Freight will more easily get in and out of Lyttelton Port and traffic flow in and out of the Christchurch CBD will also be improved.
- **Safer streets** By moving heavy traffic off suburban roads, they will be safer and more pleasant for walking, cycling and public transport.
- **Economic growth** Around $140 million dollars will be invested in the Christchurch economy over the next three to four years, generating jobs directly and indirectly.

Construction of the Christchurch Southern Motorway (CSM) upgrade commences in February 2010

Did you know?

The following are some interesting facts and figures about the CSM project:

- 580,000 cubic metres of fill material will be required.
- 60,000 cubic metres of recycled crushed concrete will be used in the pavements.
- Approximately 450 new lighting columns will be installed.
- Seven new bridges and two new vehicle/pedestrian/cyclist subways will be constructed.
- 8.5km of new dedicated off-road pedestrian and cycle way will be constructed.
- The motorway will carry 45,000 vehicles per day between Collins Street and Curletts Road, and 20,000 vehicles per day between Curletts Road and SH1.
What will the Southern Motorway stage 1 project involve?

This project will connect the Brougham Street Expressway (SH73) in the east with Main South Road (SH1) in the west (see map) and is approximately 10.5 kilometres in length.

There are three distinct sections to this project:

- Upgrade to a four-lane median separated motorway between Collins Street and the Curletts Road interchange with full interchange access at both Barrington Street and Curletts Road, (3km).
- New four-lane median separated motorway built, between the Curletts Road interchange and the intersection of Halswell Junction and Springs Roads with underpasses at Aidanfield Drive and Awatea/Dunbars Roads, (5km).
- Upgrade Halswell Junction Road, from Springs Road to Main South Road (SH 1), with traffic lights at the Shands Road intersection and an upgrade to the Springs Road roundabout, (2.5km).

Access to A&P Showground and Canterbury Sale Yards

Access to the A&P Showground and Canterbury Sale Yards will be maintained during construction. This will be by the existing access or by alternative access publicised well in advance of events.

Want to know more?

Information on this Christchurch roads of national significance project is available at the NZ Transport Agency website www.nzta.govt.nz.

The NZ Transport Agency produces Christchurch roads of national significance project update newsletters. If you would like to receive these, fill in the online form at the website and indicate whether you’d like to receive an e-newsletter or be posted a printed newsletter. You can also remove yourself from the mailing list at the website.

Visit the NZ Transport Agency website: at www.nzta.govt.nz or call our contact centre on 0800 699 000.