



You're going to see us out and about along SH2 Te Puna to Ōmokoroa



Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency is now underway with ecological and ground investigations required for Stage Two of the Takitimu North Link project, between Te Puna and Ōmokoroa.

Starting January 2021 for several months, we'll be out testing the soil and ground strength, surveying vegetation, streams, checking out birdlife and looking for evidence of bats. These investigations are part of the work we're doing to inform the planning and design of the new Takitimu North Link expressway.

You'll see our drilling rigs, but we'll also be using more low-key equipment to complete this work. Some of these surveys will be carried out on private property, we are contacting all landowners to get their permission.



WHAT'S HAPPENING

- **Stormwater surveys** help us to understand how water flows across the land so we can determine future drainage requirements.
- **Geotechnical investigations** are important for measuring the strength of the ground. This involves assessing the physical properties of the soil and rock, by excavating soil and drilling holes deep into the ground. Sites will be restored after the tests take place.
- **Ecological assessments** look at the value and quality of the environment for certain plants and animals and help us identify and manage environmental effects. This includes surveying vegetation, streams and establishing whether the habitat is suitable for bats and lizards, along with certain bird species.
- **Archaeological and Cultural assessments** are undertaken to understand the cultural and historical significance of the site, so that we protect artefacts, minimise adverse effects and follow correct customs and protocols for this rohe.

About the Takitimu North Link project

We're working to make travel from Tauranga to Ōmokoroa safer and better. Through the New Zealand Upgrade Programme, \$933m funding has been provided for Takitimu North Link, one of the Bay of Plenty's most significant roading projects.

The Takitimu North Link project is a new 14km four-lane expressway connecting Tauranga and Ōmokoroa, with a shared path for walking and cycling. It will be constructed in two phases.

Stage One is a 6.8km four-lane expressway between Tauranga and Te Puna. Stage Two extends the expressway a further 7km between Te Puna and Ōmokoroa.

Once complete, the Takitimu North Link will significantly improve safety and access, contribute to more sustainable transport for local communities, and support economic growth across the region.



CONTACT

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