



Problems with SH2

Why are the safety and capacity improvements necessary between Waihi and Tauranga?

Road Safety

Poor driver behaviour and road environment is resulting in a high number of serious and fatal crashes.

Between May 2011 and May 2015 20 people were killed and 44 seriously injured.

The top crash causes were: lost control, failed to give way, didn't look or see, and alcohol or drugs.

The predominant crash types were: run off road and, most severe, head on.

Without interventions to improve the road and roadsides, driver behaviour and use, the number of deaths and serious injuries on SH2 between Waihi and Tauranga will continue to rise.

Traffic growth

Population growth and competing traffic demands (e.g. commuters and farm vehicles) along a single lane road result in a congested highway. Between Omokoroa and Bethlehem traffic demand peaks in the morning and slows to around 60km/h, with an average travel time of around 14 minutes*.

With traffic volumes growing, longer travel times of up to 20 minutes (by 2025) and even 50 minutes (2040) will result in unreliable journey times, queues and driver frustration.

*Some road users can experience significantly slower trips/longer travel times.