

# Waikato & Bay of Plenty State Highway Works May 2025

Drivers in the Waikato and Bay of Plenty can breathe a sigh of relief—the massive 2024/25 road maintenance programme has wrapped up.

After months of dedicated work through the summer, crews have completed an ambitious schedule of road rebuilds, resurfacing, and chip sealing, alongside ongoing maintenance efforts.

Major worksites completed include:

- **Waikato – 290 lane kilometres repaired or rebuilt**
  - A 6-week road rebuild through the Waikato village of Ōhaupō on SH3
  - A 4-week road rebuild in Rukuhia on SH3
  - 4 weeks of road resurfacing on SH27 in Waharoa
  - A road rebuild on SH29 in Te Poi.
- **Bay of Plenty – 137 lane kilometres repaired or rebuilt**
  - 6 road rebuilds on SH29 Kaimai Range between Tauriko and the summit
  - A 5-week road rebuild on SH2 north of Tauranga near Snodgrass Road
  - Several weeks of resurfacing work in the Waioweka Gorge on SH2, which required full road closures at times
  - A road rebuild on SH36 between Tauranga and Rotorua
  - 8 asphalt resurfacing sites in and around urban Tauranga on SH2 and SH29
  - A road rebuild on SH30 Sala Street in Rotorua
  - A significant road rebuild on SH5 west of Rotorua

NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) would like to thank the public for their patience while all this important work was completed.

Crews are now shifting gears to focus on keeping roads safe through the colder, wetter months. With temperatures starting to drop, teams will be tackling routine upkeep and responding to weather-related issues, like slips, flooding and road closures.

We don't often see heavy snow in Waikato and Bay of Plenty, but frost can be a real challenge, says Sandra King, NZTA System Manager Bay of Plenty.

"Frost tends to hit hardest at daybreak, so drivers should keep that in mind. Watch out for icy spots in shaded areas and be extra careful on bridges, as they can stay slippery longer than regular road surfaces. Slowing down is the best way to stay safe."

For latest highway conditions check out the NZTA Journey Planner ([journeys.nzta.govt.nz](https://journeys.nzta.govt.nz))

## **Bay of Plenty**

### **Tauranga**

- **SH2/Fifteenth Ave:** Major works to build the connection from SH2/Fifteenth Ave to SH29/Takitimu Drive Toll Road are progressing as part of the Takitimu North Link project. Works are underway and include building a 120m long retaining wall and a 127m long single lane bridge. Piling is underway with 2 of the 9 piles required already completed. Piling will take approximately 3 months, and construction of the bridge will take approximately 12 months to complete. One lane at SH2/Fifteenth Ave near Edgumbe Road is closed while this work takes place, this is likely to remain in place until mid-2026. [More information.](#)
- **SH29 north of McLarens Falls Road:** A road rebuild on a section of SH29 started Sunday 11 May taking 2 weeks to complete. Night works will take place from Sunday to Friday between 7pm and 6am each night. While work is underway a temporary speed limit will be in place.
- **Tauriko Enabling Works – SH29/Redwood Lane:** The new roundabout at the intersection of SH29 and Redwood Lane is now open under a temporary layout, with a 50km/h reduced speed limit in place. As part of ongoing construction, temporary safety barriers have been installed along the southern side of SH29 between the roundabout and Belk Road. [More information.](#)
- **SH29/Tauriko Village:** The new intersection on SH29 providing access to the Tauriko School's new car park is now open under a temporary layout. As part of ongoing construction, temporary safety barriers have been installed along the northern side of SH29 through Tauriko Village, with traffic lanes temporarily shifted to the southern side of the road. [More information.](#)
- **SH29 Takitimu Drive Toll Road:** Ongoing works in this area for the Takitimu North Link project include the construction of a flyover bridge and southbound slip lane. A reduced speed limit of 70km/h remains in place while crews are working behind the barriers. Traffic is anticipated to be diverted onto the flyover bridge and southbound slip lane in the next year while works continue. [More information.](#)
- **Mirrielees Road, Tauranga:** Road resurfacing on Mirrielees Road and the intersection with Cross Road will begin on Sunday 18 May and is expected to take 2 weeks to complete. Work will be carried out from Sunday to Thursday each week between 6pm and 5.30am. During this time, one-way signalised traffic management will be in effect on Mirrielees Road, with stop/go controls in place at Cross Road. Vehicles exiting the Port will be given priority. Active traffic management will be in place to prevent excessive vehicle stacking on either side of the work site.
- **SH2 Tauranga Eastern Link Toll Road (TELTR):** The Tauranga City Council led project continues. A 2km section of SH2, just past the Kaituna River Bridge, continues to be reduced to a single lane in each direction allowing construction of the Pāpāmoa East Interchange to progress. This closure will remain in place for the duration of construction, with a temporary 70km/h speed limit in place. [More information.](#)

## Western Bay of Plenty

- **SH2 Apata Station Road to Wainui South Road:** Road construction works are underway in preparation for the new roundabout. Lane shifts are in place along with speed restrictions. There will be intermittent stop/go traffic management in place which may cause longer delays. Follow the temporary signs and directions of the traffic management team and watch for layout changes. Expect minor delays.

- **SH2 Esdaile/Pahoia intersection:** Road widening works are underway at this intersection. Shoulder closures are in place with speed restrictions. Nighttime lane closures will be in place this week at the Waipapa Bridge south of Esdaile Road. There will be stop/go traffic management in place which may cause longer delays. Follow the temporary signs and directions of the traffic management team.
- **SH2 Turners Road rebuild:** The resurfacing work is expected to be completed within the next day or two, with line marking scheduled for early next week. A temporary speed limit and traffic management will remain in place until the work is finished.
- **SH2 Pahoia Road to Plummers Point Road:** While services are being installed lane shifts will be in place along with speed restrictions. Intermittent stop/go traffic management may cause longer delays. Follow the temporary signs and directions of the traffic management team and watch for layout changes.
- **SH2 Ōmokoroa Road:** Road construction and service relocation works are underway in preparation for the new roundabout. A temporary single lane roundabout is now operational at this intersection. There will be intermittent stop/go traffic management in place which may cause longer delays. Follow the temporary signs and directions of the traffic management team and watch for layout changes. Expect minor delays especially during peak times.
- **SH2 Minden Road – Takitimu North Link Stage 1:** There is a temporary speed limit of 30km/h throughout the worksite area of Minden Road. Please take care travelling through and adhere to the speed limit.

## Rotorua

- **SH30 Te Ngae Road-Wharenui Road:** Work continues at the SH30 Te Ngae Road and Wharenui Road intersection. Wharenui Road is closed to through-traffic from the intersection. Pedestrian/cycle access is retained. Wharenui Road can be reached via Coulter/Glenfield or Brent/Reeve roads. On SH30 Te Ngae Road traffic management including speed restrictions are in place. A temporary pedestrian refuge is in place 250m south of the intersection. [More information.](#)

## Eastern Bay of Plenty

- **SH2 Pekatahi Bridge:** The Pekatahi Bridge will close for one day on Monday 19 May between 8.30am and 4.30pm. In case of unsuitable weather conditions on Monday, a contingency day is scheduled for Tuesday, 20 April. The closure will enable crews to undertake further bridge maintenance efficiently and safely. A detour will be available via Whakatāne for all vehicles; SH2, Tāneatua Road, Arawa Road, Hinemoa Street, SH30, SH2 intersection and vice versa. [More information.](#)
- **SH35 Ōpape:** Underslip repairs are underway and expected to finish in the next week or 2. Works are taking place Monday to Saturday, between 7am and 5pm, with stop/go traffic management and a temporary speed limit of 30km/h in place. While the site is unattended there will be a temporary speed limit of 50km/h in place. [More information.](#)
- **SH35 Tōrere:** Work is underway repairing 2 slips near Te Kura O Tōrere east of Ōpōtiki. While these repairs are underway, a section of SH35 will be down to one lane for up to 6 months.

- **SH2/Wainui Road, Matekerepu, near Ōpōtiki:** Preparation for the new SH2/Wainui Road roundabout is underway. Most of the current work is happening in the paddock next to the state highway. Between Monday 19 and Wednesday 21 May some of the surrounding streetlights will be disconnected and moved to a temporary location. Road users are asked to take care when travelling through the area and should expect traffic management such as shoulder closures, speed restrictions and, at times, stop/go while work is taking place. The roundabout is expected to take up to 12 months to complete.

## **Waikato**

### **East Waikato**

- **SH25 Kūaotunu:** Underslip repairs are underway and the state highway on Kūaotunu Hill is reduced to a single lane. While work is underway the road is expected to remain open with lane shifts, however some short-term closures may be needed. Traffic management and speed restrictions will be in place and people are asked to watch out for directions from the traffic management team. These works are expected to take 6 months to complete.

### **Central Waikato**

- **SH1/SH5 Taupō:** Drivers travelling near the Taupō Commercial Vehicle Safety Centre – under construction at the SH1/SH5 roundabout – need to be aware of changing road layouts and speed restrictions. Contractors are installing in-road weigh-in-motion scales, associated camera technology and electronic sign boards until mid-June. These are being installed on 5 of the roads heading towards the safety centre, including SH1 and SH5. Temporary lanes and speed restrictions will be in place. [More information.](#)

### **West Waikato**

- **SH1 Ngāruawāhia:** While remedial and safety improvements were largely completed to get all lanes open by Christmas, some minor finishing and defect works are underway until Friday 30 May. Work within the lanes is being done under lane closures between 8am and 4pm Monday to Friday (2pm take down on Fridays) and at night between 6pm and 6am Sunday to Thursday. Outside those hours all lanes are open to traffic with no speed restrictions.
- **SH1B Telephone Road, Hamilton:** Construction is almost complete on a range of improvements at the SH1B rail crossing on Telephone Road and the adjacent intersection with Holland Road and Marshmeadow Road. Holland Road and Marshmeadow Road will reopen to traffic in the middle of next week, however the rail crossing will remain closed until KiwiRail have completed their signalling work. This is expected to be done in late July.
- **SH1 Cambridge Expressway:** From Monday 12 May until the end of July crews will be asphaltting the left lanes northbound and southbound of the Cambridge Expressway. Work starts on the northbound lanes, between the Tirau Road Interchange (Southern Interchange) through to the Thornton Road overbridge, next week. Timings are below:
  - From 6am Monday 19 to 8pm Tuesday 20 May
  - Wednesday 21 May, 2am to 8pm
  - Thursday 22 May, 2am to 8pm
  - Friday 23 May, 6am to 6pm

All ramps will remain open during the work with a 50km/h temporary speed limit in place for the duration.

- **SH1/SH29 Piarere intersection:** Work is continuing on the new roundabout and in the median, with landscaping and minor finishing works underway. This includes planting on both the SH1 Hamilton and SH29 Tauranga approaches with shoulder closures in place. NZTA thanks motorists for their patience and asks drivers to stick to the temporary speed limit of 60km/h on all approaches to the roundabout and take extra care when travelling through the area. [More information.](#)

#### **North Waikato**

- **SH1 Mercer Interchange to Island Bock Road:** There will be a full southbound closure from Monday 19 to Wednesday 21 May between 9pm and 5am for maintenance. Traffic will still be able to travel south using one of the northbound lanes.
- **SH2 Mangatāwhiri:** Stop/go traffic management will be in place for the following closures. Please follow traffic management directions and stop when asked.
  - Between Pinnacle Hill Road and Dobson Road on Sunday 18 May between 9pm and 5am
  - Between Monument Road and Dimmock Road on Wednesday 21 May between 9pm and 5am
- **SH2 Mangatāwhiri Road:** The eastbound off-ramp will be closed along with lane restrictions on SH2, Monday 19 and Tuesday 20 May between 9pm and 5am, traffic will detour via Rawiri Road.
- **SH1/SH2 link to Avon Road:** From Sunday 18 to Thursday 22 May, lane restrictions will be in place for eastbound traffic between 9pm and 5am. Eastbound vehicles can still proceed using one of the westbound lanes. Westbound traffic heading toward SH1 will be unable to turn right onto Rimu Road. Instead, drivers should follow the SH1 southbound link, exit at SH1 Pōkeno, and re-enter via the SH1 Pōkeno northbound on-ramp. Continue north on SH1 and use the SH1 northbound to SH2 link.

#### **Manawatū -Whanganui**

- **SH57 Levin:** SH57/Tararua Road roundabout construction underway. Tararua Road west is closed, and a detour is in place. There is a 30km/h temporary speed limit on SH57 near the site, and at times there will be stop/go traffic management to allow for works to be completed.
- **SH4 Otoko:** From Monday 26 May to Friday 4 July, daytime road closures will take place on SH4, between Upokongaro and Raetihi. The road will be closed from 6.30am to 6pm Monday to Friday. During worktimes, there will be managed access for the local community, including residents and schools, and emergency services only. All other road users will be detoured onto SH49 and SH1 during work hours. Outside of hours, the road is open, including on Saturdays and Sundays. [More information.](#)

#### **Tairāwhiti Gisborne/Hawke's Bay**

- **SH5 Napier to Taupō:** Recovery alliance Transport Rebuild East Coast (TREC) continues to progress safety improvements, as well as repair, recovery and maintenance activities at multiple sites on SH5 between Eskdale and Waipunga. [More information.](#)

The above information is accurate at the time of release. Many of the above works are dependent on a number of factors, particularly weather, and may be postponed at short notice. For up-to-date information on road works, traffic, detours and delays, motorists are encouraged to visit the NZTA Journey Planner website ([journeys.nzta.govt.nz](https://journeys.nzta.govt.nz)).

NZTA thanks motorists for their patience while we complete this essential work to keep the state highway network safe, accessible and resilient.

- **Plan ahead for a safe, enjoyable journey. Keep up to date with:**
- Traffic updates: [journeys.nzta.govt.nz/traffic](https://journeys.nzta.govt.nz/traffic)
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/nztawbop>
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/nztawbop>
- Journey planner: [journeys.nzta.govt.nz](https://journeys.nzta.govt.nz)
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