

Waikato & Bay of Plenty State Highway Works May 2025

It was Road Safety Week last week and students learnt about the important work that local roadworkers, engineers, and traffic management personnel do to help make our roads safer, and how students themselves can be Road Safety Heroes by staying safe around roadworks.

Road Safety Week sponsors Beca and NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) coordinated visits to a number of schools across the country, alongside roading contractors, Road Safety Week organisers Brake, and local councils.

At Selwyn Ridge School in the Bay of Plenty, representatives from Beca, NZTA and HEB held an interactive road safety session with students. This included a story time session where they read *My Mum is Queen of the Road*, written by Jennifer Beck, a heartwarming story about a child whose mum is a traffic management worker, followed by a lesson about safety around roadworks using some of the contractors' equipment.



HEB team member striking the Road Safety Hero pose.



Welcome to 'Simon Says', a segment where NZTA's Bay of Plenty Journey Manager, Simon, shares helpful tips and suggestions for commuters. This week's tip is for those travelling on SH2 from the east toward Tauranga and Mount Maunganui. When approaching the Te Maunga Interchange, **make use of both lanes all the way until the road**

narrows from 2 lanes to 1, and merge like a zip. This approach keeps traffic moving efficiently and can help reduce delays on your commute.

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 Edgecumbe Road is closed while this work takes place, this is likely to remain in place until mid-2026. [More information.](#)
- **SH29 north of McLaren's Falls Road:** A road rebuild on a section of SH29 is due to be completed in the last week of May. Night works are taking place from Sunday to Friday between 7pm and 6am each night. While work is underway a temporary speed limit will be in place.
- **SH29 Kaimai Range:** Crews will be on site Saturday 24 May between 6am and 4pm repairing the weather activated speed signs. This work will be done off the state highway.
- **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 has started on Mirrielees Road and at the Cross Road intersection, with completion expected by the end of May. The work will take place Sunday to Thursday, between 6pm and 5.30am. During these hours, Mirrielees Road will operate under one-way signalised traffic control and stop/go at Cross Road. Priority will be given to vehicles exiting the Port, and active traffic management will be in place to minimise excessive vehicle queuing 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 delays.
- **SH2 Esdaile/Pahoia intersection:** Road widening works are underway at this intersection. Shoulder closures are in place with speed restrictions. Follow the temporary signs and directions of the traffic management team.
- **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 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.
- **Wairoa Road Bridge - Takitimu North Link Stage 1:** From Monday 26 May to Friday 30 May, a temporary speed limit of 30km/h will be in place while the team install guardrail by the Wairoa Road Bridge. There will be stop/go traffic management in place from 7am. Expect minor delays especially during peak times. Please take care travelling through and adhere to the speed limit.

Rotorua

- **SH30 Te Ngae Road-Wharenuui Road:** Work continues at the SH30 Te Ngae Road and Wharenuui Road intersection. Wharenuui Road is closed to through-traffic from the intersection. Pedestrian/cycle access is retained. Wharenuui 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.](#)
- **SH36 near Te Matai Road:** Road resurfacing will take place on Saturday 24 May between 9am and 5pm. Stop/go traffic management will be in place with a temporary speed limit of 30km/h. After the new chip has been applied, a roller will be used Saturday and Sunday to ensure the chip is embedded into the road surface.

Eastern Bay of Plenty

- **SH35 Ōpape:** Underslip repairs continue, with the road back to 2 lanes 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, Matekarepu, 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 Friday

23 and Monday 26 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 Desert Road near Kaimanawa road intersection:** From Wednesday 28 May to Friday 30 May drainage works will take place during daylight hours. While this work is ongoing there will be lane switches and a temporary speed limit in place.
- **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 are in place until mid-June. The sites remain coned off while new asphalt cures and hardens before the technology can be installed. [More information](#)

West Waikato

- **SH1 Ngāruawāhia:** While remedial works and safety improvements were largely completed to get all lanes open by Christmas, some minor finishing and defect works continue 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.

There are Taupiri interchange ramp closures ahead:

- **Southbound on-ramp Sunday 25 and Monday 26 May:** The detour for light vehicles is via SH1B Gordonton Road south to Bankier Road, Horsham Downs Road, Lake Road and rejoining SH1 at the interchange. Heavy vehicles must continue on SH1B to SH26 for Hamilton exits on to Cambridge to rejoin SH1.
- **Northbound off-ramp Tuesday 27 and Wednesday 28 May:** The detour is exit at Horotiu Interchange and use Great South Road to go north or proceed to Ohinewai Interchange to exit.
- **SH1B Telephone Road, Hamilton:** Construction is now 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 have reopened to traffic 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:** There will be no resurfacing work on the Cambridge Expressway next week (26-31 May). Work will start again on Tuesday 3 June.

- **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 26 to Thursday 29 May between 9pm and 5am for maintenance. Traffic will still be able to travel south using one of the northbound lanes.
- **SH1 Spring Hill Road to Dragway Road:** There will be lane restrictions in both directions from Monday 26 to Thursday 29 May between 9pm and 5am for maintenance. Traffic will still be able to travel in both directions.
- **SH2:** Stop/go traffic management will be in place for the following closures for maintenance:
 - **Between Pinnacle Hill Road and Dobson Road** on Sunday 25 and Monday 26 May between 9pm and 5am.
 - **Between Monument Road and Dimmock Road** on Wednesday 28 May between 9pm and 5am.
 - **Between Monument Road and Wyatt Road** on Tuesday 27 May between 9pm and 5am.
 - **Between Wyatt Road and Coalfields Road** on Tuesday 27 May between 9pm and 5am.
 - **Between Rawiri Road/Golf Course Road and Maxwell Road** on Thursday 29 May between 9pm and 5am.
 - **Between Okaeria Road and Steen Road** on Thursday 29 May between 9pm and 5am.
- **SH1/SH2 Link to Avon Road:** There will be eastbound lane restrictions from Sunday 25 to Tuesday 27 May from 9pm to 5am. Traffic will still be able to travel east using one of the westbound lanes. Traffic travelling westbound (towards SH1) will not be able to turn right onto Rimu Road. Please continue to the SH1 southbound link and exit at SH1 Pōkeno and re-enter the motorway using SH1 Pōkeno northbound on-ramp. Head 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).

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
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/nztawbop>
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/nztawbop>
- Journey planner: journeys.nzta.govt.nz
- Phone: 0800 4 HIGHWAYS (0800 44 44 49)