

# Waikato & Bay of Plenty State Highway Works May/June 2025

Fine weather is expected for King's Birthday weekend across Waikato and Bay of Plenty, with traffic expected to be heavier than normal at the holiday hotspots as people head away.

"Bay of Plenty motorists should be prepared for congestion on State Highway 2 (SH2) between Paeroa and Waihi, Tauranga and Katikati, as well as on State Highway 29 over the Kaimai Range," says NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) Journey Manager for Waikato, Andrew Brosnan.

"In Waikato, delays are likely on State Highway 1 between Tirau and Cambridge and SH2 from Pōkeno to Maramarua, along with heavier traffic around the Coromandel Peninsula—especially on State Highway 25 near Tairua."

In the central North Island, the Tūroa Ski Field is set to open on Saturday 31 May, just in time for the long weekend. While the team awaits further snowfall to unlock the full terrain, early-season visitors can still enjoy alpine views and snow-based activities.

"To make your trip as smooth and safe as possible, check your vehicle before heading out, be patient on the road, slow down, take regular breaks to stay alert, and maintain a safe following distance," says Mr. Brosnan.

"We love seeing people make the most of a long weekend—it's a great chance for a road trip. Make it one to remember for all the right reasons and return home safely."

With winter now here, darker days and wet conditions can affect driving. Take your time, adjust to the conditions, and travel safely.

For real-time updates and travel planning, check out the [King's Birthday weekend 2025 | NZTA Journey Planner](#)



Welcome to 'Simon Says', a segment where NZTA's Bay of Plenty Journey Manager, Simon, shares helpful tips and suggestions for commuters.

Did you know 'rat running' has a negative overall impact on journey times. A local example is on the SH2 approach into Tauranga from Ōmokoroa. Of all the morning commuter traffic coming into the city, 21 percent are turning left into Snodgrass Road. When adding this to the Snodgrass Road residential traffic, this means 35 percent of Tauranga bound traffic is exiting Clarke Road every morning. The volume of traffic exiting Clarke Road is disrupting the flow of traffic, adding extra time to everyone's morning commute. By staying on SH2, traffic remains at a constant flow, unobstructed by turning traffic, reducing travel time into Tauranga.

**After today, the Traffic Bulletin will shift to a fortnightly schedule, with the next edition set for Friday 13 June.**

## 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 Kaimai Range:** The Kaimai Range will be closed overnight from 8pm to 3.30am for 4 nights from Sunday 15 June to 3.30am Thursday 19 June for road repairs and general maintenance. The closure points on the western side of the Kaimai Range are at the SH29/24 and SH29/28 intersections and on the eastern side of the Kaimai Range at the SH29/Cambridge Road intersection. Detours are available for all vehicles southbound via Rotorua and northbound via SH2 Karangahake Gorge. Emergency services will have access at all times, residents can access their property from the relevant side of the closure.
- **SH36 Tauriko:** Tauranga City Council is upgrading a section of Taurikura Drive in Tauriko. The upgrade includes reconfiguring Taurikura Drive to include more lanes, building 2 new signalised intersections to improve traffic flow and safety, and new paths for walking and cycling with a new signalised mid-block crossing and expanded bus facilities. One of the signalised intersections will replace the existing roundabout at the main entrance of Tauranga Crossing. While this work is underway, on Taurikura Drive and at the SH36 roundabout, lanes have been changed and temporary traffic management is in place, with a reduced speed limit for the duration of the project. This upgrade is expected to take 12 months to complete, people are encouraged to be patient and drive carefully through the site. [More information.](#)
- **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:** As part of ongoing construction, there are multiple active work sites along the northern side of SH29 through Tauriko Village and on Cambridge Road, with a temporary reduced speed limit of 60km/h, mobile operations and safety barriers in place. In Tauriko Village, the traffic lanes have temporarily shifted to the southern side of the road to allow for works and the new intersection providing access to Tauriko School's new car park is open under a temporary layout. [More information.](#)
- **SH29 between Soldiers Road and Valley View Road:** From Tuesday 3 June to Friday 6 June (weather depending) drainage works will take place on SH29. There will be lane closures, temporary traffic management and reduced speed limits in place to keep everyone safe from 5am to 4pm each day.
- **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.](#)
- **SH29 Takitimu Drive Toll Road Gantry:** Starting Monday 16 June, cameras on the Takitimu Drive Toll Road gantry will be replaced, along with minor maintenance work, taking up to 4 nights to complete. While this work is underway, traffic will be closed in each direction for up to 2 nights at a time. While these closures are in place, all traffic will be a detoured via Cambridge Road. To complete the upgrades efficiently, work will begin on the southbound (towards Tauriko) direction, followed by the northbound (towards

Tauranga) direction.

- **SH29A Maungatapu Bridge:** Crews have started maintenance on the Maungatapu Bridge, with all work taking place underneath the structure with no disruption to motorists, but workers will be visible between 7.30am and 4pm Monday to Friday. The work is expected to be completed at the end of September.
- **SH2 Tauranga Eastern Link Toll Road:** Starting Monday 9 June, cameras on the Tauranga Eastern Link Toll Road gantry will be replaced, along with minor maintenance work, taking up to 4 nights to complete. While this work is underway, traffic will be closed in each direction for up to 2 nights at a time. While these closures are in place, traffic will be a detoured via the Te Puke highway. To complete the upgrades efficiently, work will begin in the westbound direction (towards Tauranga), followed by the eastbound (towards Whakatāne) direction.
- **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. Delays are to be expected.
- **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. Layout changes will occur the first week of June with the current set up moving southwest to allow works to continue on the state highway southbound from Ōmokoroa Road. 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.
- **SH2 Loop Road, Te Puna:** There will be stop/go in place on Saturday 7 June near Loop Road in Te Puna from 7am to 7pm to allow for barrier installation as part of the Takitimu North Link Stage 1 project.

## Rotorua

- **SH30 Te Ngae Road-Wharenui Road:** Work continues at the SH30 Te Ngae Road and Wharenui Road intersection with Wharenui Road 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 a temporary speed of 30km/h. A temporary pedestrian refuge is in place 250m

south of the intersection. [More information.](#)

- **SH5 Rotorua – Peka Industrial Park:** An upgrade to the Peka Industrial Park entrance is starting soon and taking up to 3 months to complete. The work will be completed in 3 stages and a temporary entrance available while the permanent entrance is being upgraded. While this work is underway traffic management, and a reduced speed limit will be in place.

#### Eastern Bay of Plenty

- **SH2 Ōtamarākau:** Road repairs start Tuesday 3 June on SH2, between Ōtamarākau and Matatā, and is expected to take 2 weeks. The work will take place weekdays, at various points along the state highway, with stop/go traffic management in place 7am to 5pm each day.
- **SH35 Ōpape:** The road will open to 2 lanes today will slip repairs now finished. The site now has a new gabion wall, upgraded drainage and a new road surface with new line marking to come. [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 1 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 Friday 23 May and Friday 6 June 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.
- **SH25A Kirikiri Stream Bridge:** Work to repair erosion damage beneath the bridge continues, there is a lane closure and stop/go traffic management in place during working hours. This work is due to be completed by mid-June.
- **SH26 Ōhinemuri Bridge, Paeroa:** Investigation work will start on Sunday 8 June and take up to 3 nights between 8pm and 5am, due to the narrow width of the bridge there will be a lane closure with stop/go in place to keep everyone safe.

#### Central Waikato

- **SH1 Putāruru:** From next Tuesday 3 June for 5 nights (Tuesday to Thursday and Sunday and Monday the following week) the road will be closed southbound on the Putāruru roundabout to enable South Waikato District Council to undertake maintenance. There will also be a closure on Main Road. During the work there will be traffic management and a temporary speed limit in place. A detour will be available for southbound vehicles via Neal Street, Commerce Street and Market Street back to SH1.
- **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 scales, associated camera technology and electronic sign boards. 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 to late June. [More information](#)

## West Waikato

- **Mystery Creek Fieldays:** National Fieldays is on from Wednesday 11 to Saturday 14 of June, with roads around Mystery Creek south of Hamilton heavily congested. For motorists travelling in and around this part of the Waikato state highway network, alternative routes and travel arrangements are recommended between Tuesday 10 and Sunday 15 June. More information about alternative routes will be shared closer to the time.
- **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 Tamahere:** On Tuesday 17 June the southbound off-ramp will be closed at the Tamahere Interchange for water cutting to take place, the closure is between 9pm and 5am. There will be a detour in place for all southbound vehicles is via Victoria Road Interchange to return northbound to exit at the Tamahere interchange.
- **SH1 Cambridge Expressway:** Crews are returning to the southern end of the Waikato Expressway south of the Victoria Interchange to continue road resurfacing on Monday 9 and Tuesday 10 June during the day between 6am and 8pm. 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](#).
- **SH3 Ōhaupō:** Drainage maintenance is taking place near West Road on SH3 near Ōhaupō for 3 nights between 6pm and 6am from Tuesday 3 June. Traffic management will be in place while the work is ongoing.
- **SH30 Te Kūiti:** On Sunday 8 June between 5am and 5pm there will be work taking place on the service covers on SH30 between Carroll Street and Rora Street, the road will be closed to through traffic during this time. Light vehicles will be detoured via Rora Street, heavy, HPMV's and over-dimension vehicles must use Lawrence Street, Te Kūiti Road, Anzac Parade, Jennings Street, Esplanade, Tammadge Street, Somerville Road and Te Kumi Station Road to re-join SH3.

## North Waikato

- **SH1 Mercer Interchange to Island Bock Road:** There will be a full southbound closure from Monday 2 to Thursday 5 June between 9pm and 5am for maintenance. Traffic will still be able to travel south using one of the northbound lanes.

- **SH1 Dragway Road:** There will be southbound lane restrictions near Dragway Road intersection from Monday 2 to Thursday 5 June between 9pm and 5am for maintenance. Traffic will still be able to travel south at all times.
- **SH2 Between Rawiri Road/Golf Course Road and Maxwell Road:** There will be stop/go traffic management in place on Wednesday 4 June between 9pm and 5am for maintenance.
- **SH2 Between Okaeria Road and Steen Road:** There will be stop/go traffic management in place on Wednesday 4 June between 9pm and 5am for maintenance.

### **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)
- Phone: 0800 4 HIGHWAYS (0800 44 44 49)