

Waikato & Bay of Plenty State Highway Works September 2025

As the weather warms up, road crews across New Zealand are gearing up for the busiest time of the year. You'll start to see more traffic management and more workers in hi-vis gear. That's because warm, dry weather creates the perfect conditions for road maintenance.

Sandra King, NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) Bay of Plenty System Manager says we've got a full season of maintenance work ready to begin.

"Good weather gives us the best conditions to get this work done properly. When the ground is dry and temperatures are stable, we can deliver new roads and fresh seals that last."

Maintenance crews simply can't complete these big jobs in winter. Cold, wet conditions stop asphalt from bonding properly and make it hard to consistently carry out work.

"We know that sitting at a stop/go or crawling past cones isn't anyone's idea of fun, but your patience and speed through road work sites assists in the delivery of good work. Each job we finish now helps cut down on future disruptions and makes everyday travel safer and more reliable. "

"Every crew out on the road is working hard to make your journeys safer, smoother and more efficient. Patience from drivers makes a huge difference for everyone," says Mrs King.

What really matters is how people behind the cones are treated.

"Road workers often cop the brunt of driver frustration – from angry words to dangerous behaviour. They work through all sorts of challenging situations and weather, keeping our communities connected and improving driving conditions."

"Abuse doesn't get the job done any faster. In fact, it only makes an already tough job harder. The men and women on the road are there to make sure your journey is safe. They're people with families, working long hours often in the heat to improve our transport network."

"Road crews are members of our community too. Treating them with kindness and understanding helps everyone get home safely. They don't deserve the abuse that sometimes happens on our roads"

"Roadworks aren't just about filling potholes or resurfacing asphalt. They're about making sure you get where you need to go safely, whether it's the daily commute, a summer road trip or a quick drive down to your local shops."

"A little patience goes a long way. Slow down, stay alert and remember that the people behind the cones are there to keep you safe," says Mrs King.

To find out more about the upcoming maintenance season, sign up to receive your regional newsletter [here](#).

Bay of Plenty

Tauranga

- **SH2/Fifteenth Ave:** Major work building the connection from SH2/Fifteenth Ave to SH29/Takitimu Drive Toll Road continue as part of the Takitimu North Link Project. 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.](#)

- **Tauriko Enabling Works:** As part of ongoing construction in the area there are multiple active work sites, temporary traffic management including shoulder closures, lane shifts, mobile operations, and reduced speed limits in effect. Active sites and potentially disruptive works include:
- **SH29/Redwood Lane:** As part of ongoing construction in the area, temporary traffic management including shoulder closures, lane shifts, mobile operations, and reduced speed limits are currently in effect. Night works will continue from **Sunday 21 September** (7pm to 5am, Sunday to Thursday nights) for road construction next to the SH29 southbound lane, and surfacing works on SH29 between Gargan Road, south of Belk Road and Redwood Lane. These night works are weather dependent and include temporary traffic management with a 3-way stop/go operation and a 30km/h speed limit through the site. The lane shift on SH29 for watermain works will be move slightly west as the works progress southbound along SH29 from Gargan Road towards Redwood Lane, with a (24/7) lane shift and a 50km/h speed limit on SH29. People are encouraged to be patient and drive carefully through the site while works are underway. [More information.](#)
- **SH29/Tauriko Village:** As part of ongoing construction, there are multiple active work sites along the northern side of SH29 in Tauriko Village and on Cambridge Road, with temporary traffic management including reduced speed limits, mobile operations, shoulder closures, and lane shifts in place as required.

Monday 22 September, 9am to 4pm work to live underground power cables will be carried out on Cambridge Road. Temporary traffic management includes stop/go and a 30km/h speed limit on Cambridge Road, with the right-turn bay from Cambridge Road to SH29 closed. Hamilton-bound traffic must turn left onto SH29, then use the SH29/SH36 roundabout to change direction. There will also be a lane shift and shoulder closure on SH29 (westbound towards Hamilton) and a 60km/h speed limit on all approaches to the work site. All eastbound traffic (towards Tauranga/Bethlehem via Cambridge Road) will be maintained.

Night works are planned for Monday 22 September (7pm to 6am) to complete a concrete pour on Cambridge Road. Traffic management will be in place on Cambridge Road and SH29 including a 30km/h speed limit and stop/go. Dates are weather dependent, and if delayed will be carried out on the next suitable shift. On Sunday 28 September, 9am to 4pm, work to remove redundant power poles will be underway on Cambridge Road. To safely remove the poles, the northbound lane (heading to Bethlehem) on Cambridge Road will be closed (detours in place). Traffic management includes shoulder closures and mobile operations on SH29, with SH29 traffic being maintained in both directions. Bethlehem-bound vehicles from SH29 must use the SH29 Takitimu Drive Toll Road (tolls apply) or SH29A Cameron Road (free route). The southbound lane on Cambridge Road will remain open. People are encouraged to be patient and drive carefully through the site while works are underway. [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.](#)
- **SH29A Maungatapu Bridge:** Bridge maintenance continues underneath the structure with no disruption to traffic, but workers will be visible between 7.30am and 4pm Monday to Friday. The work is expected to be completed late September.

- **SH2 Tauranga Eastern Link Toll Road:** The toll road will be closed overnight Wednesday 17 September, between 8pm and 5am, for works on the Pāpāmoa East Interchange. A detour will be in place via Te Puke Highway. This work is weather dependent.

Western Bay of Plenty

- **SH2 Apata Station Road:** The intersection is currently operating as a roundabout with temporary speed limits in place until final surfacing works are completed in spring. Please follow the temporary signs.
- **SH2 Esdaile Road/Pahoia Road intersection:** Road widening works are underway at this intersection. There will be speed restrictions and intermittent stop/go traffic management. Follow the temporary signs and directions of the traffic management team and watch for layout changes. Expect delays.
- **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 intersection upgrade:** Road construction and service relocation works are underway in preparation for the new roundabout. A temporary single-lane roundabout is operational at this intersection. Please be aware that speed restrictions and intermittent stop/go traffic management are in place. Delays are expected, particularly during peak times. [More information](#)
- **SH2 Youngson Road closure:** The SH2 northbound lane (traffic travelling towards Katikati) has shifted to the centre of the road to create space on the left for road widening for the SH2 Ōmokoroa Road intersection upgrade. While this configuration is in place Youngson Road intersection is now closed with no entry/exit to SH2. A detour is in place via Barrett Road and the Old Highway Road. Work is expected to take up to 6 weeks. [More information here.](#)
- **Wairoa Road:** The area around the Wairoa Road overbridge will under stop/go traffic management from Monday 15 September, between 7.30am and 6pm, for drainage installation as part of the Takitimu North Link project. A 24 hour stop/go in the same area will be in place starting October for up to 6 weeks while tie-in works at the southern end of the bridge are completed (timeframes are weather dependent).
- **Minden Road North:** During the 2025/26 construction season (September to April), the final upgrades to Minden Road will be completed as part of the Takitimu North Link project, between the new twin roundabouts and Te Puna shops. Current works include removing the bank on the western side of Minden Road and road widening. This phase of work will take 3 to 4 weeks and stop/go traffic management will be in place between 7.30am and 6pm.

Rotorua

- **SH30 Te Ngae Road-Wharenuī Road:** A 40km/h speed limit is in place on SH30 Te Ngae Road approaching the Wharenuī Road intersection and will remain in place until October when skid resistant surfacing is laid. The new signals and road layout are in place and Wharenuī Road is open to vehicles. [More information.](#)

- **SH5 Tārukenga:** Between Barker Road and Maraeroa Road, road rehab works will take place weekdays from Monday 15 September to Thursday 16 October. This work is weather dependent. Temporary traffic management will include stop/go and speed restrictions during work hours (7am to 5pm).

Eastern Bay of Plenty

- **SH2 Pekatahi Bridge:** SH2 will be closed for one day Monday 15 September, between 10.30am and 2pm, for a bridge inspection. This is ahead of daily closures for essential bridge maintenance from Monday 29 September to Friday 3 October, between 8.30am and 4.30pm. During the closures vehicles will be detoured via Whakatāne. [Detour map.](#)
- **SH2 Waimana Gorge:** In July, an underslip developed southeast of Tāneatua on SH2. The road is under 24-hour traffic management with traffic lights operating to allow traffic to pass along the single lane. A repair solution has been confirmed, potential future road closures may be needed to complete repairs due to how narrow the site is. Contract documents are being drafted to appoint the Contractor. [More information.](#)
- **SH2/Wainui Road, Matekerepu, near Ōpōtiki:** Roundabout construction continues, and a lane shift is in place for people traveling on Wainui Road towards Ōpōtiki, expected to be in place until later this year. All other road users 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 be completed by April 2026.
- **SH35 Tōrere:** Slip repairs are underway near Te Kura O Tōrere east of Ōpōtiki. Stop/go traffic management is in place. These works are expected to be completed in September, weather permitting. [More information.](#)
- **SH2 Waioweka Gorge:** A shoulder closure remains in place in the Waioweka Gorge near Ōpōnae. The design is now confirmed, and work is expected to take approximately 4 months to complete. Contract documents are currently being drafted to appoint the Contractor.

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.
- **SH25 Manaia Hill:** Underslip repairs are underway until late October. The road is reduced to a single lane with stop/go and temporary speed restrictions in place.

Central Waikato

SH1 Tīrau to Waikouru Accelerated Road Maintenance Project

- **Taupō to Tūrangi:** Waitahanui road widening to create 2 right-turn bays. Lane switches and temporary speed limits in place. **Hātepe passing lanes** - enabling work expected to start next week using lane switches and temporary speed limits. From Sunday 21 September, overnight stop/go traffic management in place 5 nights (Sunday to Thursday), 7pm to 6am, for asphaltting. Temporary speed limits will be in place during the day.
- **Tīrau:** Overnight road closures start on Sunday 14 September, south of SH1 and Rose Street/Hillcrest Street intersection. Work will take place between 7pm and 6am, Sunday to Thursday. Traffic will be detoured via SH27, Patetere Street, Okoroire Road, Hetherington Road, SH5 and back to SH1. This adds approx. 6 mins and 10km to your journey. [Sign-up to the newsletter.](#)
- **SH1/SH5 Taupō:** A Commercial Vehicle Safety Centre is under construction at the SH1/SH5 roundabout. The in-road weigh-in-motion scales on the 5 roads heading towards the safety centre have been installed. Work on the camera technology and electronic sign boards is progressing. Work in the lanes has largely finished, apart from an occasional lane closure for a day, but continues on the road shoulders. [More information.](#)
- **SH5/SH28 Harwoods Road:** Construction of a roundabout at this intersection east of Tīrau is underway. Traffic is being managed through the site with speed restrictions. Traffic will be on the new roundabout in March 2026. [More information](#)

West Waikato

- **SH1/SH29 Piarere intersection:** The bulk of the work on the new SH1/29 roundabout in Piarere is now complete and the final planting is being done. Some minor finishing touches including surfacing and line marking will continue through the summer sealing season. [More information.](#)

North Waikato

- **SH2 (near Mangatarata):** Stop/go traffic management will be in place for the following closures. Please follow traffic management directions and stop when asked
- Between Steen Road and SH25 roundabout from Sunday 14 to Thursday 18 September between 9pm and 5am, excluding Friday and Saturday nights.

Manawatū -Whanganui

- **SH4 Ōtoko:** Work is underway to repair an underslip on SH4, near Ōtoko, where the road has been down to one lane. The road closure that was in place has now lifted and stop/go temporary traffic management is in place on weekdays 6am-6pm until Friday 10 October 2025 while crews work to reinstate the northbound lane. Delays of up to 15 minutes are expected.

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.](#)

Taranaki

- **SH3 Mt Messenger:** Repairs to the underslip at SH3 Mt Messenger are underway, with the aim of reinstating the road to 2 lanes. Work began in August and is scheduled for completion by 17 October, weather permitting. If conditions are unsuitable, work will be postponed to the next suitable day. Crews will be on site from 6am to 6pm each day, including weekends where possible. Stop/go traffic management is in place with delays of approximately 20-30 minutes.
- **SH3 Tongapōrutu:** SH3 at Tongapōrutu remains under a 70km/h temporary speed limit due to an underslip damaging the northbound lane. We are working to determine a long-term repair for the area pending further geotechnical assessment, details to come once confirmed.
- **SH4 Mapara North:** Drainage improvements are underway, expected to be complete mid September, weather permitting. Crews will be onsite between 6am and 6pm Monday to Saturday each week. Traffic management will be in place with a combination of lane switches and stop/go between Mapara North and Kopaki Road, with delays of approximately 10 to 15 minutes.

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 for a safe, enjoyable journey. Keep up to date with:

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- [Facebook](#)
- [X](#)
- [Journey Planner](#)
- Phone: 0800 4 HIGHWAYS (0800 44 44 49)

