

Waikato & Bay of Plenty State Highway Works September 2025

With maintenance season upon us, you'll probably come across more work sites on your journey and a bit more disruption on our roads. These works are to keep the state highway network safe and in good shape, but they also mean more crews working just metres away from live traffic.

That's why speed limits through work sites are so important. Our roading crews are out there fixing potholes, resealing surfaces and upgrading infrastructure so we can all travel more safely. When you ease off the accelerator, you're giving them the space and security they need to get their job done and get home safely to their whānau.

Andy Oakley, NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) Waikato System Manager says speed is a factor every driver can control.

"When drivers slow down, it makes a huge difference to the safety of our crews and the quality of work we can deliver."

Lower speeds are also safer for you too. Work sites often bring lane changes, heavy machinery and uneven road surfaces. Sticking to the posted limit gives you more time to react and keeps everyone – including your passengers safer.

So next time you come across a site and see our traffic management and temporary speed limits, remember they're there for a good reason - to protect the people working hard on the roads and to keep you moving safely.

"By slowing down through work sites, you're reducing the risk of something going wrong – for our crews and for yourself," says Mr Oakley.

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



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

Chipseal, aftercare, and you!

One of the most common types of roadworks you'll come across this maintenance season is chipsealing, and while it might look simple, it's actually a pretty sensitive process.

Chipsealing relies heavily on the right environment and careful aftercare. One of the biggest factors? How we drive over it.

When a fresh chipseal is laid, traffic is directed over it at 30km/h, and that's not just a suggestion. That speed helps the stone chips compact and interlock properly, which is key to creating a strong, long-lasting surface.

Here's what happens when we don't stick to the speed limit:

- Too fast? You'll flick loose chips off the road, leaving gaps behind.
- Too slow? The surface can overheat and stick to your tyres, pulling up chips and damaging the seal.

Once the seal has settled, the excess chip gets swept away and road markings are added, but until then, it's a delicate balance.

So next time you're traveling through a chipseal site, do your part: stick to 30km/h. It's a small action that makes a big difference to the quality and lifespan of our roads.

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:** A lane shift on SH29 near Gargan Road remains in place for watermain works. It will shift slightly west as the works progress along SH29 towards Redwood Lane. A 50km/h speed limit is in place through the site. [More information.](#)
- **SH29/Tauriko Village:** On **Monday, 22 September**, 9am to 4pm, work to live underground power cables will be carried out on Cambridge Road. There will be 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 **Wednesday 24 September**, 7pm to 6am, with a reduced speed limit of 30km/h and stop/go on Cambridge Road for a large concrete pour.
On **Sunday 28 September**, 9am to 4pm, work to remove redundant power poles will be underway on Cambridge Road. To safely remove the poles, a short section of the northbound lane on Cambridge Road (heading to Bethlehem) will be closed, from the intersection with SH29 to 559 Cambridge Road. 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. Traffic management will include shoulder closures and mobile operations on SH29, with SH29 traffic maintained in both directions. Meanwhile work will be happening on SH29 near Gargan Road to relocate a lane shift. [More information.](#)

- **SH29 Takitimu Drive Toll Road:** A reduced speed limit of 70km/h remains in place while crews are working behind the barriers on the construction of a flyover bridge and southbound slip lane works for the Takitimu North Link project. 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 Monday 22 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.
- **SH2 Esdaile Road/Pahoia Road intersection:** Starting Thursday 25 September, intermittent stop/stop and stop/go traffic management will be in place for vegetation clearing weekdays, between 9am and 4pm, and is expected to take 5 days. This is ahead of retaining wall construction, south of the SH2 Pahoia/Esdaile Roads intersection, to widen the road as part of intersection improvements. This work is weather dependent. Expect delays.
- **SH2 Pahoia Road to Plummers Point Road:** Lane shifts, speed restrictions and intermittent stop/go traffic management will be in place while services are being installed.
- **SH2 Ōmokoroa Road intersection upgrade:** Speed restrictions and intermittent stop/go traffic management is in place. A temporary single-lane roundabout is operational while road construction and service relocation works are underway in preparation for the new roundabout. 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 be completed October. [More information here.](#)
- **Takitimu North Link Stage 2:** A programme of ground investigations, including geotechnical testing, topographical survey and soil contamination testing will be underway from Monday 22 September to until December, on key sites near Snodgrass, Ainsworth, Te Puna Quarry and Munro roads, and near Oturu and Te Puna streams. People travelling through this area may notice these activities alongside SH2.
- **Wairoa Road:** The area around the Wairoa Road overbridge is under stop/go traffic management, 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 6 October while tie-in works at the southern end of the bridge are completed and will take 6 weeks, 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

- **SH33 between Ōkere Falls and Allport Road:** From Tuesday 23 through to Friday 26 September, between 7am and 5pm, stop/go traffic management and a 30km/h temporary speed limit will be in place while drainage works is underway.
- **SH30 Te Ngae Road-Wharenui Road:** A 40km/h speed limit is in place on SH30 Te Ngae Road approaching the Wharenui 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 Wharenui Road is open to vehicles. [More information.](#)
- **SH5 Tārukenga:** Between Barker Road and Maraeroa Road, road rehab works are underway, 7am to 5pm weekdays, through to Thursday 16 October. Temporary traffic management includes stop/go and speed restrictions. This work is weather dependent.

Eastern Bay of Plenty

- **SH2 Pekatahi Bridge:** SH2 will be closed for 5 days from Monday 29 September to Friday 3 October, between 8.30am and 4.30pm, for essential bridge maintenance. During the closures vehicles will be detoured via Whakatāne. [Detour map.](#)
- **SH2 Matatā straights:** One day of chipsealing will take place Monday 22 September, between 8am and 5pm, near Mimiha Road. Stop/go traffic management and a reduced speed limit will be in place. Delays of up to 17 minutes may occur throughout the day.
- **SH2 Waimana Gorge, southeast of Tāneatua:** The road is down to one lane and under 24-hour stop/go traffic management with traffic lights due to the narrow nature of the site. A repair solution for the underslip has been confirmed, potential future road closures may be needed once repairs works start. [More information.](#)
- **SH2/Wainui Road, Matekerepu, near Ōpōtiki:** A lane shift is in place for people traveling on Wainui Road towards Ōpōtiki, expected to be in place until later this year, while a roundabout is constructed. 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:** Stop/go traffic management is in place for slip repairs underway near Te Kura O Tōrere east of Ōpōtiki. These works are expected to be completed this month, weather permitting. [More information.](#)
- **SH2 Waioweka Gorge:** A shoulder closure remains in place in the Waioweka Gorge near Ōpōnae. Repair work is planned and expected to take approximately 4 months.

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.

- **SH25 Manaia Hill:** The road is reduced to a single lane with stop/go and temporary speed restrictions in place for underslip repairs. Completion expected late October.

Central Waikato

SH1 Tīrau to Waīouru Accelerated Road Maintenance Project

- **Taupō to Tūrangi:** Work continues at Waitahanui next week. Lane shifts and temporary speed limits are in place, please follow the traffic management and stick to the speed limits.
- **Tīrau:** Overnight road closures continue. SH1 is closed at night south of the Rose Street/Hillcrest Street intersection. Work is between 7pm and 6am Sunday to Thursday. Traffic is detoured via SH27, Patetere Street, Okoroire Road, Hetherington Road, SH5 and back to SH1. This adds approx. 6 mins and 10km to your journey.
- **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.](#)
- **SH39 Kakaramēa Road:** Shoulder and drainage works will begin on Monday 22 September and are expected to take 3 weeks to complete. Work to rebuild the road will begin on Monday 13 October and is expected to take 2 weeks to complete. Traffic management will include shoulder closures and lane closures controlled by a stop/go. Work is weather dependent.

North Waikato

- **SH1 Waikato Expressway, Pōkeno - Nikau Road to Razorback Road:** Southbound lane restrictions from Sunday 21 to Thursday 25 September, between 9pm and 5am. The Nikau Road southbound on-ramp and Razorback southbound off-ramp will be closed. Please use the recommended detour:
For Nikau Road southbound on-ramp please use alternative on-ramp at Beaver Road.
For Razorback Drive southbound off-ramp please detour via Pōkeno Interchange and follow the signposted detour.
- **SH2 Maramarua:** Stop/go traffic management will be in place for the following closures:
 - between Rawiri Road and Kopuku Road on Monday 22 September between 9pm and 5am
 - between Dimmock Road and Heaven Road on Monday 22 September between 9pm and 5am
 - between Maramarua township and Monument Road on Tuesday 23 September between 9pm and 5am

- between Okaeria Road and Steen Road on Tuesday 23 September between 9pm and 5am.

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 by the end of 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 10-15 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:

- [Traffic updates](#)
- [Facebook](#)
- [X](#)

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