

Waikato & Bay of Plenty State Highway Works September 2025

Respect the Road – it takes all of us

Every day, road workers across Aotearoa New Zealand are out in all conditions, rebuilding and maintaining the roads we all rely on. Whether it's a quick repair or a full rehabilitation, these crews work hard to keep our journeys safe, smooth, and reliable.

But they can't do it alone. We need every driver to play their part:

- Slow down near work sites
- Follow temporary speed limits within each work site
- Stay alert and avoid distractions
- Show respect to the people doing the mahi.

SH5 Mamaku: Don't rush the red – road workers ahead



At the SH5 rehabilitation site near Mamaku, workers have reported a disturbing increase in reckless driving and verbal abuse. In just one day, 23 drivers ran the red light intentionally, endangering themselves and the crew on site.

“We’re asking all drivers to make safe choices – for themselves and our crews,” says Sandra King, System Manager for Bay of Plenty. “We know most drivers do the right thing – but even one risky choice can have serious consequences.”

The site is set up with clear signs and electronic boards to give plenty of warning to drivers.

“We understand that road works can be disruptive to travel – we are doing this work so you can have safer and smoother journeys and we aim to give plenty of notice before work starts, and around the work site. We ask that you plan ahead and factor in time for some delays.”

Rebuilding roads takes time, skill, and care – and every safe choice from drivers helps us get the job done faster and safer. Let’s work together to keep everyone safe – respect the cones, respect the crew, respect the road.

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

State highway maintenance and renewals weekly update

Bay of Plenty

Tauranga

Work starting soon:

- **SH29 Kaimai Range**
 - **SH29 Lower Kaimai:** Rebuild works on approximately 1.5km of SH29 near Valley View Road begins on Sunday 28 September and will continue into early 2026. Traffic management includes lane shifts, lane closures, and the closure of the passing lane near Valley View Road. Work will occur Monday to Friday, with stop/go traffic management in place between 8am and 5pm, and overnight Sunday to Thursday (7pm to 6am). No work will occur on weekends, and 2 lanes will be open. Speed limits of 30km/h during work hours and 50km/h outside work hours will apply.
 - **SH29 closure:** There will be a road closure for 5 nights from Sunday 12 October to Friday 17 October, between 7.30pm and 3am, for scheduled maintenance works. The road will reopen at 3am each morning. Closure points are at SH29/SH24 and SH29/SH28 intersections on the western side, and SH29/Cambridge Road intersection on the eastern side.
- **Taurikura Drive to SH36 roundabout:** There will be an eastbound lane closure overnight on Friday 3 October. Traffic exiting Tauranga Crossing will be detoured via Whiore Avenue and Paraone Koikoi Drive. The lane will reopen on Saturday morning.

Work underway:

- **Tauriko Enabling Works**
 - **SH29/Redwood Lane:** Night works are planned for Thursday 2 October from midnight to 4am on SH29, between north of Redwood Lane and Gargan Road, as part of a service installation. Traffic management will include a lane deviation and reduced speed limit through the site. [More information.](#)
 - **SH29/Tauriko Village:** On Sunday 28 September, 9am to 4pm, work to remove redundant power poles will take place on Cambridge Road. 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.
- **Taurikura Drive (SH36 to Whiore Avenue):** Traffic management is in place across multiple day and night work sites. The footpath leading to Pak'nSave will reopen on Sunday 28 September, and the new access to the lower Tauranga Crossing carpark will open overnight, with the temporary access removed on Wednesday 1 October.

- **SH2/Fifteenth Ave:** One lane at SH2/Fifteenth Ave near Edgecumbe Road is closed while the new connection to SH29/Takitimu Drive Toll Road takes place, this is likely to remain in place until mid-2026. [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.](#)

Western Bay of Plenty

Work underway:

- **SH2 Pahoia/Esdaile intersection:** Road widening works are underway at this intersection. Vegetation clearance and tree felling continue this week with intermittent stop/stop, and stop/go traffic management from 9am to 4pm weekdays which may cause delays.
- **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 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 for road widening. While this configuration is in place the Youngson Road intersection is now closed with no entry/exit to SH2. A detour is in place via Barrett Road and Old Highway Road. Work is expected to be complete in October.
- **Wairoa Road:** The area around the Wairoa Road overbridge is under stop/go traffic management, between 7.30am and 6pm, for drainage installation. 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.
- **Minden Road North:** Current works include removing the bank on the western side of Minden Road and road widening. This phase of work will be completed mid-October and stop/go traffic management is in place between 7.30am and 6pm.

Rotorua

Work 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 mid-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 rebuild works are underway, 7am to 5pm weekdays, through to Thursday 16 October. Temporary traffic management includes stop/go and speed restrictions.

Eastern Bay of Plenty

Work starting soon:

- **SH2 Pekatahi Bridge:** SH2 is 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.](#) [More information.](#)

Work underway:

- **SH2 Matatā:** Resealing work on SH2 and Mimihi Road will take place on Monday 29 September and Wednesday 5 November. Road users should expect stop/go traffic management between 7am and 6pm during this time. Delays of up to 17 minutes are expected.
- **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 repair works start. [More information.](#)
- **SH2/Wainui Road, Matekerepu, near Ōpōtiki:** Traffic management is in place while a roundabout is constructed. 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. [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

Work starting soon:

- **SH25 Thames Coast - closure:** A deck replacement project at Boundary Creek Bridge, between Te Mata and Waikawau, will see the road closed for 7 days from Wednesday 29 October. Work to strengthen and repair the bridge supports and install a new deck will take about 10 weeks to complete and will begin on Monday 13 October 2025. The road will remain open to traffic during this time, except for the 7-day closure at the bridge starting at 5am on Wednesday 29 October. While SH25 is temporarily closed, access will be maintained to all businesses and properties along SH25 up to the bridge from north and south, but there will be no through traffic. The detour is via SH25A to Hikuai and continue north via Tairua and Whitianga. For those heading south from Coromandel Town, reverse the route. [More information.](#)
- **SH25A Kōpū Hikuai Road - closure:** Daytime closures are needed on SH25A for 2 weeks in November for a major road rebuild. The work will take place from Monday 10 November until approximately Friday 21 November, with the highway closed from 8am-5pm Monday-Saturday. The road will reopen under single lane and stop/go each evening from 5pm and on Sunday 16 November. Delays can be expected. Critical services such as first responders and school buses will be escorted through the site during the day. All other vehicles will be required to take the SH25 detour which adds an hour to the travel time. [More information.](#)

Work underway:

- **SH25A Hikuai:** Work to replace a culvert on SH25A is underway until early November. The highway is reduced to a single lane with stop/go traffic management and a temporary speed restriction in place.
- **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.
- **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 using the new roundabout in March 2026. [More information.](#)

West Waikato

Work starting soon:

- **SH1C Kahikatea Drive**
 - **Quentin Drive to Alison Street:** Resurfacing works will begin on Sunday 19 October, running Sunday to Thursday nights between 8pm and 5am. This section is expected to take five nights to complete. Stop/go traffic management will be in place during work hours. The Alison Street intersection with SH1C will be closed to through traffic during works. Access to the laundromat, shops, and Z service station will remain via Kahikatea Drive. Exiting will be via Alison Street and local roads.
 - **Alison Street to Tawa Street:** Resurfacing of this section will take place in November, with dates to be confirmed. Stop/go traffic management will be in place during work hours.
- **SH1C Te Rapa Expressway (Wairere Drive Interchange):** the road will be closed for resurfacing and remedial works from Sunday 5 October to Thursday 16 October, between 8pm and 5am each night. The closure includes two contingency nights.

Work underway:

- **SH39 Kakaramea Road:** Shoulder and drainage works near Walsh Road have started, under stop/go traffic management. A full rebuild requires a detour for 2 weeks running 24/7 starting at 7am on Monday 13 October until 29 October. The detour route is SH23 and Tuhikaramea Road and adds about 8 minutes to travel times. Inter-regional traffic should consider using SH1 and SH3 to avoid the closure.

Work completed:

- **SH1/SH29 Piarere Roundabout:** Major construction works on the new 60-metre roundabout at Piarere are now complete. Minor finishing works, including surfacing and line marking, will continue during the summer sealing season. NZTA thanks motorists for their patience throughout the project. [More information.](#)

Central Waikato

- **Delays expected for tangihanga near Tūrangi:** Road users should be aware that traffic will be heavier than usual on SH1 between Taupō and Tūrangi and on SH41 until Monday 29 September for the tangihanga of Sir Tumu te Heuheu, the ariki and paramount chief of Ngāti Tūwharetoa. Road users should expect delays and adhere to any temporary traffic management.

Work underway:

- **Tirau:** Overnight road closures continue. SH1 is closed south of the Rose Street/Hillcrest Street intersection between 7pm and 6am Sunday to Thursday. During the day SH1 is open under temporary speed limits. Traffic is being detoured via SH27, Patetere Street, Okoroire Road, Hetherington Road, SH5 and back to SH1. This adds approximately 6 mins and 10km to journeys.
- **The Tirau Spring Festival** is on this evening (Friday 26 September) between 5pm-9pm. Please follow the traffic management in place at Tirau and the temporary speed limits.
- **SH32 Whakamaru Dam:** SH32 will be closed from Monday 13 October for up to 10 days to allow for crane operations and asset maintenance at the Whakamaru Dam bridge. Detours will be in place, with motorists advised to travel via SH1 through Taupō if heading south, or via Pōhipi Road if coming from SH30. These works are being delivered by Mercury NZ.
- **SH1 Taupō to Tūrangi:** Work continues at Waitahanui. Lane shifts and temporary speed limits are in place, please follow the traffic management and stick to the speed limits. Overnight work started at Hatepe Hill on Thursday 25 September using stop/go traffic management. Work is Sunday to Thursday so the next shift will be this Sunday 28 September, please prepare for some delays. This work is subject to weather.

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 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 Tirau is underway. Traffic is being managed through the site with speed restrictions. Traffic will be on the new roundabout in March 2026. [More information](#)

North Waikato

Work underway:

- **SH1 Nikau Road to Razorback Road:** There will be southbound lane restrictions from Sunday 28 September to Thursday 2 October 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 Pokeno interchange and follow the signposted detour.
- **SH2 – night works and stop/go closures:** Stop/go traffic management will be in place on SH2 across multiple locations between 9pm and 5am on the following dates:
 - Monday 29 September: Between Irish Road and Dobson Road, and between Wyatt Road and Coalfields Road.
 - Tuesday 30 September: Between Mangatawhiri Road and Rawiri Road.
 - Wednesday 1 October: Between SH1/SH2 link and McPherson Road, and between Kopuku Road and Maramarua township.
 - Thursday 2 October: Between Kopuku Road and Ferndale Road, and between Steen Road and the SH25 roundabout.

Manawatū -Whanganui

- **SH4 Ōtoko:** Work is underway to repair an underslip on SH4, near Ōtoko. 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, to reinstate the road to 2 lanes. Work began in August and is scheduled for completion by end of 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 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.

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)**
