



The impact that Cyclone Gabrielle has had across the State Highway network is shown [here](#) on State Highway 25 through Thames.

WEEKLY REPORT TO THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT

Week ending 17 February 2023

#316

1. CURRENT BRIEFINGS (BRI) AND MINISTER QUERIES (MIN)

REFERENCE	TITLE	DUE DATE
Minister Wood		
MIN-4061	Maintenance and Network Outcomes Contracts review	COMPLETED
MIN-4064	Update on Vehicle Licencing Reform phase two evaluation	COMPLETED
MIN-4066	Local Government New Zealand Sector Meeting speech notes	COMPLETED
MINO-586	Road User Charge Act Consultation	COMPLETED
MINO-588	Update on engagement plan for Waitemata Harbour Crossing	COMPLETED
BRI-2697	State Highway 35 remediation plan	TBC
MINO-589	Christchurch Mass Rapid Transport engagement plan and collateral	Week ending 16 February 2023
MINO-561	Clean Car Discount monthly update	17 February 2023
BRI-2705	National Vehicle Kilometres Travelled reduction plan and programmes	Week ending 23 February 2023
MINO-591	Public Transport issues in Auckland	Week ending 23 February 2023
MINO-601	Driver licence security issues	Week ending 23 February 2023
BRI-2673	Update on contact centre and customer interface action plan	Week ending 2 March 2023
BRI-2692	Future Panmure Microbility Hub site visit	Week ending 2 March 2023
MIN-4069	Waka Kotahi response to critiques of the National Ticketing Solution Detailed Business Case	Week ending 2 March 2023

MINO-598	Announcement dates and communications for the Waitematā Harbour Connections Project	Week ending 2 March 2023
MINO-596	Engagement plan for Featherston Street and Golden Mile	Week ending 2 March 2023
BRI-2656	LGWM Partners' Meeting, 15 March 2023	Week ending 9 March 2023
MIN-4070	Monthly bus diver update	Week ending 9 March 2023
MINO-580	Waitemata Harbour Connections February monthly report	Week ending 9 March 2023
MINO-592	View of Auckland recovery and rebuild	Week ending 9 March 2023
MINO-593	Mass Rapid Transport internal capability	Week ending 9 March 2023
MIN-3887	Updated DSI per 100 million VKT table	Week ending 16 March 2023

2. ACTIONS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

REFERENCE	TITLE	DUE DATE
MINO-4067	LGWM Governance - maintaining active participant	COMPLETED
NZT-8253	Consumer Hub visuals for application concept	COMPLETED
MINO-591	Public Transport issues in Auckland	Week ending 23 February 2023
MINO-592	View of Auckland recovery and rebuild	Week ending 9 March 2023
MINO-593	Mass Rapid Transport internal capability	Week ending 9 March 2023

3. MEETINGS WITH OTHER MINISTERS

REFERENCE	DATE
N/A	

4. SELECT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

REFERENCE	DATE
Waka Kotahi Annual Reviewing Hearing	23 February 2023

5. KEY UPDATES

TITLE	UPDATE
Impact of Cyclone Gabrielle	<p>As of 16 February 2023, Waka Kotahi continues to work together with emergency management services to respond to Cyclone Gabrielle. The Minister's Office will be updated at the officials meeting on 20 February 2023 on the latest transport system developments.</p> <p>The State Highway network is severely impacted across central and northern New Zealand. State Highway 51 between Napier and Hastings has opened for essential travel only. SH5 between Napier and Taupō remains closed, along with all routes into Gisborne.</p> <p>As flood waters have receded, more roads in Northland have been reopened on 16 February 2023, which will allow freight to carry essential goods and services to the region. The official detour route to bypass the section of State Highway 1 currently closed between Brynderwyns and Waipu is now open for freight via State Highway 12/14. A full list of closures is provided in the general updates section.</p>
Safety of our people	<p>With significant disruptions, damage to property and power outages, many of our people are still dealing with the aftermath of Cyclone Gabrielle. We are actively monitoring and keeping connected with our team members, especially in the worst hit areas of Northland, Auckland, Tairāwhiti, Bay of Plenty, Waikato, and Hawke's Bay. Business Continuity Plans were invoked this week in offices closed because of Cyclone Gabrielle:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Whangarei and New Plymouth offices were reopened 15 February 2023.• Auckland AON Centre was reopened 16 February 2023.• Our Gisborne office is currently operating as an Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) so only open to our people involved with this work.• The Napier office remains closed until further notice.
RN 009A – Impact of half price fares on public transport	<p>Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency will shortly be publishing research results of the second survey for the <i>Impact of half price fares on public transport</i>. Results from the additional three months of research (August to October 2022) continue the previous patterns. Twenty-three percent of New Zealanders are currently using public transport and sixteen percent would have used public transport anyway. Half price fares have contributed to the remaining seven to eight percent, which are new public transport users:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Three percent switching from car/taxi

TITLE

UPDATE

- Three percent switching from walking or cycling
- One percent taking completely new public transport journeys.

While public transport use has not yet recovered to pre-COVID levels, the increased patronage from half price fares represents a third of all current public transport users.

New journeys taken because of half price fares are most likely to be work commutes. Those benefitting the most from half price fares are already well served by public transport and in city centres, especially Auckland and Wellington. Those aged under thirty-five, higher income households and Asian ethnicities also showed higher uptake of new journeys, but these groups are also concentrated in city centres and therefore better served by public transport. Many with a high level of public transport need (those with disabilities or those with no access to a car) took advantage of half price fares as they often live near to existing networks.

Two thirds of those switching or making new journeys on public transport because of half price fares were also influenced due to cost-of-living concerns. Public transport is now seen as significantly more affordable and better value.

Rail System Safety Governance Workshop - 14 February 2023

Due to Cyclone Gabrielle (the Cyclone), the Rail System Safety Governance Workshop has been postponed and will likely be rescheduled for 4 April 2023. Whilst this will delay progress, we predict there will be limited strategic impact.

Te Huia Hamilton/Auckland passenger service

KiwiRail formally applied for Safety Case Variation on 9 February 2023. The Rail Safety Regulator now has 20 working days to review and respond. Initial discussions have been positive. Barring the identification of unforeseen safety issues, the Safety Case Variation is expected to be approved by 9 March 2023 at the latest.

6. REGULAR UPDATES

TITLE	UPDATE
Public Transport Patronage	<p>Weather events and a public holiday significantly distorted public transport patronage figures over the last few weeks and is the case for this week also.</p> <p>Bus operators are reporting positive implications of the improved wage rates, with increased recruitment taking place both domestically and offshore. Retention has also improved.</p> <p>As work on developing operational policy for the Sustainable Public Transport Framework (SPTF) commences, the Bus Driver Terms and Conditions Steering Group has agreed to disestablish the group as a standalone group and will wrap it into the SPTF programme. All key members of the steering group, including unions, are represented in the SPTF governance structure.</p> <p><i>Due to staff illness, we are unable to supply the normal weekly patronage graph.</i></p>

7. GENERAL UPDATES

TITLE	UPDATE
Network Road Closures due to Weather Events and Crashes between 6 February – 13 February 2023	6 February 2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none">State Highway 50 Ashley Clinton, between Ashcott Road and Bridge Street: Both lanes closed for approximately 4.5 hours due to a crash and fire event.State Highway 79 Kakahu: Closed for approximately 2 hours due to a multi motorcycle pile up. Two people sustained serious injuriesSH2 Clareville, Wairarapa: Closed for approximately 4 hours due to fatal crash. Local was detour available.
	7 February 2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none">State Highway 2 between Chapel Street and Mirrielees Road in Tauranga: The eastbound Mirrieless Road off-ramp was closed for approximately 11 hours due to bridge repairs and maintenance. There was a detour in place.State Highway 2 Melling, Hutt Valley: Road closed for approximately 2.5 hours due to a police incident.
	8 February 2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none">State Highway 38 between Waihi Road and Piripaua Village Road: Closed for approximately 4 hours due to a stock truck breakdown.
	9 February 2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none">State Highway 2 Takapau, between the intersections with Speedy Road and Fraser Road: Closed for approximately 2 hours due to a car crash.State Highway 71 Fernside: Closed for approximately 4 hours due to a two-car crash. Two people sustained serious injuries.State Highway 2 Waioatahe Beach, between Paerata Ridge Road and Waioatahe Valley Back Road, west of Opotiki: Closed for 52.25 hours due to a large slip from recent rainfall. A detour was in place. This is in the same area as previous slips that occurred in late 2022.
	10 February 2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none">State Highway 30 Rotoma to State Highway 34 Te Teko: Closed for approximately 3 hours in both directions at Otakiri due to a crash.

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UPDATE

- State Highway 1 Ngauranga Gorge, Newland Northbound off ramp: Slip lane and off ramp was closed for approximately 7 hours through the night, due to a spill.

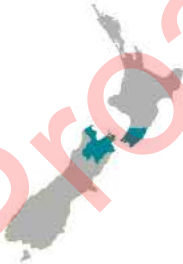
11 February 2023

- State Highway 35 between Herema Road and Hinahinanui Road: Closed for approximately 6 hours due to a fatal crash. This was a single vehicle crash where the vehicle left the road, which resulted in two fatalities. State Highway 35 was under stop/go whilst the crash was investigated.

12 February 2023

- State Highway 29: Closed for approximately 2 hours between McLaren Falls Road and Omanawa Road due to a crash between a camper van and a car.
- State Highway 11 Paihia: Closed due to flooding for approximately 3 hours.
- State Highway 1N Auckland Harbour Bridge: Closed due to strong winds for approximately 14 hours.
- State Highway 1N Onewa Road on-ramp: Southbound lane closed due to strong winds for approximately 11 hours.
- State Highway 16 eastbound link to State Highway 1 northbound: Closed due to strong winds for approximately 11 hours.
- State Highway 1N Esmonde Road on-ramp: Southbound Lane closed due to strong winds for approximately 11 hours.
- State Highway 16 westbound link to State Highway 1 Northbound Lane: Closed due to strong winds for approximately 11 hours.
- State Highway 1N Curran Street on-ramp: Northbound Lane closed due to strong winds for approximately 11 hours.
- State Highway 16 Link to Onewa Road onramp Northbound Lane. Closed due to strong winds for approximately 11 hours.
- State Highway 1N Fanshawe Street on-ramp, Northbound Lane: Closed due to strong winds for approximately 11 hours.
- State Highway 1N Wellington Street on-ramp: Northbound Lane: Closed due to strong winds for approximately 11 hours.
- State Highway 1N Esmonde Road to Hobson Street: Southbound Lane closed due to strong winds for approximately 11 hours.

8. REGIONAL UPDATES

REGIONAL AREA	UPDATE
Auckland/Northland 	Northern Corridor Improvements - Auckland <p>The first of two direct motorway connections linking State Highway 1 and State Highway 18, which will complete the Western Ring Route (WRR), opened on 16 February 2023. This first connection will provide a direct route for vehicles travelling east on State Highway 18, wanting to head north on State Highway 1.</p> <p>A karakia with Waka Kotahi mana whenua partners was held on 10 February 2023. The second direct connection (an underpass) for vehicles travelling south on State Highway 1, wanting to head west on State Highway 18 is due to open in late March 2023. A media stand-up at the underpass to recognise the completion of the WRR has been scheduled for 17 March 2023, with you attending as Minister of Transport.</p> 
Wellington/Top of South 	Peka Peka to Ōtaki <p>The works at the southern tie-in at Peka Peka are now completed and speed restrictions in that area have been lifted for the first time since early 2017 when the project started. This connects the Peka Peka to Ōtaki Expressway with the Mackays to Peka Peka section further south.</p> <p>Tie-in works at the northern end of the Expressway are largely finished. However, ongoing safety works will continue to take place as part of the Speed & Infrastructure Programme, which comprises safety improvements to the existing highway while we wait for construction of the Ōtaki to North of Levin project to be completed.</p> <p>Work continues at multiple local road sites, including the laying of stormwater pipelines and earthworks to enable the completion of local roads and private accessways to homes in the area. These works are expected to be completed in May 2023.</p> <p>The first week of works, including tie-in works between local roads and old State Highway 1, which required the closure of old State Highway 1</p>

REGIONAL AREA

UPDATE

north of Makahuri, have been completed five weeks ahead of schedule. There is a detour in place via Te Hapua Road and Te Horo Beach Road.



The project team is reviewing the impact of the Cyclone to the construction programme.

Proactively Released

9. MEDIA UPDATES

REGIONAL AREA	UPDATE
<div>Central North Island</div> <div></div>	<div>Cyclone Gabrielle recovery</div> <div>Updates on state highway repairs and re-openings will be provided to the media throughout the week as Waka Kotahi moves into the recovery phase of our response to Cyclone Gabrielle.</div>

10. STATE HIGHWAY CLOSURES

REGIONAL AREA	UPDATE
<i>All State Highway closure information is correct as at 16 February 2023.</i>	
Auckland/Northland 	State Highway 1 Mangamuka Gorge Due to multiple large slips and dropouts, State Highway 1 is closed between Kitchen Road and Makene Road until further notice. A detour is available via State Highway 10. State Highway 1 Waipu to Brynderwyn Due to large slips on the Brynderwyn Hills, the road is closed between Brynderwyn and Waipu until further notice. State Highway 1 Dome Valley Due to slips and fallen trees, the road is closed through the Dome Valley, between Kaipara Flats Road and Wayby Valley Road, and likely to remain closed all day (16 February 2023)
Waikato/Bay of Plenty 	State Highway 25A Kopu to Hikuai Due to full road collapse at a large washout location, the road is closed until further notice. State Highway 23 Raglan to Whatawhata Due to a slip west of Glentui Lane, the road is closed between Karakariki Road and Waitetuna Valley Road until further notice. State Highway 25A Hikuai to Whangamata Due to slip clearance work, the road is closed the morning of 16 February 2023 between Opoutere Road and State Highway 25A (Hikuai). We hope to reopen this section of State Highway 25 by the afternoon of 16 February 2023. State Highway 25 Ruamahunga to Tapu Due to a slip and fallen trees, the road is closed from Wharf Road to Otuturu Crescent until further notice.

State Highway 25 Te Rerenga to Kuaotunu

Due to major slips, the road between Te Rerenga and Kuaotunu is closed until further notice.

Central North Island**State Highway 56 Opiki River Bridge**

Due to flooding, State Highway 56 is closed between Tane Road and Alve Road until further notice.

State Highway 4 Raetihi to Upokongaro

Due to multiple fallen trees and slips, the road is closed until further notice.

Moawhango to Hastings (Taihape-Napier Road)

Due to flooding, a section of the Taihape-Napier Road is closed at State Highway 1 until further notice.

State Highway 50 Takapau to Hastings

Due to severe weather and flooding, State Highway 50 is closed between State Highway 2 and Maraekakaho Road intersection until further notice.

State Highway 51 Mangateretere

Due to flooding and a washout at the Karamu Creek Bridge, the road is closed between Elwood Road and Napier Road until further notice.

State Highway 2 Napier

Due to flooding, State Highway 2 is closed between Taradale Road and Meeanee Road until further notice.

State Highway 50 Fernhill

Due to flooding, State Highway 50 at the Ngaruroro Bridge is closed until further notice.

State Highway 2 Pakowhai

Due to flooding the Ngaruroro River Bridge is now closed until further notice.

State Highway 51 Clive

Due to Safety inspections, the bridge is closed until further notice.

State Highway 5 Napier to Taupo

Due to severe weather conditions, State Highway 5 between Eskdale and Taupo is now closed until further notice.

State Highway 5 Napier to Gisborne

Due to severe weather conditions, State Highway 2 between Napier and Gisborne is now closed until further notice.

State Highway 2 Gisborne to Opotiki

Due to severe weather conditions, State Highway 2 between Gisborne and Opotiki is closed until further notice.

State Highway 35 Gisborne to Hicks Bay

Due to severe weather conditions, State Highway 35 between Gisborne and Potaka is now closed until further notice.

11. ROAD DEATH UPDATE – WEDNESDAY 8 DECEMBER 2023 TO TUESDAY 14 FEBRUARY 2023

Key: SAAS: Safe and Appropriate Speed. SH: State highway. IRR: Infrastructure Risk Rating. UCSR: Used Car Safety Rating. ANCAP: Australasian New Car Assessment Program. CWR: Crash Worthiness Rating. VSRR: Vehicle Safety Risk Rating. Top 10%: the 10% of regional networks assessed to deliver the greatest DSI savings through Speed Management.

Crash description		Speeds		Roads & Roadsides			People			Vehicles		
What happened (NZ Police description)	Date of crash Time of crash Local Council	Speed limit km/h	SAAS km/h	SH	IRR Land use and risk rating: low, medium, high	Road conditions	Deceased details Gender, Age, User	Deceased drivers' licence status	Restraint or helmet worn	Vehicle type where occupant died	UCSR/ANCAP/CWR (light vehicles only)	Other vehicles involved
section 9(2)(a)	section 9(2)(a) Far North	100	80	No	Rural Residential Medium	Dry Guardrail/Barrier	section 9(2)(a), Driver	Full Current	No	SUV	1*UCSR	Truck
section 9(2)(a)	section 9(2)(a) Gore	100	80	Yes	Commercial Big Box/Industrial Low	Dry Tree, Ditch	section 9(2)(a) Driver	Unknown	Yes	Car	4*UCSR	Milk Tanker and Trailer
section 9(2)(a)	section 9(2)(a) Opotiki Note: As per the TCR crash happened on section 9(2)(a)	100	80	Yes	Rural Residential Medium High	Dry None	section 9(2)(a) Driver section 9(2)(a) Passenger	Full Current Not Applicable for Passenger	No No	Car	2*UCSR	None
section 9(2)(a)	section 9(2)(a) Rangitikei	100	80	Yes	Remote Rural Low Medium	Dry Traffic Sign, Tree, Fence	section 9(2)(a) Driver	Full Current	No	Car	5*ANCAP	None
section 9(2)(a)	section 9(2)(a)	100	80	Yes	Medium High	Dry None	section 9(2)(a) Pedestrian	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Heavy Truck	Not Applicable for Truck	None

Crash description		Speeds		Roads & Roadsides			People			Vehicles		
What happened (NZ Police description)	Date of crash Time of crash Local Council	Speed limit km/h	SAAS km/h	SH	IRR Land use and risk rating: low, medium, high	Road conditions	Deceased details Gender, Age, User	Deceased drivers' licence status	Restraint or helmet worn	Vehicle type where occupant died	UCSR/ANCAP/CWR (light vehicles only)	Other vehicles involved
section 9(2)(a)	Waikato				Rural Residential			for Pedestrian	for Pedestrian			
section 9(2)(a)	section 9(2)(a) Southland	100	80	No	Medium Rural Residential	Dry Trees, Fence	section 9(2)(a) Driver	Full Current	No	Car	1*UCSR	None
section 9(2)(a)	4 February 2023 07:50 South Waikato	100	80	Yes	Rural Residential Medium	Wet None	section 9(2)(a) Motorcyclist	Unknown at the time of report	Yes	Motorcycle	Not Applicable for Motorcycle	None

About the information:

Data is taken from NZ Police fatal crash notifications, Rightcar (<https://rightcar.govt.nz/>) and Mega Maps as at 8 am 15/02/2023.

Fatal crash notifications are received within 24 hours of a death by NZ Police. Therefore, a recent crash may not be included in the report. Any subsequent death, within thirty days of the crash, will be recorded when received.

Deaths already excluded from the road toll based on Ministry of Transport assessment are not included in the data. Fatal crashes may be excluded from the road toll because the deaths may be caused by medical events, suicide, homicide, "Acts of God", be off-road or non-motor vehicle crashes, or the death may occur more than thirty days after the crash.

Fatal crashes may have occurred within the period for which notifications may be received later.

Traffic crash data covers all NZ roadways or places where the public have legal access with a motor vehicle.

- In some cases, the NZ Police description of what happened has been altered to change the tense and to protect the privacy of individuals.