

MIN-4209 Coromandel recovery & resilience update

23 May 2023

Providing an update on Coromandel recovery and resilience work for Minister's Advisory Group meeting on Wednesday 24 May 2023

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency's response:

- To keep the State Highway 25 (SH25) network open, the following work is underway:
 - Physical works have been prioritised at two sites and are well underway. Repairs to the McBeth-Opoutere underslip are due be completed June and Ruamahanga Bay rockfill embankment (seawall) underway. Upcoming priorities include Wilsons Bay rockfill embankment and Kuaotunu Hill retaining wall and Whiritoa Hill underslip.
 - SH25 is currently being reviewed for temporary safer speed limits. The increased traffic as a result of the closure of SH25A is causing concerns for locals along SH25.
 - Regular monitoring of significant slip sites, with more thorough geotechnical inspections every two months.
 - Prioritising the clearing of drains and culverts.
 - Continuing to clear vegetation to maintain a clear space for heavy vehicles.
 - Continuing to assess the safety and capacity of one-lane bridges and critical intersections.
 - Carefully planning of the timing and type of maintenance work to minimise impacts on road users, landowners and communities.
- Recovery works outside of our maintenance activities have been assessed and work is underway to complete repairs and improve shorter-term resilience as quickly as possible. Investigations are ongoing to identify works that can be accelerated on sections of state highway which are currently closed in order to minimise further disruption once the network is fully restored.
- Procurement of a contractor to deliver the bridge on SH25A is well progressed. A Request for Proposal has been released to two consortia, closing 31 May and award expected 2 June. Following the award, Waka Kotahi will have clarity on costs, methodology and timings.
- A further package of works that can be completed on SH25A while it is closed will be presented to Ministers for consideration for funding in late May 2023.
- Investigations on the feasibility and suitability of coastal shipping to provide enhanced contingency and resilience for the Coromandel are underway. Waka Kotahi expects to provide you with a briefing on this in late-May 2023.
- The Resilience Strategic Response, which will look at the longer-term transport resilience solutions for Coromandel and Hauraki, is underway and due to be completed in July 2023. The future function and level of service for SH25A and Tapu-Coroglen Road are being given priority within this work to ensure the needs of these key routes are understood as early as possible.

- The Tapu-Coroglen Road reopening has been delayed after a further slip above the known slip was discovered. Timelines for reopening this road are still being worked through by TCDC.
- We're engaging with Ngāti Maru on the SH25A work. The next hui is to discuss protocols for the bridge project. Wider mana whenua engagement, as part of the Coromandel/Hauraki resilience strategic response, has just started and formal meetings yet to be confirmed.
- Proactive communications continue weekly to subscribers via e-newsletter, elected members via Council comms and social posts and vlogs via Waka Kotahi channels. Cross-Government Agency comms teams are meeting fortnightly for alignment. Community engagement activity is planned to start in mid-2023. The timing allows the team to prepare collateral as the SH25A bridge contract will have been awarded, providing clarity around the build methodology and construction programme.

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