

Section 9(2)(a)

Piling is now complete on Kopu-Hikuai Road (State Highway 25A) bridge project.

WEEKLY REPORT TO THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT

Week ending 27 September 2023

#348

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

REFERENCE	TITLE	DUE DATE
Minister Parker		
MIN-4189	Unlocking Rail Infrastructure Project	COMPLETED
MIN-4316	E-scooter declaration	COMPLETED
BRI-2872	State Highway 1 Te Tai Tokerau site visits	COMPLETED
MIN-4293	Waka Kotahi 2023-24 Annual Report on the Rail Network Investment Programme	29 September 2023
MIN-4319	Quarterly Ministers report for Q4 (April-June)	29 September 2023

2. KEY UPDATES

TITLE	UPDATE
Changes to regulatory funding and fees go-live October 1 2023	<p>We are on track to implement changes to fees and charges for regulatory services. These services include driver licences, vehicle licensing and registration, Road User Charges (RUC) transactions, and vehicle certifications, such as warrants of fitness (WoF). These changes come into force on 1 October 2023. The technology project is in the final stages of development and testing, and on track for go-live of the system changes. The business is prepared and ready for the changes.</p> <p>Since announcing the 1 October 2023 commencement date, we have had many questions from the public and industry, but not much negative feedback. This could change once the new fees and charges are implemented.</p>
Te Ara Hauāuru - Northwest Rapid Transit	<p>The first phase of community engagement ran from 24 August to 24 September 2023. More than 3,500 people completed the consultation survey. The community input received will feed into the investigation work underway.</p> <p>The second phase of public engagement will no longer be occurring in November-December 2023, as more time is required to further the detailed investigations. These investigations will enable us to have more informed discussions with stakeholders and communities. The second phase of public engagement is now planned for early 2024.</p>
Wellington City Council consultation on Thorndon Quay Hutt Road traffic resolutions	<p>With construction on Phase 1 (Aotea Quay roundabout) and Phase 2 (Thorndon Quay) of the Thorndon Quay Hutt Road (TQHR) project already underway, Wellington City Council's Regulatory Processes Committee is due to consider traffic resolutions for the Hutt Road portion of the project on 1 March 2024. The traffic resolutions are required to enable construction on Phase 3 of the project to begin as scheduled in April 2024.</p> <p>The traffic resolutions are a matter for the Council, which are required to undergo public consultation. To provide the best opportunity for public to participate, the consultation is scheduled for November 2023. The Council will front the consultation, with Let's Get Wellington Moving programme team providing technical support including hosting relevant project information on its website.</p>

3. GENERAL UPDATES

TITLE	UPDATE
Significant Network Road Closures due to Weather Events and Crashes between 17 and 24 September 2023	17 September 2023 State Highway 6 north of Franz Josef was closed due to a slip for 8.5 hours. No detour was available.
	20 September 2023 State Highway 8 between Glenbrook and Twizel was closed for approximately 6 hours due to downed power lines. No detour was available. State Highway 1 north of Waimate was closed due to reduced visibility from a fire for 4 hours. A detour was available for light vehicles. State Highway 94, Te Anau to Milford (Milford Road) was closed due to rising avalanche hazard from heavy rain, and then the resulting heavy rain and road repairs for 31 hours (reopening Friday 22 September). No detour was available. State Highway 80 Lake Pukaki, at the intersection with State Highway 8, was closed for 34.5 hours due to a scrub fire. No detour was available.
	21 September 2023 State Highway 6 Haast to Makarora (Haast Pass) was closed due to slips. This route remains closed. No detour is available, but escorted convoys for light vehicles began from 26 September 2023 (weather permitting).
	



State Highway 1 in Gore was closed due to flooding for 15 hours. Local detours were available.

State Highway 6, Gibbston to Luggate was closed due to flooding for 12 hours.

State Highway 1, between Mataura and Gore was closed due to flooding for 38 hours.

State Highway 6, Parawa to Kingston was closed due to flooding for 13.5 hours.

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State Highway 99, Wallacetown to the State Highway 6 intersection was closed due to flooding for 30 hours.

State Highway 6 at Makarewa was closed due to flooding for 21.5 hours.

State Highway 93, Clinton to Mataura was closed due to flooding for 17.5 hours.




State Highway 80, Aoraki to Lake Pukaki (Mount Cook Highway) was closed due to snow for 20.5 hours. No detour was available.

State Highway 26 between Kopu and Komata was closed due to a serious crash for 7 hours. A detour was available.




State Highway 73 Arthurs Pass Village to Otira (Arthurs Pass) was closed due to snow for 14 hours. No detour was available.

State Highway 73 Springfield to Arthurs Pass Village (Porters Pass) was closed due to snow for 15 hours. No detour was available.




4. REGIONAL UPDATES

REGIONAL AREA	UPDATE
<div>Auckland/Northland</div> <div></div>	<div>Whangārei to Port Marsden Safety Improvements – NZUP</div> <div><p>Waka Kotahi has paused landowner engagement on the Whangārei to Port Marsden Safety Improvements project.</p><p>Following the release of the draft 2024 Government Policy Statement (GPS), we are currently reviewing the project in the context of the broader corridor outcomes outlined in the draft GPS.</p><p>We will communicate this update to the Regional Transport Committee in early October 2023 to ensure visibility.</p></div>
<div>Rest of the South</div> <div></div>	<div>Homer Tunnel update</div> <div><p>The construction of a new buried tunnel equipment room and migration of the electrical equipment required to run Southland’s Homer Tunnel on State Highway 94 has been completed and the new safety systems in the tunnel are up and running.</p><p>The next phase of the ongoing Homer Tunnel safety improvement works is to construct an avalanche shelter at the eastern portal. The design for the new avalanche shelter (pictured below) maximises the use of precast concrete units. This will allow construction to be completed as quickly as possible while maintaining safe passage through the tunnel and minimising disruption to tourists heading through to Milford Sound area.</p><p>Approximately 150 precast units are required for the new shelter, and construction of the units began in September 2023. The units will start to be delivered in time for construction work to start in November 2023 when the avalanche risk is minimal.</p><p>We are running a tight programme to complete the new avalanche shelter by the end of the summer (i.e. in early 2024) before the next avalanche season.</p></div> <div></div>

5. MEDIA UPDATES

REGIONAL AREA	UPDATE
Auckland/Northland 	NZME Northland Our Roads & Transport feature <p>Waka Kotahi will submit an editorial for the annual Our Roads & Transport Feature which will be published in the Northern Advocate and Northland Age on 12 October 2023.</p> <p>The editorial will focus on the recovery, rebuild and resilience work that will take place in the region over the upcoming summer period and beyond.</p>
Wellington/Top of South 	State Highway 60 resurfacing – Tasman <p>A media statement is planned for release on 2 October 2023 outlining planned resurfacing work scheduled to get underway during the week on State Highway 60 in the Tasman region. This work will get the road safe and smooth before Christmas.</p>
Rest of the South 	Homer Tunnel, State Highway 94, entrance to Fiordland/Piopiotahi safety upgrades <p>A media release summarising safety upgrade work now completed at the Homer Tunnel is scheduled for release during the week beginning 2 October 2023.</p>

6. STATE HIGHWAY CLOSURES

REGIONAL AREA	UPDATE
Auckland/Northland 	State Highway 1, Mangamuka Gorge <p>Due to multiple large slips and dropouts, State Highway 1 is closed between Kitchen Road and Makene Road, through the Mangamuka Gorge. An alternative route is offered via State Highway 10 until further notice.</p>
Waikato/Bay of Plenty 	State Highway 25A, Kopu to Hikuai <p>Due to full road collapse at a large washout location, the road between Kopu and Hikuai is closed until further notice.</p> State Highway 35 Hawaii to Omaio <p>Due to a slip at Motu Bluff, State Highway 35 is closed between Hawaii and Omaio until further notice. Resident access through the work site is being made available at regular times daily until full reopening is possible.</p>
Rest of the South 	State Highway 6 Makarora to Haast <p>Due to slips on this route, the road is closed between Makarora and Haast. Regular escorted convoys are being made available at regular times daily until full reopening is possible.</p>

7. ROAD DEATH UPDATE – WEDNESDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2023 TO TUESDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 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) Auckland	50	30	No	Commercial Big Box/Industrial Medium	Dry None	Section 9(2)(a) Motorcyclist	Unknown at the time of report	Yes	Motorcycle	Not Applicable	Unknown two vehicles
	Section 9(2)(a) Taupo	70	30	No	Commercial Big Box/Industrial Low Medium	Dry None	Section 9(2)(a) Driver	Unknown at the time of report	No	Car	2*VSRR	Truck and Trailer
	Section 9(2)(a) Hauraki	100	80	Yes	Rural Residential Low Medium	Dry None	Section 9(2)(a) Driver	Full Current	Unknown	Car	4*UCSR	Truck, SUV
	Section 9(2)(a) Waikato	50	40	No	Urban Residential Low Medium	Wet Concrete Power Pole	Section 9(2)(a) Driver	Restricted Current	Yes	Car	3*UCSR	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 27/09/2023.
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.