

Te Ahu a Turanga – Manawatū Tararua Highway reached another massive milestone recently with its 6 millionth cubic metre of earth moved since construction began.

WEEKLY REPORT TO THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT

Week ending 22 September 2023

#347

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

REFERENCE	TITLE	DUE DATE
Minister Parker		
MIN-4189	Unlocking Rail Infrastructure Project	Week ending 21 September 2023
MIN-4293	Waka Kotahi 2023-24 Annual Report on the Rail Network Investment Programme	22 September 2023
BRI-2864	2021-24 Rail Network Investment Programme - third update	22 September 2023
MIN-4316	E-scooter declaration	Week ending 28 September 2023
BRI-2872	State Highway 1 Te Tai Tokerau site visits	Week ending 28 September 2023
Minister O'Connor		
MIN-4312	Information related to REAP programme trial in Tairāwhiti	COMPLETED
MINO-889	Stats from the Kura school signs consultation regarding public support	COMPLETED
MIN-4311	Vehicle license (rego) scam safeguards and preventions	COMPLETED
MIN-4313	Effect of pavement cracking due to heavy vehicles – State Highway 1 Utiku	COMPLETED

2. KEY UPDATES

TITLE	UPDATE
State Highway Investment Proposal	<p>Waka Kotahi plans to release the State Highway Investment Proposal (SHIP) to regional transport committees during the week beginning 25 September 2023.</p> <p>The SHIP is an investment request to the National Land Transport Programme from Waka Kotahi as a road controlling authority for the state highways. It describes the maintenance, operations and renewals, and the improvement activities needed to make the state highway network safer, more resilient, and accessible, and to protect routes for urban growth. It takes a 10-year view with a focus on the first three years. The SHIP is a key input into Regional Land Transport Plans (RLTPs) development, which is led by Regional Transport Committees. RLTPs will then be considered for prioritisation into the NLTP by the Waka Kotahi Board.</p> <p>The SHIP responds to the recently released draft Government Policy Statement (GPS 2024). It recognises the scale of the Government's ambition (in GPS 2024), the damage caused by the recent extreme weather events, the need to make roads safer, the current state of the network and the work required to return it to previous levels of service. It proposes a large programme of work for the next decade, including rapid transit, public transport, and walking and cycling activities delivered by Waka Kotahi.</p> <p>The draft GPS identified strategic projects considered to present an opportunity for transformational change, and to develop an integrated, sustainable, resilient, safe and low-carbon transport network. The SHIP therefore proposes to progress planning, route protection and, in some instances, pre-implementation phases for these projects during the 2024-27 period.</p> <p>Overall, there is a strong focus on maintenance and renewals, and an emphasis on the ten-year pipeline of work (including the strategic projects) that respond to the GPS direction and which we aim to provide to the sector to build confidence to grow the capacity and capability needed for successful delivery.</p> <p>The SHIP will be available on our website.</p>
Motorway Emergency Telephones Removal	<p>Waka Kotahi has approved the removal of Motorway Emergency Telephones (METs). There are currently 342 operational METs - 339 in Auckland and 3 in Wellington, the use of METs has reduced significantly since their introduction in the 1980s and on average each of the 342 METs is now used less than once every three years. A review of the METs has determined they're no</p>

TITLE	UPDATE
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longer needed to enable motorists to communicate with authorities in the event of a road incident or emergency. All METs are in urban areas where there is good mobile coverage and the wide availability of mobile phones means vehicle occupants are generally able to report an incident or crash via their own phone. In addition, our motorways are now monitored in real-time 24/7 by Transport Operation Centres which can detect incidents and dispatch emergency services. The removal of METs in Auckland is targeted to start in November 2023.

Emergency phones in tunnels are not impacted. These phones will be retained for the foreseeable future because of the specialised nature and higher risk of tunnels and to remain consistent with Australasian standards for road tunnels.



3. GENERAL UPDATES

TITLE	UPDATE
Network Road Closures due to Weather Events and Crashes between 10 and 17 September 2023	11 September 2023 State Highway 94 Te Anau to Milford (Milford Road) was closed overnight due to snow and ice for 19 hours. No detour was available.
	12 September 2023 State Highway 94 Te Anau to Milford (Milford Road) was closed overnight due to snow and ice for 16.5 hours. No detour was available. State Highway 3 between Otorohonga to Waitomo was closed for 5.5 hours due to a serious crash. A local detour was available.
	13 September 2023 State Highway 94 Te Anau to Milford (Milford Road) was closed overnight, remained closed the following day, and reopened midday on 15 September 2023 (a total of approximately 44 hours) due to snow and ice. No detour was available. State Highway 5, Napier to Taupō was closed due to a fatal crash for 5 hours. No detour was available. State Highway 2, Paeroa to Waihi (Karangahake Gorge) was closed due to a serious crash for 4.5 hours. A local detour was available. State Highway 27, Mangatarata to Tatuanui was closed due to a truck fire for 6 hours. A local detour was available.
	15 September 2023 State Highway 3 at Ashhurst was closed due to a fatal crash for 4.5 hours. Alternate routes were available.
	16 September 2023 State Highway 94 Te Anau to Milford (Milford Road) was closed overnight, remained closed the following day, and reopened mid-morning 18 September 2023 (a total of approximately 42 hours) due to avalanche hazards, snow and ice. No detour was available. State Highway 2, Kaitoke to Featherston (Remutaka Hill) was closed due to strong winds for 11 hours. No detour was available. State Highway 6, Franz Joseph (Fox Hills) was closed due to a slip for 8.5 hours. No detour was available.

4. REGIONAL UPDATES

REGIONAL AREA	UPDATE
<div><div>Auckland/Northland</div><div></div></div>	<div><div>Te Tupu Ngātahi wins prestigious award</div><div><p>The Resource Management Law Association (RMLA) selected Te Tupu Ngātahi Supporting Growth Alliance as the winner of the Projects Award at the RMLA awards this year. The Projects Award is given out when a particular "project has made a significant contribution to the advancement of best practice and the implementation of the Resource Management Act's purpose and principles."</p><p>Te Tupu Ngātahi programme of work is the largest and most complex infrastructure planning and engagement undertaking in Aotearoa New Zealand's history and comprises 70 separate projects across Tāmaki Makaurau that are identifying and protecting the strategic transport network to support future urban environments.</p><p>The team were pleased to be recognised for all the hard work the Alliance has done over the past five years, and the work it continues to do partnering to support growth for future generations.</p></div><div></div></div>

5. MEDIA UPDATES

REGIONAL AREA	UPDATE
Auckland/Northland 	Safety camera installation <p>A joint Auckland Transport/ Waka Kotahi media statement is planned for release on 27 September 2023 announcing the installation in October 2023 of average-speed safety cameras on sections of six roads in Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland.</p> <p>The cameras will be tested in late 2023 and early 2024, and are scheduled to move into enforcement mode in mid-2024. This follows the recent passing of the Land Transport (Road Safety) Amendment Bill into legislation.</p>
Central North Island 	Night works for State Highway 1 north of Taihape <p>A traffic bulletin is planned for release during the week beginning 25 September 2023 advising of work commencing in early October 2023 on a section of State Highway 1 north of Taihape, which will kick off the construction season in Manawatū-Whanganui.</p> State Highway 1 Ōtaki to Ōhau safety improvements <p>A media statement is planned for release during the week beginning 25 September 2023 announcing the start of safety improvement works on State Highway 1 between Ōtaki and Ōhau.</p> State Highway works <p>A media statement is planned for release during the week beginning 25 September 2023 updating work on State Highway 5 at Captains Culvert between Napier and Taupō – including efforts to preserve a wooden culvert dating back to 1870 discovered during the work.</p> State Highway 2 asphalting programme, north of Gisborne <p>A media statement is planned for release during the week beginning 25 September 2023 updating progress on the State Highway 2 asphalting programme north of Gisborne, on track to be completed in mid-late October 2023.</p>

REGIONAL AREA

UPDATE

Wellington/Top of South



State Highway 1 Ruahine Street Wellington resurfacing

A media statement is planned for release during the week beginning 25 September 2023 advising of major resurfacing works planned for State Highway 1 through Hataitai in early October 2023.

State Highway 6 Hope Saddle night closures

A traffic bulletin is planned for release on 27 September 2023 as a reminder of these planned resurfacing works and associated State Highway 6 closure south of Nelson.

State Highway Weld Pass night closures

A traffic bulletin is planned for release on 26 September 2023 as a reminder of night closures for essential maintenance work on State Highway 1 Marlborough.

State Highway Fox Hill maintenance

A media statement is planned for release during the week beginning 25 September 2023 advising of planned State Highway maintenance works at Fox Hill.

General

E-scooter declaration review

A media statement is planned for release on Wednesday, 27 September 2023 to announce the outcome of a Waka Kotahi review of the current classification status of e-scooters.

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>
Rest of the South 	State Highway 6 Haast to Makarora <p>Due to slip, the road is closed between Haast and Makarora until further notice.</p> <p>State Highway 94 Te Anau to Milford <p>Closed due to snow until further notice. Due to prior heavy rain, road inspection and slip clearing is going ahead at Lake Gunn.</p> <p>State Highway 6 Jollies Hill to Kingston <p>State Highway 6 is closed until further notice between Jollies Hill and Kingston due to flooding and slips.</p> <p>State Highway 1 Gore to Mataura <p>State Highway 1 is closed until further notice between the intersections Broughton Street, Gore, and Glendhu Road, Mataura, due to flooding.</p> </p></p></p>

7. ROAD DEATH UPDATE – WEDNESDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 2023 TO TUESDAY 19 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	Urban Residential Medium	Unknown Power Pole	Section 9(2)(a) Driver	Full Current	Unknown	Car	1*VSRR	None
	Section 9(2)(a) Napier	80	80	Yes	Remote Rural Medium High	Dry Ditch	Section 9(2)(a) Driver	Full Current	No	Van	3*UCSR	None
	Section 9(2)(a) Palmerston North	100	80	Yes	Rural Residential Low Medium	Wet None	Section 9(2)(a) Driver Section 9(2)(a) Driver	Full Current Restricted Current	Yes Yes	SUV Van	4*UCSR 2*VSRR	Car
	Section 9(2)(a) Hastings	60	80	No	Urban Fringe Low Medium	Dry Traffic Island, Traffic Sign, Pole, Tree, Fence	Section 9(2)(a) Driver	Restricted Current	No	Car	1*VSRR	None
	Section 9(2)(a) Western Bay of Plenty	100	80	No	Rural Residential Medium	Dry Trees	Section 9(2)(a) Driver	Full Zero alcohol	No	Car	2*VSRR	SUV
	Section 9(2)(a) Waimakariri	50	40	No	Urban Residential Medium	Dry Tree	Section 9(2)(a) Passenger	Not Applicable	No	Car	2*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 20/09/2023.

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.