

Central North Island



Permanent speed limits SH5 between Rangitaiki and Esk Valley, Hawke's Bay

On 17 December, Waka Kotahi will be publicly announcing its decision on the SH5 between (1160 metre south west of Matea Road) to Esk Valley (130 metre west of Waipunga Road) speed review.

The new permanent speed limit of 80km/h along this section will come into effect on 18 February 2022. The public and stakeholders will be notified of the changes and advised of the date the new speed limit signs will be installed.

There is very little support from stakeholders and the community for the lower speed limit. The majority of the feedback received highlighted the need for other infrastructure and road safety improvements such as more passing and slow vehicle lanes and increased signage instead of a reduction in speed limit.

Waka Kotahi has plans underway to address short-, medium- and long-term improvements for SH5. Two safety infrastructure projects are in the feasibility stage to explore safety improvements that will support the new speed limit. Funding has been allocated in this NLTP but is unconfirmed until it is applied for upon the completion of the feasibility stage of the projects. Also, currently in the NLTP awaiting funding is a Programme Business Case for SH5 addressing safety, efficiency and resilience.

Waka Kotahi will consult on the speed limit for the remaining sections of SH5 in 2022.

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