



WARKWORTH TO WELLSFORD

The NZ Transport Agency, on behalf of the NZ Government, is planning for a new highway between Warkworth and Wellsford, as part of the Ara Tūhono – Pūhoi to Wellsford Road of National Significance.

The new section of state highway will connect with the Pūhoi to Warkworth section of Ara Tūhono – Pūhoi to Wellsford, which is due to start construction in late-2016.

A new highway separate to the current SH1, remains the Transport Agency's preferred long-term option to improve the safety, reliability and resilience of the state highway network between Northland and the Upper North Island for freight, tourism and road users.

Investigations are underway on the Warkworth to Wellsford section, with an indicative route expected to be released for public consultation later this year.

The Transport Agency is working to lodge a Notice of Requirement to protect the route by 2018.

The Ara Tūhono – Pūhoi to Wellsford state highway has a strategic role connecting Northland to Auckland to encourage and support regional growth, as well as improving the safety of the route and making journey times more reliable.

The objectives for the project are to:

- enhance inter regional and national economic growth and productivity
- improve movement of freight and people between Auckland and Northland
- improve the connectivity between the growth areas in the northern Rodney area
- improve the reliability of the transport network through a more robust and safer road between Auckland and Northland

Other benefits include reducing congestion during peak periods, and improving economic development and tourism opportunities in Northland.

Stay in touch with the Warkworth to Wellsford project by signing up online at www.nzta.govt.nz/warkworth-wellsford

WARKWORTH TO WELLSFORD CONSULTATION HISTORY

2009

Investigations for a future highway began in 2009 with the opening of the Northern Gateway Toll Road and a National Government pinpointing Pūhoi to Wellsford as one of seven Roads of National Significance (RoNS) to be prioritised for construction to support and encourage economic growth.

JUNE 2010

The first engagement on the Ara Tūhono Pūhoi to Wellsford project sought community feedback from the community on three key principles of the project:

- When completed, the new highway will be separate from existing SH1
- There will be access points at Warkworth and Wellsford
- The new highway will pass Warkworth to the west and pass Wellsford to the east

The team also sought input from the local community to identify areas of environmental, cultural and community value, to assist in identifying an indicative route for the new highway.

Over 600 feedback forms were received over a seven week period.

Summary of initial engagement for Warkworth to Wellsford included:

- Widespread support for entirely new highway ('off-line' route)
- General support for western bypass of Warkworth and eastern bypass of Wellsford, though some expected the highway to bypass to the west of Wellsford
- Want bypass close to town for easy access to Wellsford
- Tie-in points suggested both north and south of Te Hana
- Local knowledge of unstable soil type (Onerahi Chaos) near Wellsford making it difficult to build
- Difficult terrain in the Dome Valley for construction and concern new road might defer safety improvements to existing SH1 in this area
- Areas of environmental value in the Dome Valley - Hochstetter's frogs and Powelliphanta snails.

NOVEMBER 2010

The objective of the June engagement was to assist the project team in identifying an indicative route for a new highway between Pūhoi and Wellsford. Initial investigations and consultation highlighted the design complexity of the future route between Warkworth and Wellsford.

Due to the difficult terrain of the Dome Valley and Wellsford section, a decision was made by the NZ Transport Agency to separate the project into two sections - Pūhoi to Warkworth and Warkworth to Wellsford. Route protection for future construction would get underway for Pūhoi to Warkworth, with the northern section to follow at a later date.

The second phase of engagement in November focused on an indicative route proposed for the Pūhoi to Warkworth section of the project. Read more about the public feedback from this engagement in the April 2012 newsletter available online at www.nzta.govt.nz/puhoi-warkworth.

APRIL 2016 ONWARDS

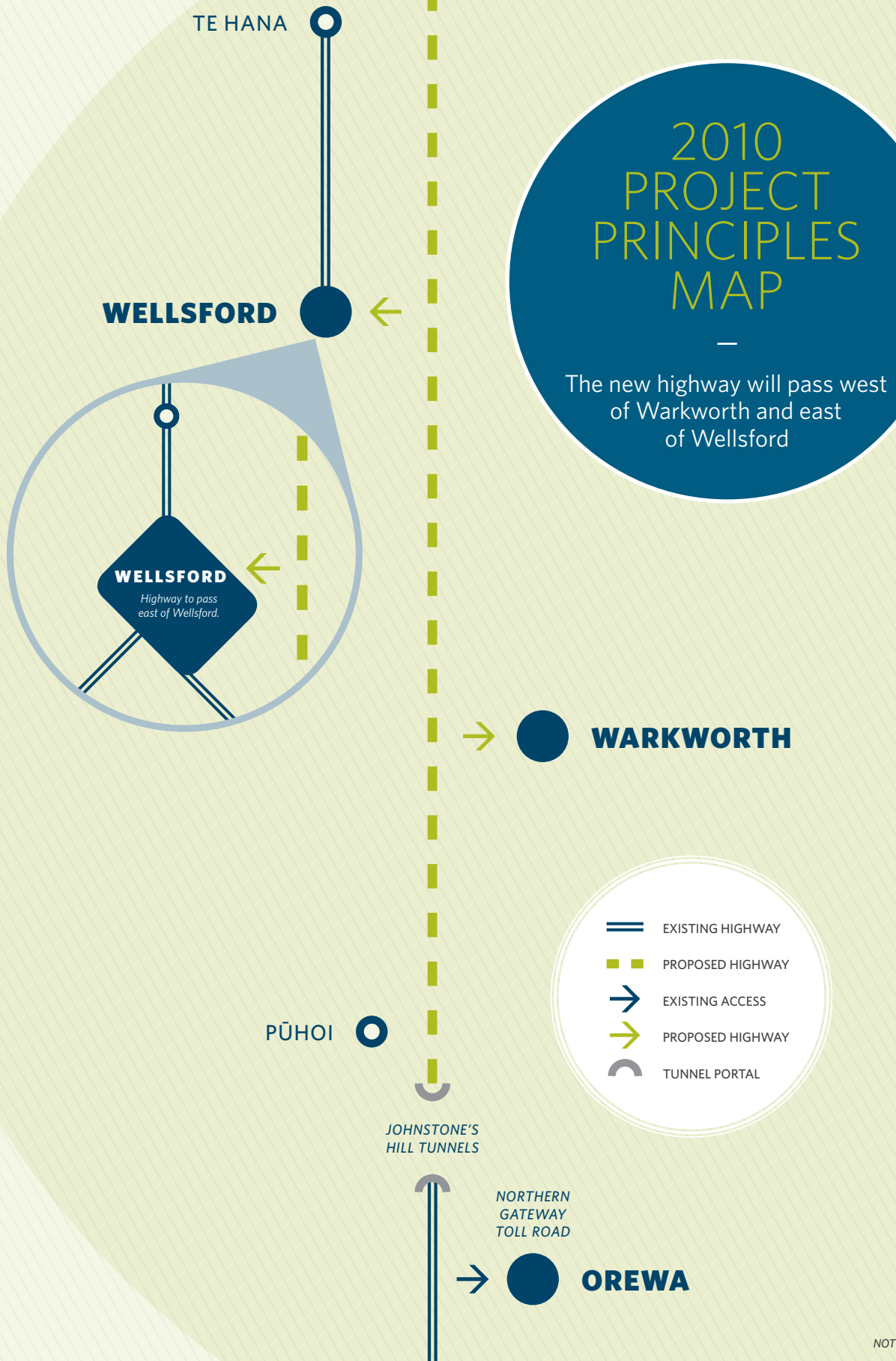
The NZ Transport Agency is informing all interested stakeholders that investigations are continuing to identify an indicative route for the Warkworth to Wellsford section of Ara Tūhono Pūhoi to Wellsford Road of National Significance.

The Transport Agency anticipates notifying potentially affected property owners of an indicative route later this year.

We'll also invite public feedback and suggestions on the indicative route through community open days and online engagement.

Public information days will be held in Warkworth, Wellsford and Te Hana, with all information available on the Transport Agency website and from community facilities within the project area.

People are encouraged to sign up to stay informed about the project via the Transport Agency website www.nzta.govt.nz/warkworth-wellsford, or contact the project team on warkworth-wellsford@nzta.govt.nz



PROJECT TIMELINE



2009

JANUARY

Northern Gateway Toll Road opens.

MARCH

Government announces the Roads of National Significance (RoNS) programme which includes the route between Pūhoi and Wellsford.

2010

First public engagement on the Pūhoi to Wellsford RoNS.

The RoNS project is split into two sections and the Pūhoi to Warkworth section is prioritised to progress to construction.

**WARKWORTH
TO
WELLSFORD**

**PŪHOI TO
WARKWORTH**

**2010
—
2012**

Public consultation on an indicative alignment for Pūhoi to Warkworth.

Investigations continue on Warkworth to Wellsford section of the RoNS.

2016

A new dual name is announced for the Pūhoi to Wellsford Road of National Significance.

The route is now known as the Ara Tūhono - Pūhoi to Wellsford Road of National Significance. Ara Tūhono means a connecting pathway (Ara meaning pathway/passage and Ara Tūhono means connecting or linking one part to another).

Public consultation on indicative alignment between Warkworth to Wellsford.

**LATE
2016**

2013

Designation and resource consent process to Pūhoi to Warkworth.

Lodgement of Notice of Requirement to protect the route between Warkworth and Wellsford.

2017/18

**2013
—
2014**

Government decision to allow the NZ Transport Agency to finance, design, build, manage and maintain Pūhoi to Warkworth through a Public Private Partnership (PPP).

2015

2016/17

Construction commences for Pūhoi to Warkworth. The project is expected to open in 2022/23.

