



Waipapa corridor improvements



SETTING THE SCENE

Waipapa township is the most significant growth area in the Far North District. It has evolved over time to become the service centre for Kerikeri and the wider east coast and central areas of the district.

The Waipapa commercial area is a significant base for employment. Many of the people who work in this area travel by car as there is limited public transport and a lack of walking and cycling facilities.

Waipapa has been identified as an area for strong future growth and development, and the accompanying predicted population growth will increase the demand for residential dwellings in the surrounding area. There will also be an increase in demand for land for commercial, industrial and retail development.

Development has tended to occur in an uncoordinated way and this has increased the number of access points directly to and from SH10. This has affected safety and the efficiency of the state highway.

The SH10 Waipapa Road intersection is at capacity. Land use development pressure and changes to the roading network have also significantly changed the types of vehicles, the number of vehicles and journey patterns on the state highway and adjoining local roads.

High speeds on SH10 also pose a safety risk and act as a deterrent to pedestrians and cyclists.

The project

We plan to build a single lane roundabout at the intersection of SH10 and Waipapa Road to:

- make it safer for traffic to make turns across the state highway
- reduce peak time congestion and vehicle queuing on SH10 and help to slow state highway traffic through Waipapa town centre
- support the growth of Waipapa township and help to create jobs and employment for local communities in the surrounding area
- improve and promote safer, more appealing cycling and pedestrian access.

We will partner with the Far North District Council to extend Klinac Lane northwards as part of this project. There will be a connection between Klinac Road and Waipapa Loop Road to link the central and northern part of the industrial zone and provide an alternative route to the main commercial centre.

Site blessing

On Wednesday 9 January, the NZ Transport Agency and guests joined Ngati Rehia and kaumatua Arena Munro who blessed the site where the new roundabout will be built at the intersection of SH10/Waipapa Road. The blessing helps ensure the spiritual, cultural and physical safety of all those involved in constructing the project and enabled geotechnical work to start.

Key speakers, including the Minister for Regional Economic Development, Shane Jones and Far North District Councillor Ann Court, noted that the project has been eagerly awaited for some time. The Transport Agency's General Manager, Governance, Stakeholder and Communications Raewyn Bleakley commented that this project was so much more than building a roundabout. It will support the growth of a township which will help create jobs and employment for local communities in the surrounding area.



From left to right: Jesse, Tania McInnes, Deputy Mayor, Nora Rameka, Ngati Rehia, Ann Court, Councillor and Regional Economic Development Minister Shane Jones.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

We plan to hold another Community Open Day in March to gather more of your feedback. We will come back to you closer to the time with more detailed information. We are also continuing to talk with all key stakeholders including landowners who will be directly affected by the planned roundabout.

To date, and in partnership with the Far North District Council (FNDC), we have engaged with the Ministry of Education, Waipapa Business Association, Bay of Islands-Whangaroa Community Board, Ngati Rehia and members of the Northland Transport Alliance on the detailed business case to improve the SH10 Waipapa Road intersection. (The Northland Transport Alliance is an alliance between Northland Regional Council, Far North District Council, Kaipara District Council and Whāngārei District Council)

Again, in partnership with FNDC, we held a public open day on 1 June 2017. More than 100 people came to the open day held at the local Waipapa Community Hall. There was a high level of community support for a roundabout at the intersection of SH10 and Waipapa Road and for the extension of Klinac Lane to provide a connection between the eastern and western extents of the town.



TIMELINE

DATES IDENTIFIED ON THIS
TIMELINE MAY BE SUBJECT TO
CHANGE

SEPTEMBER 2018	Detail business case was completed and funding approved (detailed business case is available on our website)
NOVEMBER 2018	Opus appointed to design the corridor improvements
DECEMBER 2018 (ongoing)	Talking to landowners who will be directly affected by the planned roundabout
JANUARY 2019	Site blessing
FEBRUARY 2019	Contractor appointed to deliver the physical works
MAY-JULY 2019	Contractor to carry out the pre-construction works
OCTOBER 2019	The construction season starts and we will begin to build the roundabout. October is generally when the weather improves and it is dry enough to start construction
EARLY 2020	Project is completed



MORE INFORMATION

If you would like to receive regular updates on the project once construction starts, go to the link below and sign up for the monthly email updates:

www.nzta.govt.nz/projects/connecting-northland/twin-coast-discovery-route/waipapa-growth/

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