



Wainui Road intersection to Ōpōtiki

SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS



WE'RE MAKING YOUR ROAD SAFER

Road and roadside safety improvements are proposed on State Highway 2 (SH2), from the SH2/Wainui Road intersection to Woodlands Road, Ōpōtiki. This section of highway has been identified as a high-risk rural road and these safety improvements are part of the Safe Network Programme. These improvements will mean simple mistakes don't cost lives.

Between 2015 and 2019 there were 31 death or serious injury crashes on this stretch of road. Five fatalities were recorded last year alone (2019). Most were caused by vehicles running off the road and hitting roadside hazards like banks, ditches and drop-offs.

Initial funding of \$7.6 million means detailed design can continue enabling Waka Kotahi to complete some safety improvements along the state highway, such as widening the road at key locations, and determining any land and resource consents required.

However, further funding is needed to finalise the designs, purchase land and complete the safety improvements. This will be considered as part of the 2021–24 National Land Transport Programme (NLTP), starting in July 2021.

The proposed safety improvements on SH2 include:

ROADSIDE SAFETY BARRIERS AND SHOULDER WIDENING

These will be installed at high-risk locations along the route to help reduce the risk of drivers running off the road and hitting something much less forgiving – like a tree or a power pole.

RUMBLE STRIPS ON CENTRELINES AND EDGE LINES

These give fatigued or distracted drivers a wake-up call if they stray across the line. When laid along edge lines and centrelines, they help prevent both run-off-road crashes and head-on crashes.

PROPOSED INTERSECTION UPGRADES

Improvements will be made at two key intersections to make them safer for turning vehicles and to improve resilience during flood events.



Section one: SH2 from the Wainui Road intersection to Opōtiki township:

- Shoulder widening along the length of the road except for at constrained locations, eg at bridges.
- Side barriers at high-risk locations where there are deep ditches, power poles, trees or drop offs.
- Edge line and centreline rumble strips to give drivers a wake-up call if they stray across the line.

Section two: Ōhiwa Beach Road/SH2/Waiōtaha Valley Back Road intersection:

- We are currently investigating appropriate safety options for this intersection.

Section three: SH2/Wainui Road (Matekerepu) intersection:

- Construction of a roundabout to encourage people to slow down and make it safer.
- Raising the road so it is less likely to flood.

CONSTRUCTION

We have started preliminary works such as surveying and determining land and resource consents that may be required. Some physical construction work on section one will begin in early 2021.

Initial funding of \$7.6 million means Waka Kotahi can complete some safety improvements along the state highway, such as widening the road at key locations, and determining any land and resource consents required.

However, further funding is needed to finalise the designs, purchase land and complete the safety improvements. This will be considered as part of the 2021-24 NLTP, starting in July 2021.

WHAT ABOUT SPEED?

Within the next 12 months, Waka Kotahi will complete a technical assessment of SH2 to consider speed management as part of the Safe Network Programme. As part of this we will work closely with local government, our road safety partners and the community as local knowledge is vital to our speed review process.



KEEP UP TO DATE

Sign up for updates to find out more at www.nzta.govt.nz/projects/sh2-wainui-road-to-opotiki/

