



SH30/SH33 Te Ngae Junction

Frequently asked questions

Frequently asked questions

1. When will construction start and how long will it take?

Work is expected to start in mid-June 2022 and scheduled to finish early 2023.

2. What can I expect during construction?

First, we'll locate services and move or protect any if necessary, and clear trees and vegetation that need to be moved from the site. Once this is complete, the next steps will involve earthworks to widen the road for the roundabout, drainage works and construction of a retaining wall to support the roundabout. Finally, we'll lay the new road surface of the roundabout, build the kerbs and traffic island, and install the roadside barriers, streetlighting, signage and road markings.

We'll keep the local community updated throughout the process.

3. How are you making this intersection safer?

Most of the crashes at this intersection are caused by vehicles turning right, cars travelling too fast and poor visibility.

To make it safer, we will be building a roundabout to slow down traffic and making it easier for people to turn. We are also creating a new right turn bay at the SH30/Rangiteaorere Road intersection so it's safer to get to Mātaikōtare Marae.

Other safety improvements include:

- **Bypass for people on bikes** - Rangiteaorere Road will be used for people heading north on bikes, safely separating them from vehicles at the roundabout.
- **Roadside safety barriers** - we're upgrading the roadside barriers around the roundabout, to protect people from roadside hazards including the Waiohewa Stream.
- **Retaining wall** - to support the roundabout construction to the west of the intersection and reduce impact on nearby properties.

4. Will the state highways (SH30 and SH33) remain open to vehicles while work is underway?

Yes, the state highways and Rangiteaorere Road will remain open to vehicles during construction, although there will be some disruption and temporary traffic management in place for the safety of both road workers and road users.

5. How will I know if my land is affected?

We have been in contact with any landowners affected by this project and will continue to keep them regularly updated throughout the project.

6. Why are you making these safety improvements?

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency's Speed and Infrastructure Programme is delivering proven safety improvements on our highest risk intersections and corridors across New Zealand. Aligned to New Zealand's Road Safety Strategy, Road to Zero 2020 – 2030, the Speed and Infrastructure Programme aims to reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured on our roads. The Speed and Infrastructure Programme focuses on safe roads and roadsides, safe and appropriate speeds, and safe level crossings.

The SH30/SH33 Te Ngae Junction (Whakatāne turnoff) has been identified as a high-risk rural road which can be made safer. It sits on the preferred route between Rotorua and Tauranga and is a key turning point for travellers from Rotorua and the central North Island area heading east towards Whakatāne via SH30 or staying on SH33 travelling northwards towards Tauranga.

The safety improvements we are making will save lives, by slowing vehicles speeds, reducing the severity of head-on and side impact crashes if they do occur and making it safer for vehicles to turn.

7. Why a roundabout?

When people approach roundabouts, they have to reduce their speed to navigate the intersection. This helps by providing space allows traffic from side roads to turn safely. They also significantly reduce head-on and side impact crashes.

8. How much will the new roundabout cost?

Waka Kotahi is investing close to \$6.4 million to make this intersection safer.

9. What about people who ride bikes?

Rangiteaorere Road will be used for people heading north on bikes, safely separating them from vehicles at the roundabout. The reduced vehicle speeds and road shoulders as you approach the intersection will also make it safer for cyclists coming from other directions.

10. Will access to the Mātaikōtare Marae be affected?

We are creating a new right turn bay at the SH30/Rangiteaorere Road intersection so it's safer to get to Mātaikōtare Marae.

11. Who have you consulted with as part of this process?

Waka Kotahi has worked closely with representatives from Ngāti Rangiteaorere, Ngāti Tuteniu and Uenukukōpako throughout the design process.

We have also spoken to local residents and landowners affected by this project, the local Rotorua Cycling group, freight organisations including Rotorua Forest Haulage, Freight Transport Association and Heavy Haulage Association, Rotorua Lakes Council and Bay of Plenty Regional Council.

12. What other safety improvement works are underway on SH33?

The SH30/33 Te Ngae Junction is at the southern end of a 34km length safety project currently underway on SH33 from the Te Ngae Junction to Paengaroa. The safety improvements include a wide centreline to increase the distance between oncoming traffic, widening and sealing roadside shoulders to provide extra room and installing roadside barriers at high-risk locations. This project is expected to be completed early 2023. For more information visit www.nzta.govt.nz/tnj2p

13. What will happen to the intersection speed zone?

In 2021, an Intersection Speed Zone (ISZ) was installed as an interim safety measure at this intersection until a long-term solution was confirmed. Now Waka Kotahi has funding to upgrade this intersection, the ISZ will be removed. A new speed limit will be proposed and consulted on closer to completion of the roundabout.