The Te Ahu a Turanga: Manawatū Tararua Highway project recently reached a significant earthworks milestone; moving 3.5 million cubic metres of earth since construction started in January 2021. The project alliance is now more than halfway towards the total earthworks target of 6.5 million cubic metres. Pictured here is Cut 13 in Zone 2, which at 55 metres, is the deepest cut along the alignment.

WEEKLY REPORT TO THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT

Week ending 16 September 2022

#299

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New Zealand Government

1. CURRENT BRIEFINGS (BRI) AND MINISTER QUERIES (MIN)

REFERENCE	TITLE	DUE DATE
Minister Wood		
BRI-2537	s 9(2)(f)(iv) [redacted]	TBC
BRI-2568	**[PROACTIVE]** NZUP: South Auckland – Mill Road	TBC
BRI-2569	s 9(2)(f)(iv) [redacted]	TBC
BRI-2570	s 9(2)(f)(iv) [redacted]	TBC
BRI-2571	**[PROACTIVE]** NZUP: Queenstown, P2D & Takitimu North Link baseline reports, SH22 Bridge over Ngākōroa River - assessment update	TBC
BRI-2567	s 9(2)(f)(iv) [redacted]	TBC
MINO-371	Follow up to meeting with the NZ Equestrian Advocacy Network	TBC
MIN-3914	Lifting of the SH22 Bridge over Ngākōroa stream	TBC
BRI-2587	Regulatory Funding and Fees Review: Public Feedback and Options on Fees and Charges	16 September 2022
BRI-2593	Clean Car Standard update s 9(2)(f)(iv) [redacted]	15 September 2022
BRI-2586	Regulatory Funding and Fees Review: Recommended allocation from land transport revenue	16 September 2022
MIN-3946	s 9(2)(f)(iv) [redacted]	16 September 2022
MIN-3963	Transport and Infrastructure Committee - Inter-regional passenger rail inquiry	26 September 2022
BRI-2589	AWHC and ALR joint briefing for ALR sponsors meeting, 29 November 2022	27 September 2022

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MIN-3962	Letter setting out Minister's expectations for AWHC	27 September 2022
MINO-466	AWHC project monthly update	28 September 2022
MINO-467	Projection of media barrier installation to be delivered over one and two years	28 September 2022
MIN-3887	WPQ-16049 follow up – DSI 2021 statistics	29 September 2022
BRI-2501	LGWM: Advice on next steps to improve LGWM governance	30 September 2022
MIN-3839	National Ticketing Solution monthly report	30 September 2022
BRI-2594	Advice on maintenance including contributing factors, current state and management options	3 October 2022
N/A	LGWM monthly report for September 2022	7 October 2022
Minister McAnulty		
MIN-3966	Special Purpose Roads – Waka Kotahi Board funding decision	21 September 2022
MIN-3965	Communications material – Councils accessing Road to Zero funding	28 September 2022

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2. ACTIONS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

REFERENCE	TITLE	DUE DATE
N/A	N/A	N/A

3. MEETINGS WITH OTHER MINISTERS

REFERENCE	DATE
N/A	N/A

4. SELECT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

REFERENCE	DATE
N/A	N/A

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5. REGULAR UPDATES

TITLE	UPDATE
Public Transport Patronage	News of the removal of the face covering mandate was received positively by public transport authorities, particularly in relation to relieving pressure on bus drivers. Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency will be watching to see whether there is a notable impact on patronage, which has remained stable over the last six weeks or so. Arrangements are being made to adjust the public transport provision for the public holiday on 26 September 2022 in memorial of Queen Elizabeth II. The latest patronage trends are provided in **Appendix A**.

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6. GENERAL UPDATES

TITLE	UPDATE
Network Road Closures Due to Weather Events and Crashes	A summary of road closures on the state highway network between 5 September and 11 September 2022 are provided below: **5 September 2022** • SH1S Between Dunedin and Waitati - closed due to snow and ice for 11.5 hours. • SH1N Rangipo to Waiouru (Desert Road) - closed due to snow for 13.5 hours. • SH49 Waiouru to Ohakune - closed due to a slip for 3 hours. • SH73 Mcgraths Creek - closed for approximately 2 hours due to an accident. **6 September 2022** • SH4 Kakatahi, near Fields Track - closed due to a slip for 5 hours. • SH5 Napier to Taupo - closed due to snow and ice for 5 hours. • SH87 Middlemarch to Outram - closed due to snow for 8 hours. • SH30 Tikitere to Rotoma - closed due to fallen trees for 3 hours. • SH1 Taieri River bridge – closed due to a crash involving black ice for approximately 6 hours. **9 September 2022** • SH2 Tutira - closed due to vehicle recovery following a prior crash. The road was closed between both intersections of Matahorua Road, with a detour in place for approximately 3.5 hours • SH3 Mt Messenger - there was a New Zealand Police closure of SH3 to remove protesters at Capital Works site. Closed for approximately 4 hours. • SH3 Tariki – New Zealand Police closure of SH3 Tariki for fatal accident. Car vs car. Closed for approximately 6.5 hours. • SH57 - road closure south of Tokomaru. Motorcycle vs Tractor (fatality). Closed for approximately 4 hours. **11 September 2022** • SH1N Levin, north of Stuckey Street - closed due to fire for 9 hours.

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TITLE	UPDATE
Update following the 17-19 August 2022 Intense Rainfall Events	A network update following severe weather events is provided below: • Tasman/Marlborough: SH63 re-opened on 10 September 2022 following the reinstatement of the Branch Bridge approach and resurfacing to The Wash River scour. • Tasman SH60 (Drummond historic slip, Takaka Hill) is under single lane traffic signals control due to a drop out. Recovery investigations are underway. • Tasman: SH60 (Birds Hill) is under single lane traffic signals control due to a drop out and historic overslip. Recovery investigations are underway. • Nelson SH6 (Rocks Rd) is now open to all users since traffic management upgrades allowed southbound cycle access from 7 September 2022. • Nelson: SH6 (Whangamoa Hill) is under single lane traffic signals control due to two dropouts. Recovery investigations are underway • Marlborough: SH6 (Rai Saddle) is under single lane traffic signals control due to four dropouts. Recovery investigations are underway.
Review of Waiheke Passenger Ferry Service Exempt Status	Waka Kotahi has engaged an external consultant to undertake a review of the exempt status of the Waiheke Passenger Ferry. Waka Kotahi has agreed to the scope of work with the consultant. The consultant has contacted Auckland Transport and Fullers and has met with Waiheke Tourism and business representatives on 14 September 2022. s 9(2)(a) [redacted] the Fullers Chief s 9(2)(a) [redacted] is aware that the review is underway and will be available to engage in the review in early October 2022.

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7. REGIONAL UPDATES

REGIONAL AREA	UPDATE
Auckland/Northland	**SH1 Mangamuka Gorge and SH10** SH1 through Mangamuka Gorge is still closed as conditions are still highly unstable, and the ground is still moving. Geotechnical investigations on the slip near Totara North Road on SH10 Waitaruke, where an underslip reduced the highway to one lane only, have been completed. Waka Kotahi is aiming to get the road open to two lanes as soon as possible. Temporary access for overweight vehicles to use the SH10 Waitangi River Bridge remains in place while SH1 remains closed through the Mangamuka Gorge. The Parapara Bridge, just north of the Waitangi River Bridge, also suffered storm damage and a 50km speed restriction remains in place. The condition of both bridges are being closely monitored, with a structural engineer regularly checking the bridge. Waka Kotahi is working to assess how the bridges will be repaired without impacting traffic.
Central North Island	**SH3 Te Ara o Te Ata: Mt Messenger Bypass** Work has resumed in full on Te Ara o Te Ata: Mt Messenger Bypass in Taranaki after New Zealand Police removed unlawful occupants from site on 8 September 2022. A small group of project opponents had been present since setting up a makeshift camp beyond security fencing at the summit of Mt Messenger on 14 August 2022. Security is in place across all of the project's sites to minimise the likelihood of further disruption. On 16 September 2022, the project's iwi partner Ngati Tama hosted a site visit from Green Party MP, Dr. Elizabeth Kerekere. Waka Kotahi and the Mt. Messenger Alliance were also represented with some local media invited. **SH5 Napier Taupō Road** Teams have made excellent progress at the SH5 dropout site between Te Haroto and Tarawera. The road was reopened to two lanes on 9 September 2022, four weeks ahead of schedule. Additional work is needed to replace and relocate a culvert, which will be done under stop/go traffic management at a later stage. Photos of the site are provided below.

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REGIONAL AREA	UPDATE

Wellington/Top of South

SH59 Wellington Update

SH59 remains closed, following the big slip, with significant progress being made to reopen it by 16 September 2022.

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Peka Peka to Ōtaki update

The asphalt remedial works are scheduled to be substantially complete in two weeks' time with the placement of EMOGPA (the top layer of asphalt) to follow in those areas. Structural asphalt (the bottom two layers) has just started at the tie-in points to the existing SH1 at each end of the project (i.e. Peka Peka to the south and north of Otaki at the northern end), and will continue in tandem with the EMOGPA.

Concrete foundations for the Gateway Sculptures at both ends of the Ōtaki township will be poured during the week beginning 19 September 2022. Nightworks continue at the Ōtaki southbound off-ramp and northern tie-in.

The improving weather has been welcomed by the construction team and has enabled members of the Community Liaison Group to go on a walk over of the iconic Ōtaki River Bridge last week. This had been postponed multiple times since 2021 due to weather. A construction update was provided to the Ōtaki Community board meeting earlier in the week beginning 12 September 2022. Waka Kotahi is aiming for the expressway to open prior to Christmas 2022; however, this will be dependent on weather and COVID-19 impacts.

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REGIONAL AREA	UPDATE

Rest of the South

North Canterbury Transport Infrastructure Recovery Self-Cleaning Rockfall Canopy

As part of the North Canterbury Transport Infrastructure Recovery (NCTIR) alliance, the professional services sub-alliance was involved in the design and construction support to remediate a rockfall-prone corner of SH1 for Waka Kotahi.

To protect users of the South Island's main transport route, the integrated team identified an innovative solution which led to the design and construction of the Southern Hemisphere's first Rockfall Canopy – the world's longest – and one that demanded consulting excellence.

The Kaikōura self-cleaning rockfall canopy uses conventional rockfall fence componentry to form a radical new system shaped as a tensioned, sloping mesh roof over the roadway. Falling rocks bounce and slide over the mesh canopy, dropping from the outer edge into a designated safe zone in the sea.

The reason there are so few rockfall canopies is that they require a specific set of site conditions, namely a narrow road at the base of a tall cliff with a safe and undeveloped area downslope of the structure to deflect falling rocks towards. They are exceptionally challenging to design and construct for linear sites with planar rockfaces. The Waka Kotahi site had added complexity from the curve of the coast and the three-dimensional geometry of the rockface.

The canopy structure is the longest in the world and the only one constructed over an active main highway. It provided Waka Kotahi with a rockfall solution that could be constructed with a single lane road closure. The canopy has a low visual impact on the landscape and is self-cleaning, significantly reducing the operational maintenance required compared to traditional rockfall protection structures. It also delivers a solution with a lower construction and environmental footprint than other options, and a shorter

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REGIONAL AREA	UPDATE
	construction phase with less disruption for local communities and the freight industry. This project is an exemplar of outstanding consulting services delivering an innovative and technically challenging solution for the community.

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8. MEDIA UPDATES

REGIONAL AREA	UPDATE
Auckland/Northland	**Mangamuka Gorge** A media site visit is planned for 23 September 2022 to provide regional media with an opportunity to see first-hand, the scale of the damage to SH1 in the Mangamuka Gorge, and to provide an update on potential options for repairing or rebuilding the route.
Waikato/Bay of Plenty	**Takitimu North Link** A media statement will be released during the week beginning 19 September 2022 announcing work starting at Minden Gully as part of the Takitimu North Link project. The media release will cover the environmental considerations of this culturally and ecologically significant area. **Ngāruawāhia works** A media statement will be released during the week beginning 19 September 2022 to let drivers know that work begins next month on pavement repairs and safety improvements on the Ngāruawāhia section of the Waikato Expressway. Waka Kotahi is undertaking improvements to bring this section up to the same standard as neighbouring expressway sections which have been built to allow for a speed limit of 110km/h.

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9. STATE HIGHWAY CLOSURES

REGIONAL AREA	UPDATE
Auckland/Northland	**SH1 Mangamuka Gorge** Due to multiple large slips and dropouts, SH1 is closed between Kitchen Road and Makene Road. A detour route is available via SH10.

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10. ROAD DEATH UPDATE – WEDNESDAY 7TH TO TUESDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER 2022

Key: SAAS: Safe and Appropriate Speed. SH: State highway. IRR: Infrastructure Risk Rating. UCSR: Used Car Safety Rating. ANCAP: Australasian New Car Assessment Program. CWR: Crash Worthiness Rating. VSRR: Vehicle Safety Risk Rating. Top 10%: the 10% of regional networks assessed to deliver the greatest DSI savings through Speed Management.

Crash description		Speeds			Roads & Roadsides			People			Vehicles		
What happened (NZ Police description)	Date of crash Time of crash Local Council	Speed limit km/h	SAAS km/h	SAAS Top 10%	SH	IRR Land use and risk rating: low, medium, high	Road conditions	Deceased details Gender, Age, User	Deceased drivers' licence status	Restraint or helmet worn	Vehicle type where occupant died	UCSR/ANCAP/ CWR (light vehicles only)	Other vehicles involved
s 9(2)(a)	s 9(2)(a) Wellington	50	30	No	No	Low Medium Commercial Big Box/Industrial	Dry Objects hit: None	s 9(2) Pedestrian	Not applicable for Pedestrian	Not applicable for Pedestrian	Utility	5*ANCAP	None
	s 9(2)(a) Horowhenua	100	80	Yes	Yes	Medium Rural Residential	Dry Objects hit: Ditch	s 9(2) Motorcyclist	Full-Current	Yes	Motorcycle	Not applicable for Motorcycle	Tractor
	s 9(2)(a) New Plymouth	100	80	Yes	Yes	Low Medium Rural Residential	Dry Objects hit: Ditch	s 9(2) Driver s 9(2) Passenger	Full-Current Not applicable for Passenger	Yes Yes	Car	2*UCSR	Car, Tractor
	s 9(2)(a) Wairoa	100	80	Yes	Yes	Medium Rural Residential	Dry Objects hit: Fence, Ditch	s 9(2) Motorcyclist	Unknown at time of report	Yes	Motorcycle	Not applicable for Motorcycle	None

About the information:
Data is taken from NZ Police fatal crash notifications, Rightcar (https://rightcar.govt.nz/) and Mega Maps as at 8 am 14/09/2022.
Fatal crash notifications are received within 24 hours of a death by NZ Police. Therefore, a recent crash may not be included in the report. Any subsequent death, within thirty days of the crash, will be recorded when received.
Deaths already excluded from the road toll based on Ministry of Transport assessment are not included in the data. Fatal crashes may be excluded from the road toll because the deaths may be caused by medical events, suicide, homicide, "Acts of God", be off-road or non-motor vehicle crashes, or the death may occur more than thirty days after the crash.
Fatal crashes may have occurred within the period for which notifications may be received later.
Traffic crash data covers all NZ roadways or places where the public have legal access with a motor vehicle.

- In some cases, the NZ Police description of what happened has been altered to change the tense and to protect the privacy of individuals.

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Appendix A – Public Transport Patronage

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