MIN-3980 Mangamuka Gorge State Highway 1 Update

30 September 2022

Provide a status update on the Mangamuka Gorge State Highway 1 (SH1) corridor.

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency's response:

- The SH1 corridor remains closed due to highly unstable conditions and there is still movement on two of the major under slip sites. Ground investigations have been completed, and an option assessment is now being undertaken.

- On 29 September 2022, a hui was held with mana whenua, stakeholders and key experts to review the roles of SH1, SH10 and local roads in order to provide a resilient network. This will confirm the approach to the resilience enhancements needed, including examining options, assessing costs, scoping risks, procurement, and implementation. A collaborative approach has been taken, utilising the extensive knowledge about the region that is held by Far North community representatives and experts, which will help determine the next steps.

- The feedback received from Waka Kotahi partners will feed into an options assessment to recommend a preferred way forward. Whilst Waka Kotahi is accelerating this important work, a thorough approach is required in order to achieve a resilient state highway north. Waka Kotahi does not expect to have a view on the long-term outcomes until after the site assessments and above work is completed.

- Repair work has now commenced on the slip near Totara North Road on SH10 Waitaruke where an underslip reduced the road to one lane. Temporary access for overweight vehicles to use the SH10 Waitangi River Bridge remains in place while SH1 remains closed through the Mangamuka Gorge. The bridge contractor has now been established on site, and preparations are in place for work to begin with a 12-week construction period. The team is confident they can complete the work without needing to close the bridge, however it may mean a lane closure.

- The Parapara Bridge just north of the Waitangi River Bridge also suffered storm damage and a 50km speed restriction remains in place. Bridge strengthening designs is underway and physical works will commence once the design phase is completed.

- The condition of both bridges is being closely monitored, with a structural engineer carrying out regular inspections.

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