

MIN-4441 Rollout of speed camera signage

8 April 2024

Provide information on the rollout of speed camera signage, and when signs are expected to be installed.

Background to the camera sign approach

- In November 2019, as part of Tackling Unsafe Speeds the previous government decided that, alongside increased investment in additional cameras on the network, there would also be a highly visible approach to cameras. In December 2021, this approach was clarified as being both 'highly visible' for certain camera types (that is, static, red light, and average speed safety cameras) as appropriate, while maintaining an 'anytime anywhere' general deterrence approach through the use of covert mobile cameras.
- It was agreed that existing cameras, mostly operated by NZ Police, would not have signs installed until NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) started expanding the camera network. NZTA will put the first of the new cameras into enforcement mode in mid-2024. As cameras are transferred to NZTA, all fixed speed cameras will be signposted, giving drivers a reminder to check their speed and slow down if needed.
- On 25 July 2023, the Land Transport Rule: Traffic Control Devices 2004 – Safety Camera Area Signs (the Camera Sign Rule) authorising the installation and maintenance of safety camera area signs came into effect. The Camera Sign Rule contains specifications that need to be met when signs are installed at fixed camera locations. See <https://gazette.govt.nz/notice/id/2023-au3521>.

Implementing the camera sign approach

- To date, there has been no formal announcement of the camera signposting approach. The approach has been outlined as questions and opportunities have arisen in the media, with stakeholders, including the Automobile Association (AA), which has been calling for signposting of fixed cameras for some time, and in correspondence with NZTA.
- Signs are being installed as part of NZTA's testing of new camera types and at the earliest opportunity as NZTA takes over cameras from NZ Police.

Signs are being installed as part of testing new camera types

- The camera sign approach is being implemented by NZTA as part of testing new camera types that haven't been used in New Zealand before.
- To date, camera signs (*Camera not in use*) have been installed for the cameras operating in test mode (as opposed to enforcement mode). The first camera was on SH1, Kawakawa with testing starting in September 2023.
- *Camera not in use* signs have also been installed at the average speed / point-to-point (P2P) camera test corridor on Matakana Road, Warkworth.
- The signs will be changed to *Safety camera area* signs as the new camera locations are moved from test mode to enforcement mode.

- All future fixed cameras will have *Safety camera area* signs installed from when they start operating in enforcement mode.

Signs will be installed at existing static camera sites at the earliest opportunity

- From August 2024 to 30 June 2025, NZTA will transition just over 100 static cameras from NZ Police and other road controlling authorities (RCAs). This equates to transitioning about two cameras on average per week.
- NZTA is working closely with NZ Police regarding signage and will, at the earliest opportunity presented, install signs at existing static camera sites, including those owned by RCAs.
- On 5 April 2024 NZ Police indicated that they would have no objection to NZTA commencing work towards signposting static speed sites currently operated by NZ Police as and when NZTA is in a position to do so.
- The most efficient and cost-effective approach is to install signage at the same time as camera sites are being transitioned. This avoids duplication of activities and logistics including:
 - entering into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with local RCAs to obtain consent to install the signs where the camera is on a local road
 - notification of local residents to advise them of the works
 - physical site remediation
 - every camera will need to be physically swapped out and upgraded to meet NZTA's security requirements.
- A draft plan has been developed to achieve this that balances:
 - commercial efficiencies of sequencing works and managing capacity with regional suppliers
 - minimising disruptions to road users and local communities
 - ensuring that NZTA back-office functions have capacity to deal with infringement volumes as cameras are transferred
 - being feasible for NZTA, NZ Police, Auckland Transport, and Christchurch City Council, and other RCAs.
- NZTA provides the Minister with a monthly update on the installation of new cameras. We will add to this update a section to provide visibility of the rollout of signage.

Announcement of the start of the new camera sign approach

- The current plan is that the NZTA owned Kawakawa camera will be the first site to have a *Safety camera area* sign installed in June/July 2024, subject to successful completion of testing. This site would be suitable from a health and safety perspective for a public announcement of the launch of the new approach to signage.
- There are a number of existing sites on Auckland Transport (AT) local roads where signs could be installed sooner than is currently planned, potentially before the end of May. These sites are currently operated by NZ Police and are identified in Annex A. Some of these would also be suitable for a public announcement, subject to agreement with AT and NZ Police.

Noted by Minister ☐

Annex A: Candidate camera sites for early signage installation)

All sites are static spot speed cameras on AT local roads and operated by NZ Police:

Road name	Suburb
Ostrich Road	Franklin
Mill Road	Pukekohe East
Waiuku Road	Waiuku
Glenbrook-Waiuku Road	Waiuku
Dairy Flat Highway	Dairy Flat
Papakura-Clevedon Road	Ardmore
Linwood Road	Karaka
McKenzie Road	Kingseat
East Coast Road	Waitematā