

Waikato & Bay of Plenty state highway works November 2024

A week of warm, largely settled weather has allowed road workers across the Waikato and Bay of Plenty to make good progress at a number of sites.

Work continues to build momentum up until the Christmas/New Year, says Sandra King, Bay of Plenty System Manager at NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA).

“We’ve put a real emphasis on planning and collaborating on our maintenance work, with the aim to reduce overall disruption across the regions,” says Ms King.

Due to their long to-do lists, our contractors have spent a lot of time planning the best way to get work done by maximising productivity and minimising disruption.

“We’ve got some tight spots on the network where it’s not safe to have machinery working alongside moving vehicles. We’ve got other areas where there are multiple worksites close together. In these instances, we may need to close the road to get the right outcome for everyone.

“Closing the road has safety and quality benefits for crews and provides certainty for road users around how long it will take to get to their destination via a detour route. As it’s maintenance season, there can be roadworks on the alternative routes too, and road users need to plan for this.

“This can make planning tricky and developing the recommended detour isn’t as straight forward as many might imagine. We are managing the needs of many road users and local road maintenance programmes while balancing convenience, practicality, and safety.

The coming weeks sees closures in several locations, including State Highway 1 between Tirau and Waiouru, State Highway 27 in Matamata and State Highway 35 at Te Kaha on the east coast.

This work forms part of the government’s \$2.07 billion investment into road and drainage renewal and maintenance across 2024-27 via the State Highway Pothole Prevention fund.

The NZTA Journey Planner is the best place for information on the status of the state highway network. With live updates on worksites and other road hazards, Journey Planner (journeys.nzta.govt.nz) can help road users plot the best route to their destination.

Bay of Plenty

Tauranga

- **SH2 Takitimu North Link Stage 1:** Shoulder closures and stop/go traffic management on Minden Road continue until mid-December while utility works are completed and earthworks get underway. Until Monday 11 November there will be 24/7 traffic management on Minden Road. There will be lane deviations and lane switching. Please take direction from staff on the ground and slow down through the work site.
- **SH2 Bethlehem:** From Sunday 10 November to Wednesday 13 November, 3 nights of road resurfacing will take place in the lanes heading towards Tauranga, between Te Paeroa Road and Bethlehem Road. The night works will be carried out between 8pm and 5am and a detour will be in place for northbound traffic via Te Paeroa Road, Carmichael Road and Bethlehem Road. The road will be open during the day with a temporary speed limit in place and an uneven surface.
- **SH2/Fifteenth Ave:** Major works to build the connection from Fifteenth Ave to SH29/Takitimu Drive Toll Road are underway. Works involve the building of a 120m long retaining wall and earthworks, prior to the Fifteenth Ave bridge construction. One lane at SH2/Fifteenth Ave near Edgumbe Road will be closed while this work takes place. This is likely to remain in place until mid-2026. Local residents and those passing through this area should be prepared for disruption over the construction season; there will be delays and changes to the road layout as we complete this work.

- **SH29 Takitimu Drive Toll Road:** A reduced speed limit of 70km/h is in place while Takitimu North Link Stage 1 crews are working behind the barriers. [More information](#)
- **SH29 Tauriko West between Redwood Lane and Cambridge Road:** Project construction is ongoing at multiple sites on SH29, with shoulder closures, reduced speed limits and mobile operations in place. From Monday 18 November to Thursday 21 November (7pm to 5am each night), a 3-way stop/go with a temporary 30km/h speed limit will be in place on Cambridge Road and SH29 on both sides of the Cambridge Road intersection for works to install safety barriers, modify traffic islands and line marking. Access to Cambridge Road and SH29 will remain open for the duration of the works. [More information.](#)
- **SH29 Kaimai Range:** A programme of night works has started with a road rebuild near Hanga Lane, taking 4 weeks to complete with a finish date of Friday 15 November. The nightworks are between 7pm and 6am Monday to Thursday to minimise impact to traffic. When work is underway there will be stop/go traffic management in place. Over the coming 6-8 months there will be several significant worksites to complete. [More information](#)
- **SH2 Bay Link:** From Monday 11 November to Wednesday 13 November, various lane closures will be in place across the Bay Link site for line marking and sign installation. For more information, visit nzta.govt.nz/baylink-traffic.
- **Tauranga:** The annual City to Surf race will take place on Sunday 10 November, starting at the Tauranga Yacht and Power Boat club at 9am, runners will head around the Daisy Hardwick walkway and then travel back over the SH2 on the Tauranga Harbour Bridge and along Hewletts Road to Tōtara Street before heading towards Mauao. Motorists should be aware of competitors on SH2.
- **SH2 Tauranga Eastern Link Toll Road (TELTR):** The Tauranga City Council led project continues. A 2km section of SH2, just past the Kaituna River Bridge continues to be reduced to a single lane in each direction to allow construction of the Pāpāmoa East Interchange to progress. This closure will remain in place for the duration of construction, with a temporary 70km/h speed limit in place. [More information.](#)
- **SH2 TELTR:** The Quayside Properties Ltd led Rangiora Business Park Interchange project continues. [More information.](#)

Western Bay of Plenty

- **SH2 Old Tauranga Road to Mathers Road:** A road rebuild is underway on SH2 near Old Tauranga Road, from 6am to 6pm Monday to Saturday each week and a finish date of around 4 December, weather dependent. There will be lane diversions and stop/go traffic management in place with a 30km/h temporary speed limit 24 hours a day. Motorists are advised to expect delays.
- **SH2 Ōmokoroa Road:** Road widening works are underway in preparation for the new roundabout. Lane shifts are in place along with speed restrictions. There will be intermittent stop/go traffic management in place which may cause longer delays. Follow the temporary signs and directions of the traffic management team and watch for layout changes. Expect minor delays especially during peak times. On Wednesday 13 November Powerco will do the final relocation of power services near the new roundabout. Cables will need to be pulled across SH2, stop/stop traffic management will be in place for a few minutes at a time, minor delays are to be expected. [More information.](#)
- **SH2 Apata Station Road:** Road widening works are underway in preparation for the new roundabout. Lane shifts are in place along with speed restrictions. There will be intermittent stop/go traffic management in place which may cause longer delays. Follow the temporary signs and directions of the traffic management team and watch for layout changes. Expect minor delays.

- **SH33 Paengaroa:** Resurfacing work on SH33 between Allport Road and Maungarangi Road will take place over the next 5 weeks until early December, between 6am and 6pm each day. While the work is taking place there will be lane diversions and stop/go traffic management in place with a temporary speed limit of 30km/h. Outside of these hours there will be a temporary speed limit in place while the new chipseal is trafficked.

Rotorua

- **SH36 Hamurana Road, north of Ngongotahā:** A road rebuild is underway on SH36 between Central Road and Gloucester Road between 8am and 5pm, due to be completed in early December. While the work is underway a lane closure will be in place between Central Road and Gloucester Road each weekday. Temporary traffic management will remain in place until the road has been line marked.

Eastern Bay of Plenty

- **SH38 Rangitāiki Bridge:** Work is underway on bridge repairs near Murupara and is expected to be completed in early December. At times during the work there will be short periods of stop/stop traffic management in place and a temporary speed limit of 30km/h.
- **SH2 Waioeka Road, near Ōpōtiki:** A road rebuild is underway on SH2 between Warrington Road and Clark Ross Road, this work is expected to be completed by Friday 15 November. On weekdays between 7.30am and 4.30pm there will be 4-way stop/go traffic management in place at the SH2 Matchitt Road and Apanui Road intersection.
- **SH35 Ōpape:** Underslip repairs are underway and expected to be completed in late November. The work will take place between 7am and 5am Monday to Saturday. There will be stop/go traffic management and a temporary speed limit of 30km/h in place while work is underway. A temporary speed limit of 50km/h in place while the site is unattended.
- **SH35 Te Kaha:** A road rebuild is underway near the Tūtaki Marae and Te Kaha Hotel, between Copenhagen Road and Copenhagen Loop Road in Te Kaha between 7am and 5pm Monday to Friday. The work is expected to be completed in early December. While rebuild work is underway there will be stop/go, and at times stop/stop, traffic management in place and a temporary speed limit.
- **SH35 Waikawa Bay:** Repairs have started on the culvert at Waikawa Bay on SH35, work is expected to be completed by the end of November. Stop/go traffic management is in place with a temporary speed limit while the works are taking place.

Tairāwhiti Gisborne/Hawke's Bay

- **SH5 Napier to Taupō:** Recovery alliance Transport Rebuild East Coast (TREC) continues to progress safety improvements, as well as repair, recovery and maintenance activities at multiple sites on SH5 between Eskdale and Waipunga. [More information.](#)

Waikato

SH1 Tīrau to Waiouru

- **Overall programme:** Check out the upcoming dates for closures at nzta.govt.nz/projects/sh1-tirau-to-waiouru-maintenance/. You can also keep up to date by signing up to the [e-newsletter](#).
- **East Taupō Arterial:** From Monday 11 November to Friday 6 December, SH1 will be closed between the Wairakei Roundabout and the Broadlands Interchange. The detour route for all vehicles is: Southbound traffic on SH1 will turn left onto SH5, right onto Ohaaki Road, right onto Broadlands Road, and left back onto SH1. Northbound traffic will follow the same detour in reverse. Taupō will be very busy during December and there will be pressure on the highways and local roads in the area due to the various events as well as the road works. Motorists are encouraged to use the official detour. Those travelling to north or south destinations either side of Taupō may prefer to use other state highway routes such as SH3, SH4, SH32 and SH49.

- **Tokoroa to upper Ātiamuri:** Full closure is in place and will run until mid-November (weather permitting). This site is one of the larger and more complex ones, spanning 17km and encompassing 4 separate work areas, ranging from 2.9km to 5.7km in length. SH1 traffic heading to Taupō and further south is being detoured via SH32 and SH30 (light vehicles only) and vice versa (also known as Maraetai Road in Tokoroa, Whakamaru Road and Ongaroto Road in Ātiamuri). This will add approximately 16 minutes (23km) to journey times. The road between the SH1/SH32 (Maraetai Road) and the hard closure (near Campbell Road) will be accessible for residents. Heavy vehicles are detoured via SH5 and SH30. Those wanting to access the Tokoroa Golf Club should use Old Taupō and Kinleith roads and then will have access on SH1 to the Club. The Oji Fibre Solutions Kinleith Mill is accessible for people who have been permitted by Forestry to use their private roads or use the SH30/32 detour. Those wanting to access business in southern Tokoroa within the soft closure (such as Subway or Robert Harris) are able to do so.
- **Putāruru to Tokoroa:** From late-November (weather permitting), until Friday 20 December there will be closures along SH1 between SH1/Princes Street Putāruru and the SH1/SH32 Tokoroa intersection. All north and south bound SH1 vehicles will be detoured via Princes Street, Arapuni Street, Arapuni Road, Waotu Road, Old Taupō Road, SH32 - Tokoroa and vice versa. This will add approximately 15 mins and 11km to journey times (standard journey via SH1 Putāruru to Tokoroa is approximately 18 mins and 23km). There will possibly be a temporary speed limit of 70km/h along the entirety of the detour route. Heavy vehicles are asked to take SH5/30. There will be a soft closure in Putāruru, between SH1/Princes Street intersection and Vospers Road, Lichfield. There is also a soft closure at the southern end, up to Rollett Road. These soft closures still allow access, but are in place in order to send those on longer journeys down appropriate detours. The "hard closure" (the worksite) is approximately 13km long, from Vospers Road to Rollett Road. Within the hard closure, there are strict requirements before anyone can go into that area as there will be a multitude of machines and people working on the road at all times of the day and night. Pilot vehicles will be used and there may be delays going through the work site.
- Travelling from Hamilton to Waiouru or further south: An alternative route for those travelling longer distances, such as Hamilton to Waiouru is to take SH49, SH4 and SH3 (or vice versa). SH4 is now suitable for HPMV for the duration of the SH1 Tīrau to Waiouru renewal project.

East Waikato

- **SH25 Waitakaruru:** The eastbound single lane bridge at Waitakaruru is temporarily closed for a deck replacement. All traffic is using the other bridge for the duration of the project and temporary traffic lights are in place. The current completion date for this work is Friday 29 November.
- **SH25 Thornton Bay:** Seawall repairs underway between Thornton Bay and Ngarimu Bay are expected to be completed late November, depending on weather conditions. The road will be reduced to a single lane with stop/go traffic management in place on weekdays between 7am and 5pm.
- **SH25 Te Rerenga (Whangapoua):** Road rebuilding works will be underway between Quarry Road and Te Rerenga School for 4 weeks, weather dependent, from Thursday 7 November with a completion date of Thursday 5 December. The road will be reduced to a single lane with stop/go traffic management in place between 7am and 6pm, Monday to Friday. Temporary speed restrictions will be in place outside of these hours.
- **SH25 Tairua:** Repairs to a large underslip at Pumpkin Hill near Sailors Grave Road, just north of Tairua, are underway. Work at this site will take about 6 months to complete. There are temporary speed restrictions and a shoulder closure through the worksite. Stop/stop traffic management will be required at times. [More information](#)

- **SH27 Matamata:** A road rebuild at the SH27/SH24 roundabout in Matamata will begin on Monday 18 November. This work will be done in 2 stages with the northern side starting first and a road closure will be in place 24/7 from Monday 18 November to Friday 22 November. Traffic will be detoured via Waharoa Road East or Burwood Road. Work shifts to the southern side of the roundabout from Sunday 24 November until Friday 6 December. There will be closures each night from 8pm to 5am, no work will take place on Friday or Saturday nights. During the day there will be temporary speed limits in place. Further south, SH27 will be closed between Burwood Road and Puketutu Road for 2 nights for resurfacing from Monday 18 and Tuesday 19 November between 7am and 6pm. There will be a detour available via Hinuera Road.

Central Waikato

- **SH41 Hipaau:** Works to repair an underslip will begin on Monday 11 November. The road will be down to 1 lane under stop/go traffic management and a temporary speed limit. Works to repair the slip are expected to be completed by the end of 2024.
- **SH41 Tokaanu:** Works to repair a slip created due to a washout, have been completed. The road is down to 1 lane under temporary traffic lights while finishing works are completed. Finishing works are expected to take place from 11 November for one week before the site is opened back up to 2lanes.

West Waikato

- **SH1 Waikato Expressway - Ngāruawāhia section:** Safety improvements and remedial works required to get the Ngāruawāhia section of the Waikato Expressway up to 110km/h standard are expected to be completed by Christmas. There are currently night closures in both directions, 7pm-5am, Sunday nights to Friday mornings until 22 November. There will then be a full 24/7 closure from 7pm Sunday 24 November to 12 noon Friday 29 November. The closure schedule is listed at nzta.govt.nz/projects/waikato-expressway/expressway-surface-works/ Meanwhile the detour in place where northbound SH1C and SH1 merge continues to mid-December. SH1C traffic is required to exit at Lake Road, head south on SH1 to turn around at Resolution interchange and proceed north. The detour adds about 8 minutes to journeys. [Detour map](#)
- **SH1C Te Rapa:** Line marking on the Te Rapa section of SH1C north and southbound will start overnight from Sunday 10 November between 7pm and 5am. A road closure is required in 1 direction at a time, between Wairere Drive interchange and the Horotiu interchange with a detour via Te Rapa Road and Wairere Drive. This work will take 5 nights to complete.
- **SH31 near Raglan Road:** Now the slip repairs have finished road resurfacing will start on Tuesday 12 November west of Raglan Road and take 3 weeks to complete. There will be stop/go traffic management in place while the work is ongoing.
- **SH26 Morrinsville Road:** Work is wrapping up on a road near Eureka between Platt Road and Tauwhare Road with a finish date of around Friday 15 November. Stop/go traffic management is in place with a temporary speed limit. While the rebuild is underway, there will be a 1-way westbound detour in place 24/7 via Tauwhare Road and Platt Road. This will add approximately 4 minutes to journeys.
- **SH1/SH29 Piarere intersection:** Traffic is now using the new roundabout at the intersection of SH1 and SH29 in Piarere. NZTA asks all road users to adhere to the signage and take extra care when travelling through the area as it's still a work zone. This arrangement is expected to remain in place until late 2024. [View a map here.](#)
- **SH30 Bennydale:** A road rebuild has started on Ellis Road in Bennydale near Ohirea Road and is expected to take 6 weeks to complete finishing in early December. A second site near Kiwi Place will start in January 2025. Enabling works will be done first between 7am and 7pm each day with

stop/go traffic management in place. Once the site has been prepared the road rebuild will start, with stop/stop traffic management in place and a temporary speed limit of 30km/h. Delays of up to 20 minutes can be expected.

North Waikato

- **SH2 between Heaven Road and Steen Road:** General road maintenance will take place on Sunday 10 November between 9pm and 5am.
- **SH2 Between Heaven Road and McWatt Road:** General road maintenance will take place on Monday 11 November between 9pm and 5am.
- **SH2 Between Monument Road and Dimmock Road:** General road maintenance will take place on Monday 11 and Tuesday 12 November between 9pm and 5am.
- **SH2 between Kotuku Road and Coalfields Road:** General road maintenance will take place on Wednesday 13 November between 9pm and 5am.

Taranaki

- **SH3 Waitara Road, Bell Block:** A small section of Waitara Road is closed until late November to progress safety improvement work on SH3 in Taranaki, this work includes stormwater improvements, the relocation of underground services, and pavement works. During the closure a detour will be in place along Richmond Road, the detour will add an extra 5 minutes to journeys. SH3 through the intersection will remain open to traffic with a 50km/h temporary speed limit in place. [More information](#)
- **SH3 Mount Messenger:** Resurfacing works are set to begin on Sunday 10 November to Wednesday 13 November, between 8pm and 5am, the road will be closed in both directions during this time with a 1 hour opening between 12-1am to allow traffic to pass through. On Friday 15 November to Monday 18 November, the road will be closed 24/7 with openings between 12-1am, 5-7am, 12-1pm and 5-7pm and again from Monday 18 November to Friday 22 November between 8pm and 5am, with an opening time of 12-1am to allow traffic to pass through. The road is very windy and narrow, the closures are required to allow the volume of work to be completed. [More information](#)
- **SH4 North of Taumarunui:** A road rebuild will begin on Monday 11 November at the Paroparowhero Stream, north of Taumarunui, taking 5 weeks to complete. The road has been held with a temporary seal over the winter months, but now we're heading into the warmer summer months, crews are returning to site to complete a permanent rebuild of the road. During this time there will be traffic light stop/go in place 24/7 with a temporary speed limit of 30km/h. Expect delays of up to 15 minutes.
- **SH3 Ōnaero:** Due to pavement repairs on SH3 between Waiiau Road and Kapikari Road, there will be stop/go traffic management at 2 sites with a 30km/h speed restriction until Friday 22 November between 6am and 7pm, Monday to Saturday. Delays of 5-10 minutes are expected.

The above information is accurate at the time of release. Many of the above works are dependent on a number of factors, particularly weather, and may be postponed at short notice. For up-to-date information on road works, traffic, detours and delays, motorists are encouraged to visit the NZTA Journey Planner website (journeys.nzta.govt.nz).

NZTA thanks motorists for their patience while we complete this essential work to keep the state highway network safe, accessible and resilient.

Plan ahead for a safe, enjoyable journey. Keep up to date with:

- Traffic updates: journeys.nzta.govt.nz/traffic
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/nztawbop>

- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/nztawbop>
- Journey planner: journeys.nzta.govt.nz
- Phone: 0800 4 HIGHWAYS (0800 44 44 49)