



Mt Iron roundabout



Construction of the NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi five-leg SH84/SH6 Mt Iron roundabout is now finished and brings significant safety and accessibility improvements to one of Wānaka's busiest highway intersections.

Work started on this \$7 million roundabout project in early 2023 and the roundabout was fully opened to traffic in late March 2024. The finishing touches to this job are now complete and drivers can navigate the intersection smoothly and safely. This marks a significant milestone for Wānaka's transportation infrastructure, reducing the likelihood of crashes and improving traffic flows for both locals and visitors.

Prior to the roundabout being built, turning out of Riverbank Road or from the Albert Town-Lake Hāwea Road onto SH84 or SH6 to Wānaka and Cromwell was challenging and has resulted in multiple crashes in recent years. This intersection is now safer and fit for the projected increase in traffic from nearby commercial and residential developments.

A key to the successful delivery of this project has been the local community's patience with disruptive roadworks and detours. Most people understood the project's long-term safety and accessibility benefits were good for their community, and the road works were a short-term inconvenience necessary to getting this important job completed quickly and efficiently.



A newly landscaped section of the roundabout

The design

The roundabout features median islands on the approaching legs to encourage reduced vehicle speeds, safer crossing islands for pedestrians and cyclists, an improved stormwater system and streetlighting.

Landscaping work involved asphaltting pathways for pedestrians and cyclists, plantings, and decorative stone and feature rocks inside the roundabouts 40-metre diameter centre circle. Elsewhere on the site there's stone, grassing and plantings that blend in with the unique Wānaka landscape.

An eye to the future

This roundabout will meet both the current and future transport needs of the Wānaka area by quickly, efficiently and safely getting people, goods and services where they need to go. This will support the continued prosperity of one of New Zealand's fastest growing locations. A fifth leg on the roundabout has been built to give access into a future subdivision development by Mt Iron Junction Ltd.



The Wānaka leg of the new roundabout



For more information:

visit our website nzta.govt.nz/projects/mt-iron-roundabout