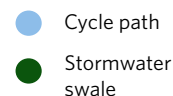




Te Ara Tūtohu

Waitara to Bell Block safety improvements

Kia whakahaumaru tēnei rori



**Waka Kotahi
NZ Transport Agency is
working towards a future
where nobody is killed or
seriously injured in crashes in
Aotearoa.**

Together with our project partners Manukorihi, Ngāti Rahiri, Otaraua, Pukerangiora, Puketapu hapū and Te Kotahitanga o Te Atiawa and New Plymouth District Council we're making safety improvements to State Highway 3 between Waitara and Bell Block.

We want whānau, friends and visitors to Taranaki can get to where they're going safely.

The \$82m safety upgrade will see new roundabouts built at the intersections of Princess Street, Waitara Road, De Havilland Drive and SH3A (Mountain Road) along with flexible median barrier and other safety improvements.

Updated design for the Waitara Road roundabout released

The updated design for the Waitara Road roundabout has been released.

The roundabout, as well as safety improvements to the section of Raleigh Street between SH3 and Tate Road, will make it easier for people to get on and off the highway.

To make the roundabout as safe as possible, the section of Raleigh Street between SH3 and Tate Road will become one-way, with traffic entering via a left turn off Tate Road. The layout of the intersection of Tate Road and Raleigh Street will also be changed from a four-way intersection to a T-intersection.

A stormwater treatment swale will also be built along the southern end of Raleigh Street as part of the Waitara Road roundabout works. This will treat the stormwater runoff from the roundabout and then safely discharge it into a watercourse that flows to the Waiongana Awa.

The combination of the roundabout and safety improvements to Raleigh Street and Tate Road, will make this intersection much safer for the Waitara community and everyone using the road.

Construction of the roundabout is expected to get underway in early 2024.

The team is making great progress on the Princess Street roundabout and pedestrian underpass



The crew laying base layer of concrete for underpass path



Crane being used to install concrete walls for the pedestrian underpass



The crew making sure the concrete walls line up perfectly

Princess Street roundabout and pedestrian underpass update

Construction of the roundabout and pedestrian and cyclist underpass is progressing well with Stage 2 of construction currently underway. To date, some of the milestones include:

- Construction of the Manukorihi Park stormwater treatment wetland swale. Working with our project partners Manukorihi and Otaraua hapū, approximately 2500 plants have been planted in the swale. The swale will treat stormwater runoff from the roundabout before releasing it into the Waitara Awa.

- 1500m³ of earth has been removed to make room for the pedestrian underpass.
- The first section of concrete walls for the underpass have been installed.

Construction of the roundabout and underpass is expected to be complete by mid-2024.

Flexible median barriers save lives

Flexible median barriers are a key part of this project.

Flexible median barriers put something between you and an oncoming car, truck, or motorcycle. This means that if someone loses control or drifts across the centreline, the result isn't a deadly head-on crash.

Many of the crashes on SH3 between Waitara and Bell Block are head-on or at intersections so the combination of median barrier and roundabouts will significantly reduce the risk of these types of crashes.

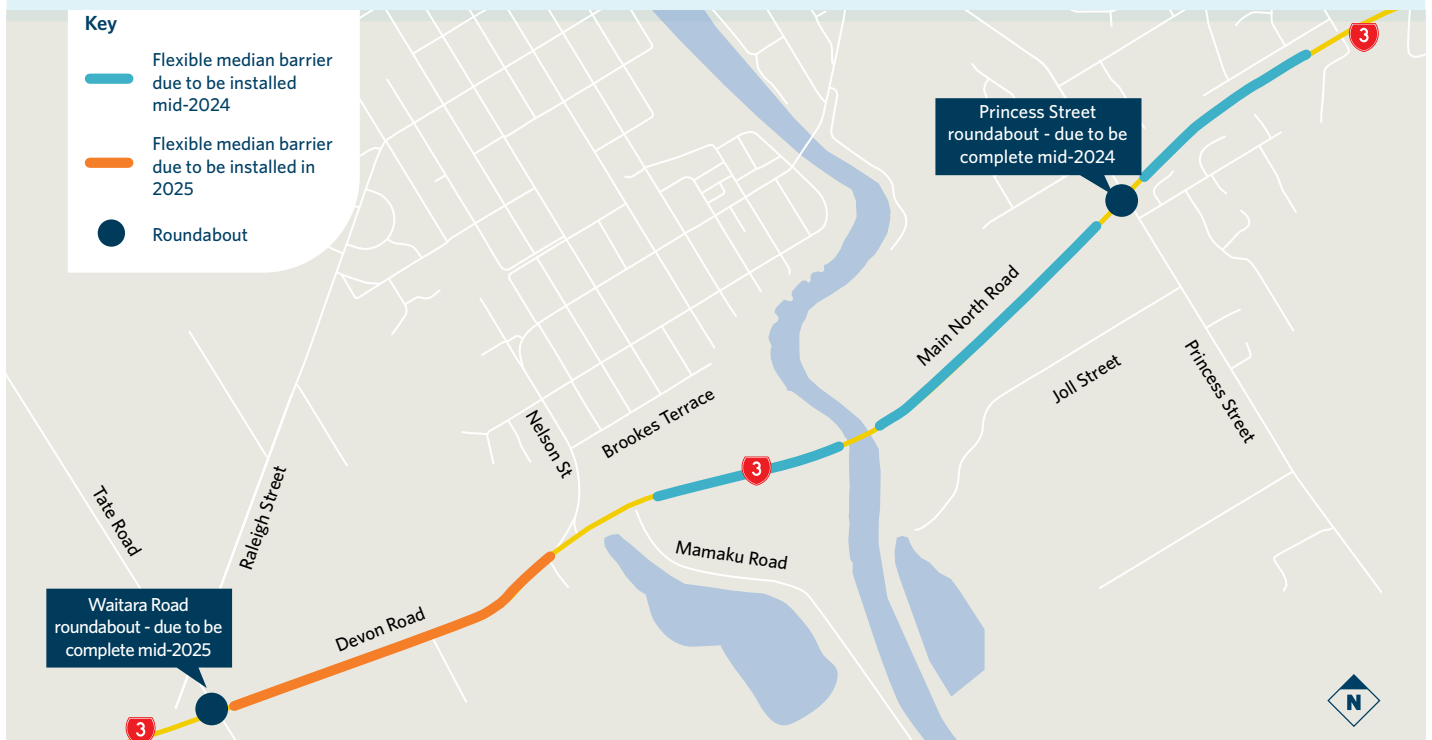
Flexible median barrier will be installed along SH3 between Waitara and Bell Block in sections. The designs for the first two sections of flexible median barrier have now been confirmed.

These designs were finalised following engagement with landowners and businesses along the route, emergency services, and representatives from the freight industry.

The first section of median barrier will start approximately 300m west of the intersection of SH3 and Bayly Street and end approximately 40m east of the Mamaku Road intersection. We are aiming to have this section installed or under construction by mid-2024. This section of median barrier will not impact on access to properties or side roads.

The second section of median barrier will start approximately 40m west of the Nelson Street intersection and will end at the future Waitara Road roundabout. This will be installed once construction on the Waitara Road roundabout is complete. People driving on the road who need to turnaround will be able to use the Princess Street roundabout or the Waitara Road roundabout.

The plan and timeline for installation of median barrier at the Mamaku Road and Nelson Street intersections, as well as along the rest of the route, is currently being confirmed.



Learn more about the project at our next community drop-in session

If you have questions or would like to learn more about the project, come along to our community drop-in session on Wednesday 27 September from 4-7pm, at Whai Tapuwae Nō Rongo, Clifton Park, Waitara.

This will be an opportunity to meet the team and find out more about how we're making the road safer for everyone.

You'll also have the opportunity to speak with representatives from New Plymouth District Council about the Coastal Walkway project and the Let's Go programme.

Call in anytime between 4-7pm on Wednesday 27 September at Whai Tapuwae Nō Rongo, 17 Princess Street, Waitara.



Road to Zero - our road safety strategy

Te Ara Tūtohu - Waitara to Bell Block safety improvements are delivering to Road to Zero, our road safety strategy.

Road to Zero sets us on a path to achieve Vision Zero, an Aotearoa where no one is killed or seriously injured on our roads. As a step towards Vision Zero, the Road to Zero strategy sets an initial target of reducing deaths and serious injuries by 40% by 2030.

To do this we need to create a safe transport system; one that recognises humans make mistakes and is designed so that these mistakes do not need to cost us our lives.

Steady progress towards this target would mean approximately 750 fewer people would be killed and 5600 fewer would be seriously injured on our roads by 2030.



Have questions or want to share your views? Get in touch.

Keep up to date by signing up to receive email updates at nzta.govt.nz/w2bb

Email w2bb@nzta.govt.nz