

60 Takaka Hill repairs



The Takaka Hill recovery and rebuild programme, following ex-Cyclone Gita in February 2018, is well underway. Works will be carried out all summer to complete the first stage, with the final stage to commence later in 2019. Throughout this work, crews will do their best to ensure hill travellers have the least possible delays, including during the busy summer holiday period.

Ten sites within the current temporary traffic signals are being stabilised with retaining wall structures and ground stabilisation. All of the first work package is to be finished by the end of March 2019.

Five significantly damaged sites within the one-lane area require more extensive repairs, and construction will begin on these sites in the second half of 2019.

This section of road will remain one lane, controlled by traffic signals, at each end, throughout the rebuild programme.

TRAVEL TO OR FROM GOLDEN BAY

The road will remain open 24/7 to all traffic, barring further slips or incidents.

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ON THE ONE-WAY SECTIONS

Drivers can safely use the one-way sections of the Takaka Hill road with the aid of electronic traffic signals. Time delays are displayed beside the lights by electronic signboards. Your patience

is appreciated during the phases of the lights. The lights will remain in place throughout the rebuild programme.

Speed restrictions of 30km/h are in place through the one-lane areas.

CAMERAS INSTALLED

Cameras are installed at the lights to monitor the traffic flows. They are also capable of providing information on vehicles that do not obey the traffic signals.

Running a red light is dangerous and has severe safety risks, as there is no room for two-way vehicle traffic and no room to turn around.

WAITING AT THE LIGHTS

Going up the Takaka Hill:

- Keep as far to the left as possible to allow for larger vehicles coming down.
- Keep the entrance to Riwaka Valley Road clear at all times.

Coming down from Takaka Hill:

- Keep left, in particular when passing the queued traffic waiting to ascend.
- Turn your lights off while waiting at either end of the queue point so that your vehicle battery does not go flat.

MOTORCYCLISTS ARE ASKED TO:

- Stay in the queue.
- Don't jump the queue or go to the front. No stopping or overtaking.
- Expect patches of loose gravel and wet areas that will need extra attention and care.

LOOK OUT FOR CYCLISTS

Cyclists are able to bike the hill, but we ask that they and all drivers take special care and be aware that people will need to wait if there is a cyclist ahead of them.

TO REPORT AN URGENT FAULT OR ISSUE ON THE TAKAKA HILL, PLEASE CALL 0800 4 HIGHWAYS



SLIP SEVERITY

- **Major** (expected to be complete by March 2020)
- **Minor** (expected to be complete by March 2019)

The distance between traffic lights is approximately 1.5km and the speed limit is 30km/h.

There is sign at the traffic lights indicating how long it will be till they next turn green.

TIME UNTIL NEXT GREEN

- 6-12 minutes
- 2-6 minutes
- 1 minute



FOR YOUR SAFETY

- No stopping between the traffic lights.
- No overtaking while travelling between the lights.
- Make sure your vehicle is roadworthy and you have sufficient fuel.
- Please don't wander out into the oncoming lane while you are waiting for a green light. Keep children safely with you at all times.
- Plan ahead and be prepared.

ONCE YOU ARE THROUGH THE ONE-LANE SECTION, OUTSIDE OF THE LIGHTS:

- move into the left lane as the road is now back to two lanes.

IF YOU ARE HEADING TO TAKAKA:

- slow vehicles, trucks and vehicles towing caravans should use the passing bays and stopping bays to allow other vehicles to go in front
- drivers need to be patient, cautious and courteous - if needed, pull over and let traffic behind you pass when it is safe to do so to prevent drivers becoming frustrated and making poor overtaking decisions.

MORE INFORMATION

- 0800 4 HIGHWAYS
- www.facebook.com/nztasouthisland
- Transport Agency Twitter page Top of the South twitter.com/nztatots
- The key traffic and travel source which provides up-to-date information on weather and road conditions is www.nzta.govt.nz/traffic or www.nzta.govt.nz/takaka-hill

A big thank you from the NZ Transport Agency
On behalf of the Transport Agency, thank you in advance for your patience and understanding while we do this important work.