

The project

The Western Belfast Bypass is a new four-lane, 5km stretch of highway. Bypassing Belfast, it extends the Christchurch Northern Motorway (SH1) and connects into State Highway 1 (SH1) Johns Road, west of The Groynes entrance.

Project benefits

The Western Belfast Bypass will re-route about half the traffic driving through Belfast. This will provide many benefits for drivers and the local community including:

- Quicker and more reliable travel times
- Improved safety
- Fewer trucks on Main North Road
- More efficient connections for business and tourism industries
- Supports regional growth
- Less traffic through Belfast will also create a safer environment for walking and cycling and help create a more reliable public transport system. It will also enable new development in and around Belfast.

Key features of the project

- Four lanes, two in each direction
- Central median barrier
- New bridges to take highway traffic up and over local roads
- A new-look entrance at The Groynes
- New walking and cycling facilities
- Urban design, landscaping, and panel designs featuring the Waimakariri River



The Western Belfast Bypass is one of six sections of the Christchurch Western Corridor, a multi-million dollar project that will transform State Highway 1 between Belfast and Hornby.

The Western Corridor will reduce congestion and improve travel times, provide better walking and cycling connections and boost safety. It is one of three corridors that make up the Christchurch Motorways Roads of National Significance (RoNS) programme.