

## Waikato & Bay of Plenty state highway works March 2025

In late January work got underway to replace the 48-year-old Onetai Stream Bridge, north of Paeroa on State Highway 26 (SH26), and from Monday 10 March, the road reopens following completion of the first phase.

“SH26, between Paeroa and Thames, has been closed while work to replace the bridge has been underway. Due to the site being particularly narrow, and the small size of the bridge, the safest and most efficient option was closing the road to demolish the old bridge and install the new one,” says Andrew Oakley, Waikato System Manager at NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA).

A wider, stronger bridge is making this route on the eastern side of the Waihou River safer and more resilient.

“Bridges in New Zealand are generally built with concrete, and for this one we’re piloting a new approach which has been successful overseas. The new Onetai Stream Bridge is being built with a timber deck and bridge beams,” says Mr Oakley.

The original bridge was designed and constructed in 1976. Its 2025 replacement will be 3 metres wider giving drivers more lane space, and with additional safety features including a new type of side barrier.



New Onetai Stream Bridge under construction

To plan ahead and see where disruptive works are, people can use the NZTA Journey Planner ([journeys.nzta.govt.nz](https://journeys.nzta.govt.nz)) This is kept up to date in real time so you can see all disruptive activity and potential hazards on the state highway network.

### **Bay of Plenty**

#### **Tauranga**

- **SH2/Fifteenth Ave:** Major works to build the connection from Fifteenth Ave to SH29/Takitimu Drive Toll Road are in progress as part of the Takitimu North Link project. Works involve the

building of a 120m long retaining wall and earthworks, this is well underway, and we are preparing to start the construction of the single lane bridge connecting SH2/Fifteenth Ave to SH29/Takitimu Drive Toll Road. Piling will start in March and take approximately 3 months, and construction of the bridge will take approximately 12 months to complete. One lane at SH2/Fifteenth Ave near Edgumbe Road is closed while this work takes place, this is likely to remain in place until mid-2026. [More information.](#)

- **SH29 Valley View Road, Kaimai Range:** From Monday 10 March until late May, temporary traffic management will be in place, with a closure of the passing lane at Valley View Road, lane shifts and a temporary 50km/h and 30km/h speed limit through the work site. This is to enable drainage maintenance and road resurfacing work to take place. All lanes will be open on the weekends. This work will be completed during the day and at night and traffic management will remain 24/7.
- **SH29 McLaren Falls Road:** Until late March, temporary traffic management, lane shifts, and a closure of the Lower Kaimai Range passing lane is in place from Poripori Road until just after McLaren Falls Road. This is to enable road surfacing work to take place. There will be a reduced speed limit of 50km/h through the site, and 30km/h at the intersection with McLaren Falls Road to ensure the safety of the community and our team. Three lanes will be open at the weekends.
- **SH29 Tauriko West between Redwood Lane and Cambridge Road:** Project construction is ongoing at multiple sites, with shoulder closures, temporary speed limits and mobile operations in place.

On Saturday 8 March, a daytime shoulder closure will be in place on SH29 in the Tauriko Village area for power pole relocation.

From Monday 10 to Wednesday 12 March, during off-peak hours (9.30am to 4pm), the slip lane from SH29 to Takitimu Drive Toll Road will be closed for construction of a site access point. Traffic will be able to join Takitimu Drive Toll Road from the roundabout.

Night works to install stormwater pipes on the SH29 shoulder between Belk Road and Ōmanawa Bridge are underway until Thursday 20 March (excluding Fridays and Saturdays), 8pm to 5am. This includes stop/go and a temporary 30km/h speed limit in both directions.

On Sunday 23 March and Monday 24 March there will be night works with resident-only access to Redwood Lane for asphaltting work. [More information](#)

- **SH29 Takitimu Drive Toll Road:** Ongoing works in this area for the Takitimu North Link project include the construction of a flyover bridge and southbound slip lane. A reduced speed limit of 70km/h remains in place while crews are working behind the barriers. Traffic is anticipated to be diverted onto the flyover bridge and southbound slip lane in late 2025 while works continue. [More information.](#)
- **SH29 and SH29 Takitimu Drive Toll Road:** Until 6am Friday 14 March crews are resurfacing parts of SH29 from Cambridge Road down the hill towards the SH29/SH29A/SH36 roundabout, as well as the start of Takitimu Drive. During weekends crews will start a bit earlier at 6pm.
- **SH2 Chapel Street viaduct:** On Sunday 9 and Monday 10 March from 8pm to 5am the Chapel Street westbound **off-ramp** will be closed for maintenance on the expansion joints. There will be a detour via Mirrielees Westbound off-ramp and on to Marsh Street. On Tuesday 11 and Wednesday 12 March work will move to the Chapel Street **on-ramp** (towards Mount Maunganui) between 8pm and 5am, a detour will be available via Marsh Street to use the

next on-ramp at Dive Crescent.

- **SH2 Hewletts Road, Tauranga:** Resurfacing work gets underway on Sunday 16 March for 2 weeks, with crews on site between 8pm and 5am, Sunday to Thursday nights. During these hours, people can expect lane closures, some full closures and detours. No work will take place on Friday or Saturday nights. [More information.](#)
- **SH2 Baypark to Bayfair:** On Sunday 9 March, the SH2 Bayfair flyover will be closed in both directions from approximately 8pm to 5am each night. For all vehicles, a signposted detour via Maunganui Road, Bayfair roundabout and SH2/SH29A Te Maunga Interchange will apply.
- **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 allowing 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:** Construction of the Rangiuru Business Park Interchange is now complete, the temporary 70km/h speed limit has been removed, and the 110km/h has been reinstated. [More information](#)
- **SH2 near Pukehina:** Resurfacing work is underway between Rogers Road and Old Coach Road until Friday 14 March. There is a reduced speed limit in place along with stop/go traffic management from 6am to 6pm each day. Minor delays are to be expected.

#### Western Bay of Plenty

- **SH2 Apata Station Road to Wainui South Road:** Road construction works are ongoing in preparation for the new roundabout. Lane shifts are in place along with speed restrictions. There will be intermittent stop/go traffic management which may cause longer delays. Follow the temporary signs and directions of the traffic management team and watch for layout changes. Expect minor delays.
- **SH2 Turners Road rebuild:** Following completion of the newly rebuilt southbound lanes, traffic will be shifted to allow construction of the northbound lanes. To manage this phase safely, the work will be done in stages. Road users should expect some layout changes as it is completed. Speed restrictions are in place.
- **SH2 Pahoia Road to Plummers Point Road:** While services are being installed people can expect lane shifts and speed restrictions. There will also be intermittent stop/go traffic management which may cause longer delays. Please follow the temporary signs and directions of the traffic management team and watch for layout changes. Expect minor delays.
- **SH2 Ōmokoroa Road:** From Friday 7 March traffic travelling through the SH2 Ōmokoroa intersection will be using a new temporary roundabout. From Sunday 9 March, major road construction will be underway north of the intersection. This work will be undertaken overnight under stop/go with a single lane operational. During the day 2 lanes will be operational, on a metal surface with intermittent stop/go and a temporary speed limit. Follow the temporary signs and directions of the traffic management team and watch for layout changes. Expect minor delays especially during peak times. [More information](#)

- **SH2 Minden Road – Takitimu North Link Stage 1:** Shoulder closures and stop/go traffic management are in place as part of the Takitimu North Link project works. Please take direction from staff on the ground and slow down through the work site while works continue.

## Rotorua

- **SH30 Te Ngae Road-Wharenui Road, Rotorua:** Work is underway at the intersection. Delays can be expected during the day on Wednesday 12 March while contractors remove overhead power lines near the Wharenui Road intersection. This work will be done during the day and to minimise disruption will be outside of peak travel times. SH30 will be closed for short periods under stop/stop traffic management so the overhead work can be safely done. Traffic flow will return to normal between the brief closures. This is part of the SH30 and Wharenui Road intersection project where traffic lights are being installed. As part of that, Wharenui Road is closed to traffic at the intersection and a temporary speed limit of 30km/h is in place on SH30 Te Ngae Road through the work zone. [More information](#)
- **SH30 Te Ngae Road:** Final line-marking is planned for 5 nights from Monday 10 March between Iles Road and Ōwhata Road. These works will be completed at night under lane closures and lane shifts.
- **SH5 Rotorua:** Those travelling between Rotorua and Tīrau on SH5 will encounter 2 major road rebuilds and are advised to allow extra time when planning their journeys through this section of highway. The first is an approximate 2km stretch of SH5 just west of Oturoa Road Mamaku, with the second just east of Tāpapa. The SH5 worksite will be sealed on Tuesday 11 March. The Tāpapa site is expected to be completed mid-March and will have stop/go traffic management and temporary speed restrictions in place during this time. [More information.](#)
- **SH36 Te Pu:** A road rebuild has started on SH36, Te Pu north of Dudley Road and is expected to finish in early April. Works will take place from Monday to Friday between the hours of 7.30am and 5.30pm with prioritisation for peak morning and evening traffic flows, weather permitting. Expect delays while the work is taking place as there will be stop/go traffic management in place with a 30km/h speed limit.
- **SH36 Hauraki Stream culvert, near Hamurana:** Geotechnical investigations and ground surveys will be underway for 3 days, during the day, from Tuesday 11 March on SH36 at the Hauraki Stream culvert, with traffic management in place. This is about 1km north of the SH36/Hamurana Road intersection.

## Eastern Bay of Plenty

- **SH2 Tāneatua:** Road resurfacing in Tāneatua will take 5 days to complete starting on Monday 10 March. There will be stop/go traffic management in place with a temporary speed limit from 10am to 4pm each day.
- **SH2 Kutarere:** Service relocation works continue next week at the intersection of SH2 and Wainui Road near Kutarere west of Ōpōtiki. Shoulder closures will be in place and road users should be aware there may be 3-way stop/go traffic management operating at the intersection during this time.
- **SH35 Ōpape:** Underslip repairs have started and expected to finish in early April. The work will take place between 7am and 5pm Monday to Saturday. There will be stop/go traffic

management and a temporary speed limit of 30km/h in place while work is underway. While the site is unattended there will be temporary speed limit of 50km/h in place.

## Waikato

### **SH1 Tīrau to Waiouru Accelerated Maintenance Programme:**

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- **SH1 between Tūrangi and Waiōuru:** The northern section of SH1 between Tūrangi to Rangipō is open to traffic. Light vehicles can use SH1 to the SH1/SH46 intersection and access SH46 to connect to SH47.

The detour is via SH41, SH47, SH4, SH49 and back to SH1 in Waiōuru (and vice versa). This adds around 30 – 40 minutes to journeys. SH46 isn't HPMV approved - a permit is required. The remainder of the maintenance work underway on the Desert Road is progressing well, expected to be completed mid-March.

There is a temporary speed limit at the intersection of SH4 and SH47 at National Park, which is the detour while SH1 Desert Road is closed. The speed is temporarily reduced to 50km/h.

There is a temporary speed limit of 70km/h at the intersection of SH41 and SH47.

- **SH1 Putāruru to Lichfield:** SH1 is closed from SH1/Princes Street, Putāruru to Vosper Road/SH1 Lichfield intersection for approximately 4 weeks for road rebuilding from Domain Road to Pinedale Road. There will also be some night closures in early April for the final surfacing of the road rebuilds completed last year between Vospers Road and Rollett Road.

All north and southbound vehicles are being detoured 24/7. The local detour for light vehicles (all vehicles you can drive on a regular car/Class 1 licence) is:

Northbound via Vospers Road, Kells Lane, Lichfield Road, Golf Street, Arapuni Street, Princes Street

Southbound via Princes Street, Arapuni Street, Grey Street, Lichfield Road, Vospers Road. The detour adds approximately 16 minutes and 18.5km to journeys.

The detour for heavy vehicles is via SH30/SH5.

There is a temporary speed limit on the detour route at Putāruru of 70km/h and 30km/h speed limit past Lichfield School.

- **SH1 Ātiamuri to Wairakei:** SH1 is closed from the SH1/SH30 intersection to the SH1/SH5 intersection (Wairakei Roundabout) for approximately five weeks for road rebuilding, maintenance and safety work. All north and southbound vehicles are being detoured 24/7. The detour for light vehicles (all vehicles you can drive on a regular car/Class 1 licence) is:
  - SH30, SH32 and Poihipi Road to Wairakei Drive and vice versa. The detour for light vehicle adds approximately 23 minutes and 32km to journeys.
  - All heavy vehicles traveling locally use SH5 via Rotorua which will add 43 minutes to the journey.

## **East Waikato**

- **SH25 Tairua:** Repairs to a large underslip at Pumpkin Hill near Sailors Grave Road, just north of Tairua, are underway. The road is reduced to a single lane as our contractors rebuild the road

surface. Temporary traffic lights will be in place 24/7 to manage traffic flows through the site.

[More information.](#)

- **SH25 Hikuai:** Work to replace a culvert at Boom Stream Bridge will begin in early March. This will involve shoulder closures and a temporary speed restriction, with occasional lane closures. This work is weather dependent and expected to take up to 6 weeks to complete.
- **SH25 between Coromandel township and Te Rerenga:** Our team will start work in early March to stabilise and remove material from a previous slip site. The road will be reduced to a single lane with stop/go traffic management and a temporary speed restriction in place. This work is weather dependent and expected to take 2 to 3 weeks to complete.
- **SH26 Onetai Stream Bridge replacement:** SH26 between Paeroa and Thames will reopen to through traffic from Monday 10 March, following completion of the first phase of the project to replace the Onetai Stream Bridge between Hikutaia and Pūriri.  
The road has been closed since mid-February, while the old bridge was demolished, and the abutments and deck of the new bridge installed.  
The bridge will initially reopen to 1-way traffic, with a speed restriction and stop/go traffic management in place as the team finish the road approaches and other safety aspects of the project. [More Information](#)
- **SH2 Paeroa:** Road resurfacing will start in Paeroa on Sunday 9 March and take 5 nights to complete. The work will take place at night between 8pm and 6am each night. When SH2 is closed between Brenan Street and Taylor Avenue the detour will be via Brenan Street and Taylor Avenue. When SH2 is closed between Hughenden Street and Arney Street the detour is via Princess Street, Wharf Street and Hughenden Street back to SH2. There will a temporary reduced speed limit in place around the worksites.
- **SH27 Waharoa:** Resealing works on SH27 outside the Matamata Aero Club continue, with stage 1 having been completed, stage 2 is due to be complete Sunday 9 March. There is stop/go traffic management in place.
- **SH29 Te Poi:** A road rebuild will begin in Te Poi between Te Poi Road and Stopford Road on Monday 10 March with completion due on Sunday 23 March. While the work is taking place the road will be closed to all traffic 24/7. Traffic (light vehicles) will be detoured via Te Poi Road and SH24 or Te Poi South Road and SH28 adding around 5 minutes to journeys along SH29. Heavy vehicles will be detoured via SH27, SH24 and SH28 adding around 15 minutes. [More information](#)

### Central Waikato

- **SH5 Mamaku Ranges:** A road rebuild is underway, with stop/go traffic management in place between 6am to 6pm. The work will continue through to mid-March. 10-minute delays can be expected.
- **SH1/SH5 Taupō:** Drivers travelling near the Taupō Commercial Vehicle Safety Centre – under construction at the SH1/SH5 roundabout – need to be aware of changing road layouts and speed restrictions. Contractors are installing in-road weigh-in-motion scales and associated camera technology and signage boards until May. These are being installed on 5 of the roads heading towards the safety centre, including SH1 and SH5. Temporary lanes and speed restrictions will be in place.
- **SH5 North of Wairakei:** A road rebuild is underway on SH5 north of Wairakei, weekdays between 6am and 6pm. This work is expected to be finished on Saturday 8 March. There is

stop/go traffic management in place with a reduced speed limit 24/7. Delays are to be expected.

- **SH5 Waimakariri Road:** A right turn bay southbound into Waimakariri Road on SH5 in South Waikato is under construction. The work and new sealing runs until Tuesday 28 March. Speed restrictions are in place and occasional stop/go. [More information](#)

## West Waikato

- **SH23 Raglan Road:** Nighttime road resurfacing will start on Sunday 9 March between 9pm and 5am, taking 4 nights to complete. There are 2 worksites one is near Four Brothers Scenic Reserve, which will start on Sunday 9 March for 2 nights, the other is near Ohautira Road, which starts on Tuesday 11 March for the remaining 2 nights. The narrow width of the road means there is not enough room to complete the work safely, so the road will be closed to traffic in both directions near each worksite, vehicles will be escorted through the worksite at 9.45pm, 11pm, 1am and 3am. There will be temporary speed limits in place during the work.
- **SH1C Cobham Drive, Hamilton:** For 6 nights from Sunday 9 March resurfacing work will take place near Grey Street and Galloway Street roundabout from 8pm to 5am. There will be a road closure in place between Cobham Drive and Wairere Drive with a detour for light vehicles via Cobham Drive, Anzac Parade, Grey Street, Clyde Street, Wairere Drive to rejoin SH1C. Heavy, HPMV's and over dimension will be stacked and released. The Galloway Street roundabout will be resurfaced the week commencing Sunday 16 March.
- **SH1B Telephone Road, Hamilton:** Construction is ongoing on a range of improvements at the rail crossing on Sh1B Telephone Road and the adjacent intersection with Holland Road and Marshmeadow Road. Work is expected to take 3 months to complete, there are a number of detours in place while the work is ongoing.
- **SH1/SH29 Piarere intersection:** The SH1, Hamilton approach to the new roundabout is now open, with a temporary lane shift in place while work is carried out on the centre median and hard landscaping. From Monday 17 March there will be 1 week of night works to carry out line marking. Temporary traffic management will be in place, including shoulder closures and lane deviations with minor traffic delays expected. NZTA thanks motorists for their patience and asks drivers to stick to temporary speed limits and take extra care when travelling through the area while people adjust to the layout. [More information.](#)
- **SH3 Carroll Street, Te Kūiti:** Contractors will be replacing a large watermain between Carroll Street and Duke Street in Te Kūiti, with completion around mid-March. During work there will be a single lane closure on Carroll Street with northbound traffic detoured via Taupiri Street for light vehicles and Te Kumi Station Road, Esplanade and Te Kūiti Road for trucks and heavy vehicles.
- **SH3 Rukuhia:** A road rebuild is underway, expected completion late March, on SH3 between Rukuhia Road and Narrows Road. The work will take place between 7am and 5pm each day. The work will be completed 1 lane at a time, the lane not being worked on will be open to northbound traffic at all times. A 24/7 southbound detour will be in place for light vehicles via Raynes Road, SH21 Airport Road to re-join SH3. Rukuhia Road will remain open at all times but will only be left in and left out. Residents travelling southbound will be required to use the detour route to travel north to access properties. Buses, heavy vehicles, HPMV's and over dimension vehicles will be stacked and released to align with the bus timetable. [More information](#)

- **SH30 Bennydale:** A second road rebuild site near Kiwi Place is underway, expecting to be complete by mid-March. 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/go traffic management in place and a temporary speed limit of 30km/h. Delays of up to 20 minutes can be expected.

#### **North Waikato**

- **SH1 Nikau Road to Pōkeno Interchange:** There will be a full southbound closure on Sunday 9 March between 10pm and 5am for multiple maintenance activities. Traffic will still be able to travel south using one of the northbound lanes. Stop/go traffic management will in place at Nikau Road and Pōkeno Interchange. Please slow down and follow traffic management instructions.  
SH1 southbound to SH2 eastbound link will be closed as part of this closure. Please travel along SH1 to turn around at Mercer Interchange and drive north to the SH1 northbound to SH2 link. SH2 westbound to SH1 southbound link will be closed as part of this closure. Please travel along SH1 to turn around at Bombay Interchange and drive south.
- **Island Block Road to Mercer Interchange:** There will be a full northbound closure from Monday 10 to Thursday 13 March between 9pm and 5am for resurfacing. Traffic will still be able to travel north using one of the southbound lanes. Please slow down and follow traffic management instructions. Stop/go traffic management will also be in place at Mercer Interchange.

#### **Manuwatū -Whanganui**

- **SH1/ Bulls area:** Between Sunday 9 March and Friday 14 March (weather permitting), crews will carry out nighttime resealing works at a number of sites on SH1 including in the Bulls township and to the north of Bulls. Crews will be working from 6pm to 6am, with stop/go temporary traffic management and reduced speeds in place. Delays of up to 10 minutes are expected. On Monday 10 March, 1 night of line marking work is planned for the northbound section of SH1/3 between Pukunui Road and Tangimoana Road, north of the new roundabout. Temporary traffic management including stop/go, lane shifts and a reduced 30km/h speed limit will be in place from 7pm to 5am.
- **SH1 Bulls and SH1 Mangaweka:** A road rebuild is underway on the passing lane on SH1 north of Bulls until Friday 21 March. Crews are working between 6am to 6pm and stop/go and reduced speeds are in place, with delays up to 5 minutes. A road rebuild is also underway on the passing lane on SH1 north of Mangaweka until Wednesday 2 April. Various temporary traffic management is in place, with delays of 5 minutes expected.

#### **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](#)

#### **Taranaki**



- **SH3 Tongapōrutu:** Work to rebuild the road at SH3 near Pilot Road at Tongapōrutu will now include an additional 350 metres at the northern end of the current site, and a retaining wall on the northbound side of the road. This change is to increase efficiencies in the programme. Due to this increased scope, this work will now take 2 to 3 additional weeks to complete (weather permitting), expecting to finish on Saturday 22 March. Stop/go is in place with crews working between 7am to 7pm Monday to Saturday. Delays of up to 10 minutes are expected. [More information.](#)

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](http://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](http://journeys.nzta.govt.nz/traffic)
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/nztawbop>
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