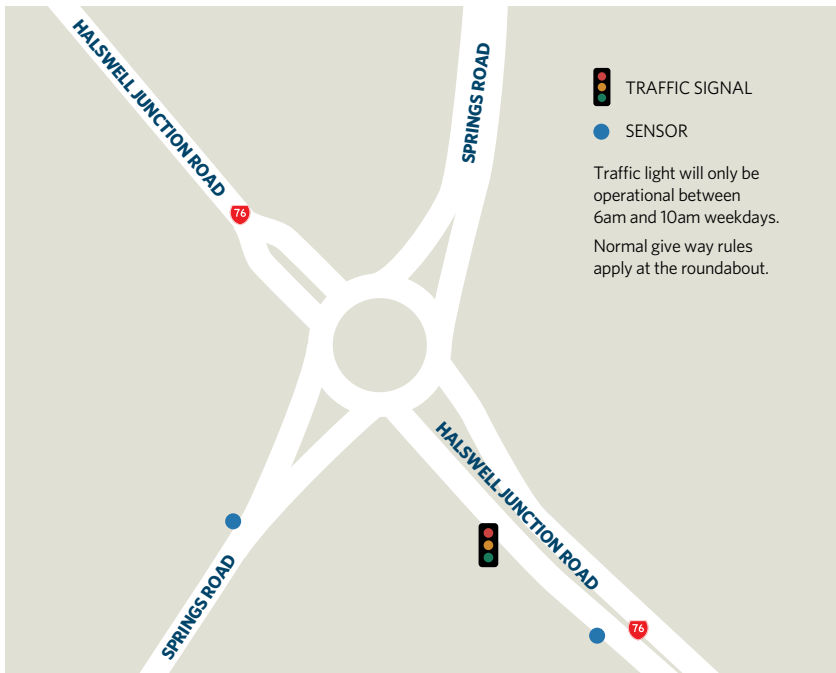


Optimising travel into Christchurch

A traffic signal and sensors will be installed at the Halswell Junction Road/Springs Road roundabout this month, helping to tackle congestion and improve safety.

The NZ Transport Agency project is designed to reduce delays for people and public transport users travelling on Springs Road into Christchurch by several minutes. Work will start on the project this month and following testing it is expected to be operational by the end of September.



Halswell Junction Road/Springs Road traffic signal and sensors

Why is this project needed and how will it work?

People travelling on Springs Road from Lincoln, Prebbleton and surrounding areas are experiencing lengthy delays at the roundabout during their morning commute.

It often takes over 12 minutes for people to travel along Springs Road and enter the roundabout due to the constant flow of traffic travelling northwest along Halswell Junction Road.

The traffic signal will be installed on the Halswell side of Halswell Junction Road, along with two sensors - one around 80 metres before the traffic signal- and another on Springs Road, 40 metres back from the roundabout.

The traffic signal will stop traffic travelling northwest on Halswell Junction Road for 10-15 seconds at a time to give traffic from Springs Road the chance to enter the roundabout.

Won't this create delays for people travelling on Halswell Junction Road?

The sensors will ensure traffic is not stopped unnecessarily. Each sensor will pick up how long the respective queue is. If there is no queue on Springs Road or a lengthy queue on Halswell Junction Road, the traffic light will not be triggered and vehicles can continue through the roundabout.

Most people travelling on Halswell Junction Road will not get a red light. Those that do will only be stopped for 10-15 seconds.

The traffic light will only stop traffic during the morning peak. While it will not significantly delay Halswell Junction Road traffic the change will make a big difference for Springs Road motorists, shaving several minutes off their morning commute.



Remember the road rules!

Give way rules will still apply at the roundabout, even if you get the green light.

The green light gives drivers permission to approach the roundabout but they will still need to give way to oncoming traffic at the roundabout.

Frequently asked questions

Project details

The traffic signals will be installed 80 meters back from the roundabout on the Halswell side of Halswell Junction Road.

Two sensors will be installed, one 200 metres before the traffic light, and another on Springs Road, 50 metres back from the roundabout stop line.

Each sensor will pick up how long the respective queue is. If there is no queue on Springs Road or a lengthy queue on Halswell Junction Road, the traffic light will not be triggered and vehicles can continue through the roundabout.

If traffic backs up past the sensor on Springs Road it will trigger the red light, stopping traffic on Halswell Junction Road for 10-15 seconds to give Springs Road travellers a chance to enter the roundabout.

If Halswell Junction Road traffic is backed up past the sensor the light will stay green until this queue reduces.

The sensors will ensure traffic is not stopped unnecessarily. The light will only turn red during the morning peak (about 6am until 10am).

What are the benefits?

This change is expected to reduce delays for people travelling on Springs Road by several minutes.

Along with improved traffic flow, the project is also expected to improve safety for Springs Road motorists who currently have to try to get onto the roundabout in between a constant flow of traffic.

What about delays for Halswell Junction Road travellers?

The two sensors will ensure traffic is not stopped unnecessarily. The majority of people travelling on Halswell Junction Road will not get a red light. Those that do will only be stopped for 10 to 15 seconds.

While it will not significantly delay Halswell Junction Road traffic, the change will make a big difference for Springs Road motorists, shaving several minutes off their morning commute.

If I get a green light do I still need to give way at the roundabout?

Yes. Give way rules will still apply at the roundabout, even if cars have got a green light. The green light will give drivers permission to approach the roundabout but they will still need to obey the road rules and give way to oncoming traffic once they are at the roundabout.

How much does the project cost?

Approximately \$150,000.

Will there be any traffic impact during the work?

Work to install the project is not expected to significantly impact traffic with much of the work to be carried out overnight.



For more information on the project contact:

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