

1 Cambridge to Piarere Expressway



Concept visualisation (subject to change and finalisation).

Cambridge to Piarere is part of a nationally strategic transport corridor for New Zealand, connecting the Auckland region to the Waikato and Bay of Plenty, and linking to the central and southern North Island.

SH1 Cambridge to Piarere, a Road of National Significance, is a 16km long, 4-lane expressway extending from the southern end of the Waikato Expressway to the intersection of SH1 and SH29 at Piarere.

There will be a new interchange at Karāpiro Road, and local roads will be extended from near the existing end of the Waikato Expressway to the Karāpiro Interchange.

The new expressway will improve journeys by:

- reducing congestion
- improving safety
- improving travel time reliability.

We're aiming to begin construction in late 2026/early 2027, subject to a range of supporting activities being completed, including the confirmation of construction funding availability. Construction is expected to take 5 to 6 years.

The original name for Piarere was Piieereere

NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi, on behalf of Ngāti Koroki Kahukura and Ngāti Hauā, acknowledges that the original name for Piarere was Piieereere.

Piieereere means fissure or a crack in the earth's surface.

In the past, it was at the location of the SH1/29 roundabout that the course of the Waikato River changed.

Key facts and figures

Expected growth in traffic is **2.3% per annum**



Annual average daily traffic is **20,700 vehicles per day**
12% heavy vehicles



Freight volume is approximately **2837 heavy commercial vehicles** per day



The C2P expressway will **reduce deaths** and serious injuries by 70%

In the 5-year period between 2019 and 2023, there were **191 crashes**, including 79 injury crashes, 21 crashes that resulted in serious injury, and **5 fatal crashes**.

