



# Puhoi to Wellsford

Update

November 2012

## Access at Puhoi

After the information days held in May, the project team has formed a working party with representatives of Auckland Transport and Auckland Council. This working party has been discussing many aspects and issues that will play a role in reaching a final decision about access at Puhoi.

### Just what is being considered?

To begin with, the working party is considering all options as part of its analysis - from no access right through to a full diamond interchange with four ramps. There are no pre-determined decisions while we look at *all* the options. Below are some of the aspects considered as part of the analysis:

- Community feedback from previous consultation
- Long term strategic goals for the area, such as the Auckland Plan
- Existing reports reviewing the form and function of SH1 between Auckland and Whangarei
- Safe entry and exit of the motorway
- Links to existing roads
- Environmental effects
- Staging and costs of construction.



A working party is discussing a range of issues before a final decision is made on access at Puhoi.



## National Land Transport Programme

Every three years the NZ Transport Agency delivers a National Land Transport Programme (NLTP) that outlines all the land transport activities it anticipates funding during that period. The 2012-2015 NLTP has four key themes: ensuring value for money; supporting economic growth and productivity; improving safety, and providing a range of travel choices. What funding has Puhoi to Wellsford received?

### The NLTP and Puhoi to Wellsford

The 2012-2015 NLTP allocates approximately \$40M to the Puhoi to Wellsford project for the next three years. These funds will be used to progress the preparation of reports for consenting and designating the Puhoi to Warkworth section, purchasing property and further investigating the Warkworth to Wellsford section of the route. For more information on the NLTP please visit [www.nzta.govt.nz/nltp](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/nltp).

## Safety improvements completed on SH1

While planning progresses on Puhoi to Warkworth, safety improvements have been completed across Northland's state highways. New safety barriers are in place in the Dome Valley and the road has been reshaped with new shoulders near Falls Bridge.

The NZTA has also installed a wide flush median near the Wellsford Golf Club through the 'S' bends towards Wayby Valley Rd, an area which has had recent fatal and serious injury crash history. The new safety features incorporate a right turn bay for the golf club with greater separation provided between opposing traffic flows.



Recently completed safety improvements near the Wellsford Golf Club on SH1.

## Spotlight on Northland: Improving safety through Bulls Gorge

The Puhoi to Warkworth motorway will be divided with a central median barrier, and will have improved road surfacing and better geometry. This will reduce the number of head-on crashes along this stretch of SH1. Further north near Kerikeri, the NZTA is putting the finishing touches on another project that will save lives at a notorious crash spot, Bulls Gorge.

A \$7.5M upgrade to SH10 through Bulls Gorge has made it straighter and safer for motorists and cyclists. A mostly local workforce has been delivering the improvements along a 1.7km stretch of highway, two kilometres south of the intersection with Kerikeri Road. SH10 is a key strategic link between Auckland and the Far North regions for the freight, logging, orchard and tourism industries. The curves and surface of the road, coupled with bad weather, led to sometimes fatal crashes and lengthy delays due to breakdowns and the lack of passing opportunities.

The new route is wider with sealed shoulders, uphill pull-over bays for heavy vehicles, and a better road surface to reduce the crash rate and driver frustration for all road users. For more information on the Bulls Gorge Improvements please visit [www.nzta.govt.nz/bullsgorge](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/bullsgorge).

## Notice of Requirement

Sinclair Knight Merz, GHD and Chapman Tripp have recently been appointed to form a planning alliance with NZTA. The alliance will prepare the documentation for the Notice of Requirement and statutory approvals required to construct the motorway and present this documentation to the Environmental Protection Authority. The team are currently identifying areas where further investigations maybe required. Once these investigations are completed work on the documentation will begin.



## Our contact details

For general enquiries, or contact information about the NZ Transport Agency please check our website [www.nzta.govt.nz](http://www.nzta.govt.nz) or email us at [info@nzta.govt.nz](mailto:info@nzta.govt.nz)

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