

1 Surfacing works on SH1 at Rangiriri



The Rangiriri section of the expressway looking north toward the Te Kauwhata Interchange.

Ramp closures ahead during sealing

Final surfacing to finish recent SH1-Rangiriri repairs will be done in March and completed in time for Easter holiday traffic.

The 4.8km section of the Waikato Expressway has been operating with a 70km/h speed restriction since repairs finished before Christmas, with a settling period required before final chip-seal surfacing.

“We could not apply the final surface until those repairs had been trafficked on and bedded in, hence the site has been operating under a reduced speed limit,” says NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi regional manager for Infrastructure Delivery, Jo Wilton.

Contractors plan to lay the final surface in 20 days – 10 days northbound starting on 6 March (weather permitting) then 10 days southbound. Sealing will take 2-3 days in each direction and during those days off and on-ramps to the interchanges will be closed and local traffic going in and out of Rangiriri and Te Kauwhata interchanges will need to use alternative routes.

“While the final surface is being laid SH1 will remain open for through traffic. However the communities using the interchanges – like Rangiriri, Te Kauwhata and Glen Murray – will need to factor in detours to either the Hampton Downs or Ohinewai interchanges and return,” Ms Wilton says.

Local roads are not included in official detour routes.

What’s happening

- Final surfacing along 4.8km at Rangiriri
- Day works with traffic management in place 24/7
- Northbound lanes sealed 6-7-8 March followed by southbound 17-18-19 March – dates are weather dependent and may vary
- 10 continuous days’ work in each direction – with good weather:
 - » 2-3 days for sealing – ramps closed and detours in place
 - » 2 days for traffic running on new seal
 - » 4 days for sweeping chip
 - » 1 day road marking

“The detours will only be in place for the 2-3 days when sealing is happening in each direction, and the rest of the time the ramps will be open as traffic is moved through the site to bed in the new seal.”

Local people need to watch for mobile messaging boards, follow traffic management and allow extra time for their journeys.

Detours will affect local people

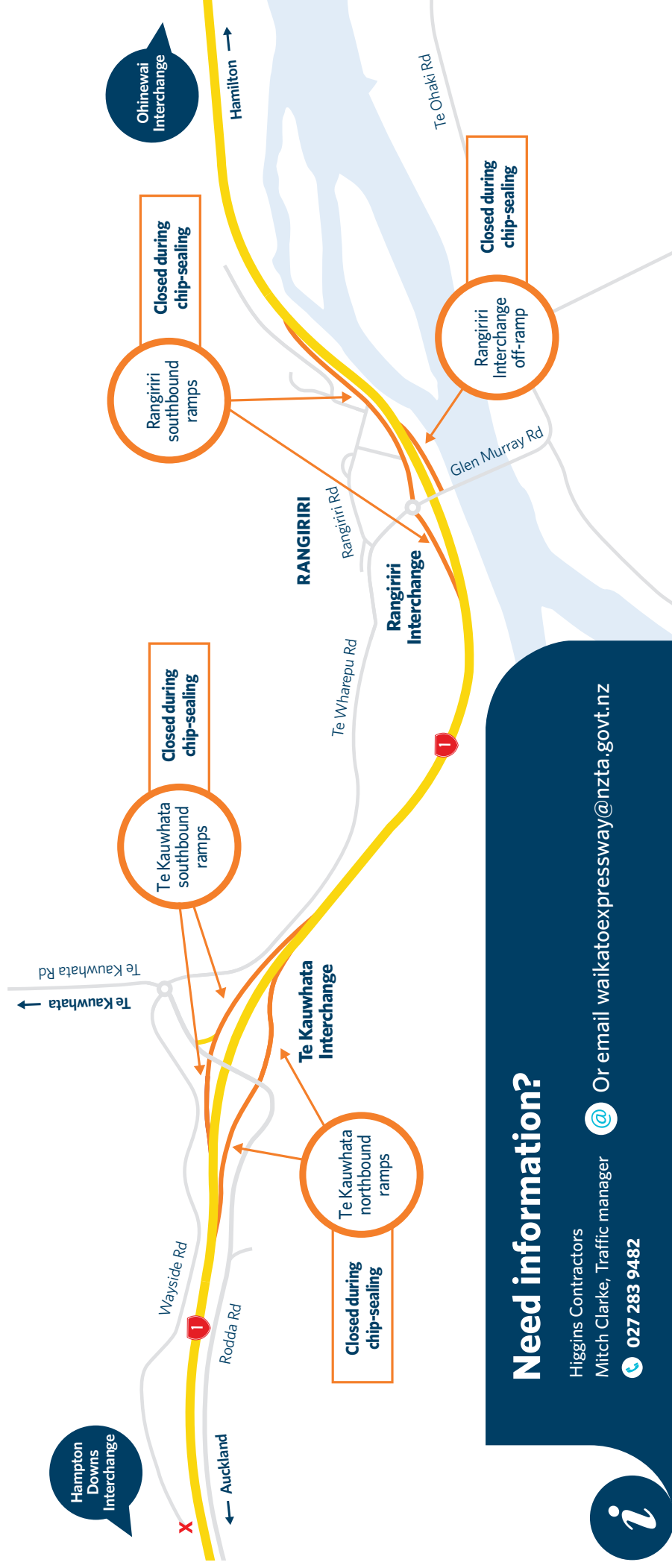
Ramps to both interchanges at Rangiriri and Te Kauwhata will be closed on the chip-sealing days and detours will be in place.

Sealing will take 2-3 days in each direction so northbound sealing closes northbound ramps; southbound sealing closes southbound ramps.

Northbound traffic wishing to leave SH1 will need to go to Hampton Downs Interchange and return. Southbound traffic cannot use the ramps during southbound sealing days and will need to go to Ohinewai Interchange and return.

Similar detours will be required for local traffic wishing to go north during the northbound sealing: Access is via southbound ramps to Ohinewai and return. When southbound ramps are closed local traffic should go north to Hampton Downs and return.

Local roads are not part of the official detours.



Getting the surface right

Traffic at Rangiriri has been on all four lanes and at 100km/h since Easter 2017 and moved to 110km/h when neighbouring sections did two years ago.

The road surface has had issues which have been monitored since opening. Recent work has rectified these and the final surfacing ahead completes the work.

There are many positive outcomes from the project, including making this stretch of highway much safer, especially for Rangiriri and Te Kauwhata traffic coming and going on SH1. It also saw the road moved away from the historic Battle of Rangiriri site and collaboration between the Crown and iwi which has seen this special place in history made better.

We thank everyone for their patience while we complete this work.

Need information?

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