



Johns Road Upgrade: The Groynes to Sawyers Arms Road

part of the Western Corridor



now
part of



Progress Bulletin 9 – December 2016.

Welcome to our ninth bulletin – packed with news, updates and our plans for the next few months. We issue these bulletins every three months or prior to a major change.

What's happened since the last newsletter

There have been significant changes since the last newsletter in November. We have now opened the new southbound lanes and the Clearwater Roundabout is open to all traffic movements.



Above: Wilkinsons Road On-ramp.

The Groynes to Clearwater Avenue.

With traffic on the correct sides of the median island, and the roundabout open, we are able to complete the final kerbing and island construction at the roundabout, which we aim to have finished prior to Christmas. Heading north of the Clearwater roundabout will remain temporarily as a single lane until the Western Belfast Bypass project is ready to receive two lanes of traffic next year.



Above: New Clearwater Roundabout

Gardiners Road to Sawyers Arms Road including Wilkinsons Road Service Lane & Roundabout.

The Gardiners Road off-ramp, Johns Road service lane and the Wilkinsons Road roundabout/ on-ramp are now all operational. Thanks to all the residents along this section, it has been a challenging piece to build and try and maintain access for everyone during construction.



Above: Gardiners Road Intersection

What's next?

Most of the major work is now completed however there is still the final road surfacing and a list of other small jobs that we will be back in the New Year to complete.

Final Road Surface

While Johns Road is open on the current chipseal surfacing, this is only the first coat seal (waterproofing coat) before we lay the final asphalt on the project. For quality reasons we get a better final asphalt surface if we allow traffic to "bed in" the first coat seal for a period of between 3-9 months.

As the northbound lanes have already been operational for longer than the 3-9 month wait period final Open Graded Porous Asphalt (OGPA) is programmed to be laid from January. OGPA acts as a quieter road surface and improves surface drainage, reducing splash and spray behind vehicles. Traffic management will be required to complete the final surfacing, but will mostly be completed as weekend and night works to make sure we minimise the disruption to road users.

Summer Holiday Traffic Management

It would be great if we could just pack up the entire site this summer, without leaving cones or signs behind. However, we are required to continue to protect road users and the general public from any hazards that might remain. Wherever possible we will scale back the level of traffic management over the summer break. However, we ask you to be patient and consider the safety of yourself and others when travelling through the worksite.

Many other roads on the highway network will undergo maintenance, construction and improvements over the summer, so while you're travelling the length and breadth of our beautiful country this holidays, make sure you drive safely, leave plenty of time to reach your destination. Check out the NZ Transport Agency website for information on travel times before you set out.



And finally, the site team would like to wish everyone a very happy festive season. Wherever your holidays may take you, drive safely.

Regards, Chris Hasler
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