



Tarewa Road intersection improvements



Background

The Tarewa Road upgrade is the last of six projects within the Whāngārei Urban Improvements package to improve the state highway through Whāngārei by easing bottlenecks and congestion, and improving traffic flow and safety.

It also completes the off-road walking and cycling connection to the CBD with the hospital.

Challenges

Challenges experienced at this intersection include:

- extended queues during peak periods turning right into Tarewa Road from SH1
- no facilities for pedestrians and cyclists to cross the road.

Preferred solution

The following improvements are planned:

- Traffic lights at the intersection to make it safer to turn right into Tarewa Road and to improve safety for all road users.
- Double lanes for north and southbound traffic (including replacing the existing bridge), installation of new free left turns on/off SH1 and banning the right turn out of Tarewa Road, to offset any delay due to the new traffic lights.
- A shared path under the new bridge and signalised pedestrian crossings to improve safety for those walking and biking.

These improvements will make it safer for all road users along the state highway and into Whāngārei including pedestrians and cyclists, as well as improving traffic flow.

What we have done so far

- The project was developed in 2015 and a number of open days were held to introduce the project and gather feedback.
- Following a public hearing, designation and consents were awarded in 2017.
- Land required has been obtained and the design developed which included feedback from the hearings.

What's next

The contract for the construction work has been let to Downer, and they plan to be on site from mid-August 2018. Construction work is planned to start mid-September.

WDC local road intersection upgrades

Whāngārei District Council plans to upgrade two intersections – Tarewa Road/Porowini Avenue and Maunu Road/Porowini Avenue. Construction at both sites is planned to start late 2018/early 2019. These works will start and finish during the period we are upgrading of SH1/Tarewa Road intersection.

The Transport Agency and Whāngārei District Council will work closely together to minimise the impact on traffic flows.

Proposed bylaw change

To maintain the safe and efficient operation of SH1 during construction there will be occasions where we will need to temporarily ban right turns into and out of Tarewa Road.

The NZ Transport Agency will also be proposing a bylaw amendment to permanently ban right turn movements out of Tarewa Road onto the state highway.

Banning right turns onto the state highway will improve safety for all road users and avoid traffic congestion at this intersection which could then impact on adjacent intersections such as SH14.

We will be inviting submissions on the proposed bylaw amendment later in the year.

Communication in partnership



Amanda Petherick, Stakeholder and Communications Advisor, Downer, Barbara Ware, Communications and Stakeholder Manager, NZ Transport Agency and Ann Midson, Senior Communications Advisor, Whāngārei District Council. Our promise to you is that we will work together to ensure you know what's happening and when.

MEET THE DOWNER TEAM

We will introduce members of the Downer team to you in the coming months.

Amanda Petherick – Downer Communication and Stakeholder Advisor

Amanda Petherick was excited to find out that she would be the Stakeholder and Communications Advisor for the SH1 improvements at Tarewa Road. Partly because it means she will be able to spend more time in Whāngārei and less in a certain city two hours to the south.

Amanda will be out and about in the coming weeks, planning for when construction begins and getting to know the project's neighbours.

You'll be able to reach Amanda on her dedicated freephone number soon.

Until then, she is happy to chat when you see her out and about or you can send an email on Amanda.Petherick@downer.co.nz.







CONTACT US

To get in touch with the SH1/Tarewa Road Intersection Improvements project team, email us at northlandproject@nzta.govt.nz

To stay in touch with the project, sign up to receive updates on our website www.nzta.govt.nz/projects/sh1-whangarei-improvements/

For all state highway information, phone 0800 44 44 49.