

Summary Major Construction Project Descriptions

Proposed non-block projects (construction cost more than \$3m)

Dowse to Petone Interchange (SH2)

The Dowse to Petone upgrade is aimed at reducing delays and improving safety along this section of highway. The proposed improvements include building an overbridge at the Korokoro Intersection (connecting the Western Hills with Hutt Road) and an interchange at the Dowse Drive intersection (connecting Dowse Drive and Hutt Road via a roundabout raised over the highway). It also includes safety improvements between the existing Korokoro and Petone intersections.

All appeals have now been resolved. Design work is complete. A number of properties are still to be acquired.

Intersection Improvements (SH2/SH58)

To improve safety at the intersection of State Highway 2 with State Highway 58, Transit is proposing to build a full interchange (similar in layout to the Porirua Mungavin Interchange).

MacKays Overbridge (SH1)

This major project is aimed at significantly improving safety and traffic flow at MacKays Crossing on State Highway 1, 3 km north of Paekakariki.

Transit is proposing to construct a 120m long bridge over the railway line at MacKays including building new accesses to Queen Elizabeth Park and Whareroa Farm.

The project allows for a connection from this new stretch of highway to the proposed Transmission Gully Motorway alignment to be built in the future.

Melling Interchange (SH2)

This project involves the construction of a new interchange to replace the traffic signals at the Melling intersection on State Highway 2.

Rimutaka Corner Easing (Muldoon's) (SH2)

This project includes straightening several tight bends in the highway about 500 metres south of Rimutaka summit. Heavy vehicles regularly cross the centre line at this site.

The Transit Board has approved a scheme to provide a 60km/h speed environment along this section of the highway.

State Highway 2 to Summit four-laning (SH58)

To improve safety along the 5km length of State Highway 58 from State Highway 2 to Harris Road, Transit is proposing to realign the road and upgrade it to four lanes with a median barrier.

Appeals have been lodged against the resource consents and Notice of Requirement. Transit is working to resolve these. There is also some property yet to be acquired.

Transmission Gully Motorway – Early Planting

The transmission Gully Motorway is a proposed alternative northern gateway for Wellington. This route would stretch inland from Linden (Tawa) to MacKays Crossing. The motorway would relieve the current and increasing volume of traffic on the existing State Highway 1 route as well as improve safety.

Transit is continuing planting along the motorway corridor in anticipation of construction to help mitigate adverse environmental effects associated with large earthworks. This is a condition of the designation.

Wellington Inner City Bypass (SH1)

The Wellington Inner City Bypass involves altering and redefining existing roads and building 700metres of new road, to provide two, one-way, two-lane roads between the Terrace Tunnel and Basin Reserve in Wellington. There will be traffic signals at each intersection and the roads will have a 50km/h speed limit. A new footpath and cycleway is to be built alongside the route as well as extensive landscaping.

The bypass will provide a safer and more efficient route between Wellington hospital, airport, southern and eastern suburbs, and the northern gateway to the city.

Western Link Road – Stages One and Two (SH1)

The proposed Western Link Road is a joint project with Kapiti Coast District Council to build a parallel route to State Highway 1 between Peka Peka (north of Waikanae) and Poplar Avenue (in Raumati). This parallel route would assist in relieving congestion on both the highway and local roads.

The Environment Court approved the designation for the road in 2002. There were two appeals to this decision, which were heard in the High Court in March 2003. The appeal was upheld in part with the matter referred back to the Environment Court. A further hearing, held in July, dismissed the appeals. Three appeals against the Environment Court decision have been lodged with the High Court. A hearing date for these is yet to be confirmed.