

Regional Transport Committee

NZTA Update for Te Tai Tokerau
February 2024

Northland Summary

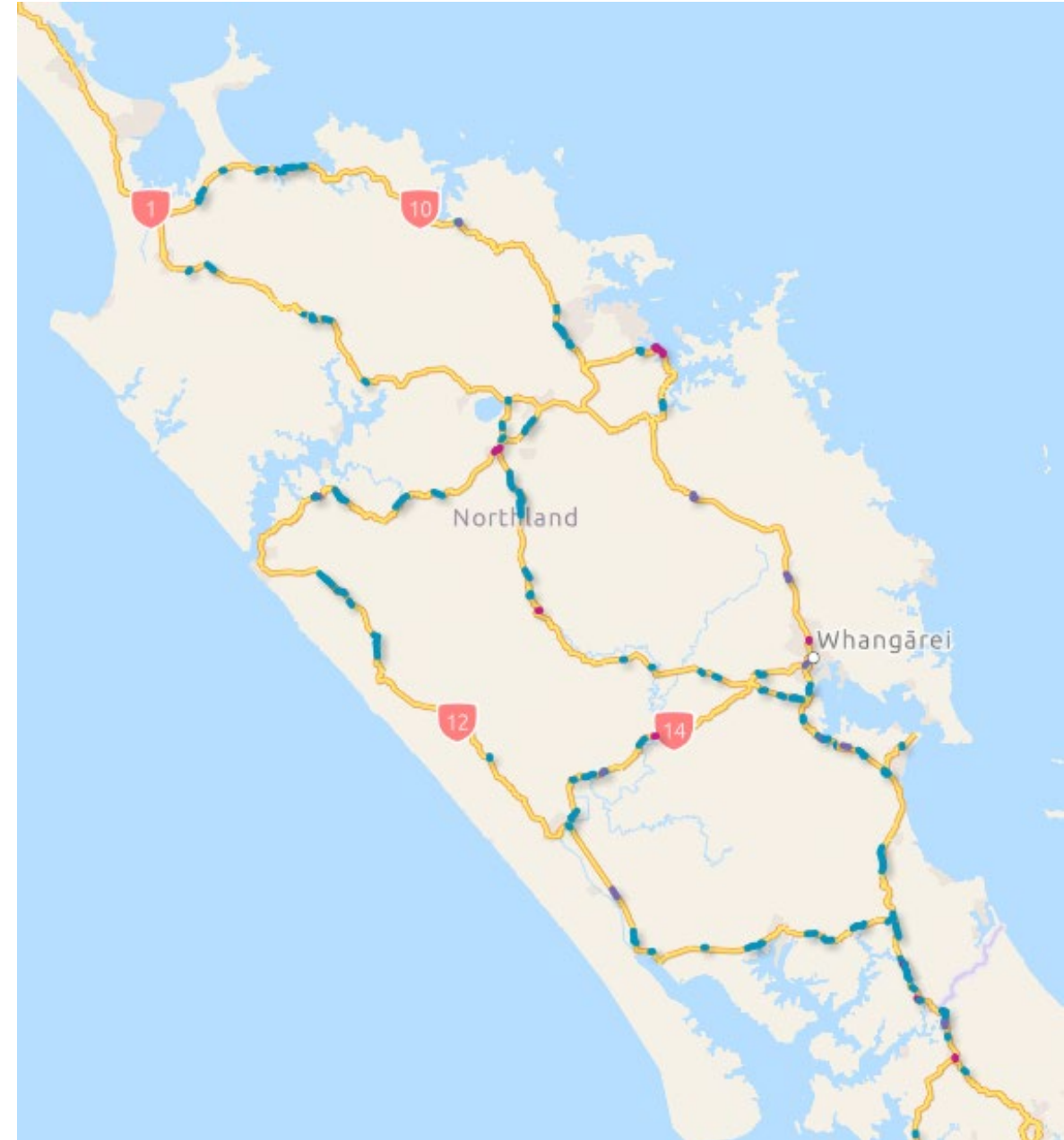
- The 2023/24 maintenance programme has been impacted by the poor weather experienced at the start of the construction season. We are reviewing resourcing levels to recover the programme in this quarter.
- NZTA have made significant progress in Mangamuka Gorge with physical works underway on 13 of the 15 critical slip sites. Three shifts are running day and night. We are expecting the road to open in late 2024. We continue to look at ways to improve our programme.
- Following extensive community engagement SH1 Brynderwyn Hills will be closed from 26 February for approximately 9 weeks. A public information campaign will start in February letting people know of the alternative routes to access Northland. Design work, consents and detour route repairs are all on track to be completed for the start of the closure. NZTA remains committed to considering options for longer term resilience and investigations for SH1 Brynderwyn Hills, including options suggested by the Northland community.
- Infrastructure delivery is progressing well with no significant issues. The new Kaeo Bridge will take one way traffic in early February with the official opening planned for April following demolition of the old bridge.
- The Driver Licence Improvement Programme are now supporting 9 Community Driver Testing Officers in the Te Tai Tokerau region, who have taken 1,259 locals for their practical driving test. A third-party review of the Trial has noted that significant progress has been made and the trial is showing very favourable results.
- NZTA is partnering with our road safety partners NZ Police, Auckland Transport, ACC , Te Manatū Waka, Northern Transportation Alliance and Far North REAP to have a joint road safety stand at the Northland Field Days. This cross-agency stand gives us the opportunity to present a unified voice on road safety, directly engage people in the road safety conversation.

Te Tai Tokerau focus

Maintenance and Operations

February update

- The Spring/Summer maintenance programme runs from September to May and will make improvements to around 156 km throughout Northland.
- The programme is currently affected by the poor weather experienced at the start of the construction season. We are reviewing resourcing levels to recover the programme in this quarter.
- The warmer conditions during spring/summer are the best times to rehabilitate and reseal the network as the warmth and dry air helps the seal stick to the road surface.
- The current programme schedule will allow us to complete the annual schedule, as well as projects that were postponed due to extreme weather events earlier last year.



SH 1 Brynderwyn Hills recovery and enabling works

February update

- Following extensive engagement through an online survey, public webinars and input from the Northland Inc steering group meetings a hybrid option has been selected as the confirmed closure option.
- State Highway 1 Brynderwyn Hills will be closed from 26 February 2024 for a total of approximately 9 weeks.
- The road will open for a period of 6 days over the Easter holiday period.
- A public information campaign will start in February letting people know of the alternative routes to access Northland and which roads have legal restrictions.
- Design work, consents and detour route repairs are all on track to be completed for the start of the closure.
- Improved signage and wayfinding is a key area of work for us during the closure.



SH1 Brynderwyn Hills- B6 and B1&2 sites



SH1 Far North Resilience Programme (Mangamuka Gorge)

February update

- We've made significant progress in recent months with drier weather.
- Physical works are underway on 13 of the 15 critical slip sites over a 13km section of SH1 through the Mangamuka Gorge.
- Work continued over the Christmas period on a slip site that required full closure to minimise disruption to the rest of the site.
- Designs have been finalised for the remaining slip sites and the team is coordinating them into the existing programme.
- This includes a significant slip (A11) that requires a major re-alignment of the road and approximately 24,000m³ of material to be removed. Work on this slip is scheduled to commence this month.
- Work is continuing at pace, with up to three shifts running day and night.
- The teams are constantly looking at ways we can safely improve our programme, however we are still expecting the road to open in late 2024.



SH10 Kāeo Bridge upgrade

February update

- A small blessing with mana whenua took place on 24 January.
- The final concrete pour has been completed and will be followed by the asphalt layer.
- There will be some minor traffic layout changes during the final stages of the project, we ask road users to slow down and follow any signage.
- One way traffic is expected on the new bridge by early February.
- An official opening is being planned for April following demolition of the old bridge.



SH1 Loop Road Safety Improvements

February update

- Preparation across the site is complete with build preload fill and settlement has now been achieved.
- Construction of the southern tie-in southbound began at the end of 2023, with road widening, drainage, utilities, bulk fill, roading pavement and deep lift asphalt. This is expected to be completed through to the Northbound widening at the end of February.
- At the Otaika Creek Bridge the team have installed the temporary staging bridge, to allow them to install the permanent bridge piling, and alternative design (for the ground improvements) is continuing.
- Work will then start on the retaining wall construction next to Otaika Creek. The team will continue the ground improvement piling at Otaika Creek bridge and at the Oaks Road embankment fill.



(Image: Craning the temporary staging into place at Otaika Creek)



(Image: Starting work at the southern tie-in)

Whangārei to Wellsford safety improvements

February update

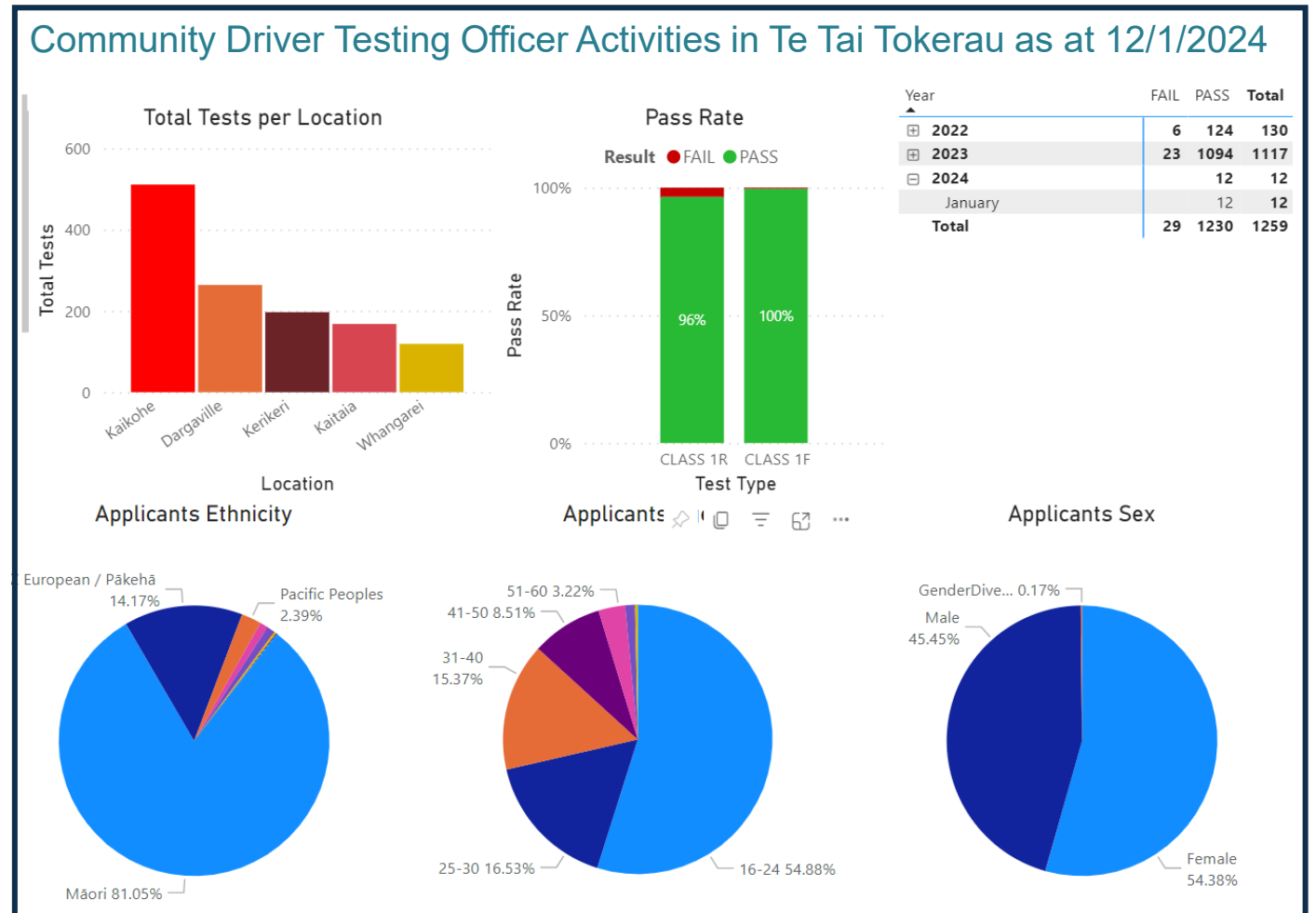
- **Northern section** – Interim safety improvements have now been completed. This project delivered additional safety interventions across 12km of State Highway 1. We now move into the 2-year maintenance period which includes maintaining flexible safety posts on the centreline for the Toetoe to Springfield section installed in 2018.
- **Central section** – The project is being delivered in 3 packages with Package 1, from Sandford Road to the Uretiti Beach access road moving forward now. The design is finalised and will be shared with stakeholders in February. Consenting is well underway and funding approval is being sought to commence construction in late 2024.
- **Southern section** – Stage 1 - improvements to Ross Road are complete while Topuni Corner is largely completed. Finalisation of the design for stage 2 is expected to be completed in March 2024 and shared with key stakeholders. Consenting and land acquisition discussions will begin in early 2024 and the project is expected to go to tender mid-2024.
- [SH1 Whangārei to Wellsford | NZ Transport Agency](#)



Driver licensing improvement programme

The Driver Licensing Improvement Programme continues to support increased access and participation for driver licensing in Te Tai Tokerau

- 1,259 tests have been conducted by Community Driver Testing Officers (CDTO) in Te Tai Tokerau since June 2022.
- The continued high pass rate reflects the quality of the Community Driver Training programmes on offer and that students are not put forward to test until they are ready.
- A review of the Far North CDTO trial, which is due to conclude in June 2024, was conducted in December by an independent third party. The review concluded the trial has made significant progress and is showing very favourable results.
- A new CDTO has been trained and commenced testing in Kerikeri on 15 December 2023. This is complementing the Police CDTOs who provide testing in Kerikeri one day per month.



State highway speed management activity

February update

- The Minister of Transport announced changes to the Setting of Speed Limits Rule in December 2023, and confirmed that work is underway to develop a new Rule.
- We are working through what this means for state highway speed management activity.
- We will continue to set speed limits to maintain the state highway network. For example, where there is a specific operational need, such as for infrastructure projects, temporary speed limits expiring or new roads opening.



Northland safety camera will 'go live' soon...

February update

- NZTA is completing final updates to the static-speed safety camera on State Highway 1 between Kawakawa and Moerewa.
- We expect to begin enforcing in the next few months.
- Before we move to enforcing with this camera, we'll:
 - Swap out the pole for a new design, which will make maintenance faster and safer and require less partial road closures and traffic management
 - Replace the camera. The new camera won't have Automated Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) technology, which is only needed for average-speed safety cameras
 - Install new signs to remind people to check their speed and slow down if needed.
- Drivers who speed past this camera can expect to receive an advisory, infringement or traffic-offence notice (whichever is relevant) from NZTA.



Northland Financial Update

February update (18-Jan-24 report)

Regional Transport Committee Financial Update for 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024



Activity	Approved Budget for the current financial year	Actual Expenditure for the current financial year	Remaining Expenditure Forecast to the end of June 2024	Forecast Expenditure to end of June 2024
Emergency Works	\$127,682,677	\$69,492,683	\$54,136,380	\$123,629,063
Maintenance and renewals	\$51,527,449	\$18,086,562	\$43,950,033	\$62,036,595
State highway improvements	\$25,699,277	\$14,741,815	\$23,314,405	\$38,056,220
Road to Zero	\$14,237,688	\$4,712,949	\$7,740,094	\$12,453,043
Crown funding	\$15,717,769	\$465,273	\$1,506,089	\$1,971,362
Investment management (incl. Transport Planning)	\$330,506	\$201,592	\$119,281	\$320,873
Walking and cycling improvements	\$2,349,916	\$70,838	\$311,022	\$381,860
Total	\$237,545,282	\$107,771,713	\$131,077,304	\$238,849,017

National Focus

2024-27 NLTP development update

February update

- The government has the development of the GPS as part of its 100-day plan.
- The Ministry of Transport is supporting the Minister in development of the 2024 Government Policy Statement (GPS).
- Once the GPS has been approved and released, we'll revise the draft Investment Prioritisation Method (IPM) and State Highway Investment Proposal (SHIP) as needed to align with the GPS.
- In the meantime, keep developing your RLTPs.
- We'll share updates as soon as we can.



EVs subject to RUC from 1 April

February update

- Electric vehicles (EVs) including plug-in hybrid vehicles (PHEVs) will be subject to road user charges (RUC) from 1 April 2024.
- The RUC rate for light EVs will be \$76 per 1000km and for PHEVs it will be \$53 per 1000km (recognising that they also pay tax in the price of their petrol).
- EV owners will have until 31 May to buy their licence without risk of penalty.
- NZTA is contacting EV owners in January to give them a heads-up about the change. We'll contact them again in March with information about how they can buy their RUC licence and when they need to do it.



Hei konā mai

