

# Construction Update February 2025

We are excited to have started work on the ground. This update is to let you know:

- [What we did in January](#)
- [What work is planned for February](#)
- [Project Stages](#)
- [Businesses Open](#)
- [Did you know](#)

## What have we done?

We set up two sites along Great North Road on 13 January and got straight to work. We have:

### Ponsonby Road to Maidstone Street

- Started work on the intersection at Maidstone Street.
- Prepared the base layers for the new bus platforms on both sides of the road.
- Started work on the cycle lanes



Building the bus platform near John Andrew Ford

### Elgin Street to Northland Street

- Completed trenching and ducting for traffic signals at the new signalised pedestrian crossing between 401 and 428 Great North Road.
- Removed the bus shelter near Northland Street so the new footpath can be built.
- Started work on the intersection at Northland Street.
- Laid new kerbing at Harcourt Street.
- Excavated at the top of Elgin Street and Commercial Road in preparation for the new intersections
- Started building a new bus platform opposite Northland Street

## Next Month – What's Up?

In February we will be working on:

### Ponsonby Road to Maidstone Street

- Completing the intersection at Maidstone Street
- Laying new footpath on both sides of the road.
- Constructing the cycle lane
- Completing three new tree pits near Maidstone Street.
- Relocating two bus shelters – one on either side of the road.

### Elgin Street to Northland Street

- Finishing the intersections at Northland Street, Harcourt Street Elgin Street and Commercial Road
- Completing the footpaths on both sides of the road.
- Completing 12 new tree pits on both sides of the road
- Installing pram crossings at the new signalised pedestrian crossing located between 401 & 428 Great North Road.

You'll also see our crews removing some trees along the Great North Road within the project area. This is where we are relocating bus stops or making changes around intersections.



Base layers of the side road entry treatment at Northland St. Can you see the new tree pit on the corner of Northland St?

**Every tree removed will be replaced about 217 additional trees and 5000 shrubs will be planted. Planting will be done later in the year when it is the optimal time for planting.**

# Support Local Businesses

We'd like to remind everyone that our sites are set up so you can still get to shops and other businesses, and residences.

It's great to see more shops and cafes opening up along the road as more people move into the area.

Outside The Hadlow a new superette, Sunny Brew Cafe and [Brave Pizza](#) have all opened in recent months. Please shop local and support these new businesses.

## The Stages

We've divided our work into stages, starting at the busy Ponsonby Road end because it is a quieter time of year for traffic with schools and universities on holiday. At the same time, we are working between Elgin Street and Northland Street.

### Staging Plan

*Please note: Timeframes are indicative and subject to change. Affected residents and businesses will be notified before work starts near them.*



Before we start on a new stage, we need to set up our traffic management to ensure our workers and the public can work and move safely in the area. This is done the night before we start work on site. There will be some vehicle noise during the set up. We are aware of residents in the area and will minimise noise by avoiding shouting and unnecessary idling of vehicles.

## Construction - What to Expect

### Work Hours

While our resource consent enables us to work 7am–7pm Monday to Saturday, we will generally work until 6pm, especially where we have residential neighbours.

Please be aware that at times the team may need to work until 7pm to finish off a piece of work, but we'll endeavour to complete noisy work by 6pm.

### Working at the top of side streets

When we are working on intersections with side streets, there will be no entry or exit from Great North Road. This currently affects Maidstone Street, Northland Street, Harcourt Street, Elgin Street and Commercial Road. Please follow detour signs to the next accessible side

## Project Design

This project combines lots of different aspects to make the streets work better for vehicles and public transport, and for people walking or cycling. The streetscape will also be greatly enhanced with plenty of new planting and seating. In a nutshell here's what's in the plans:

- More loading zones, including for 25m long car transporters
- Footpath upgrades
- Road renewal and resurfacing. Note: there is no lane reduction - two lanes in each direction retained in the design.
- Two new pedestrian crossings - one near Northland Street and another by Scanlan Street.

street. See [www.AT.govt.nz/greatnorthroad](http://www.AT.govt.nz/greatnorthroad) for details of detours.

### Bus stops

Bus stops within our sites will be temporarily closed. The closures are in place 24 / 7 until the new bus stops can be opened.

Please use the next bus stop along Great North Road.

There will be some pedestrian diversions in place around our site and no on-street parking within our work areas. You may need to park on your property or further down the road and walk to your property.

- Side road entry changes including surface markings, kerb build outs and low tables
- A protected cycle lane on both sides of the road
- Bus lanes along 100% of corridor (7am to 10am city bound and 4pm to 7pm outbound, Monday to Friday).
- 8 new bus stops with seating and shelter
- Intersection upgrade at Bond Street, including an extra crossing.

We also propose introducing some changes to parking to make businesses easier to access and so road-side parking is better shared - we will be consulting on this proposal soon and will ask for your feedback. The full design pack is [here](#)

## Did You Know?

Construction sites are often highly visible to the public, especially in urban areas. The perception that construction workers are often standing around doing nothing can be influenced by a few factors:

Most of us see them on the side of the road or another job site throughout our day. While it appears there's some sort of 7/1 rule (7 people watching as one guy works) that's not quite the situation.

The contractor seemingly standing around may be:

- Safety Spotters – to protect the worker and public, if something goes wrong, they are the first to see and stop the worst from happening
- Traffic Controller - ensuring traffic can continue to travel through the site and keeping the site safe for all road users
- Works Coordination - Construction projects involve a series of complex tasks that must be carefully coordinated.
- Workers may need to wait for specific materials, equipment, or instructions before they can proceed with their work. This can create the impression that workers are idle when, they may be waiting for the next step in the construction process.
- Waiting for weather conditions to get better, supply chain issues to be resolved, or unexpected complications on the job site requiring additional support and investigation.
- Safety is a top priority on construction sites, and workers must always adhere to strict safety protocols. This can involve conducting safety inspections or waiting for hazardous conditions to be addressed before proceeding with work.
- Breaks - construction work particularly during summer months is physically demanding, and the contractors need to take breaks to rest and recharge for their health, safety, and wellbeing. Workers may be following mandated rest periods or shift rotations that are not immediately apparent to outside observers.

**Next Month: Traffic Controllers – what do they really do?**

## Support Through Construction

For general AT or project enquiries, email [projects@at.govt.nz](mailto:projects@at.govt.nz) or phone 09 930 5090.

If you have any questions or concerns about construction, email [Sally.Logan@jfcltd.co.nz](mailto:Sally.Logan@jfcltd.co.nz) or phone 021 420 794

Visit AT's website to learn more about the [project](#).

If you have received this update from a friend and would like to receive it directly to your mailbox each month, please email [projects@at.govt.nz](mailto:projects@at.govt.nz) to sign up.

We thank you for your patience and support – it has been and is appreciated by our team.

Ngā mihi,

**The Great North Road Improvements Project Team**

