



New Carterton Pedestrian Crossing

The New Zealand Transport Agency is about to commence work on a new style of pedestrian crossing in Carterton, the first of its kind in the region.

Location

The crossing will be situated opposite the Carterton Medical Centre, at the southern end of the central shopping area, south of Victoria and Wakelin Streets on High Street, State Highway 2 (SH2).

The need for a pedestrian crossing

Construction starts after considerable discussion with the local community, commercial truck representative groups, the Carterton District Council, Police and local Automobile Association representatives.

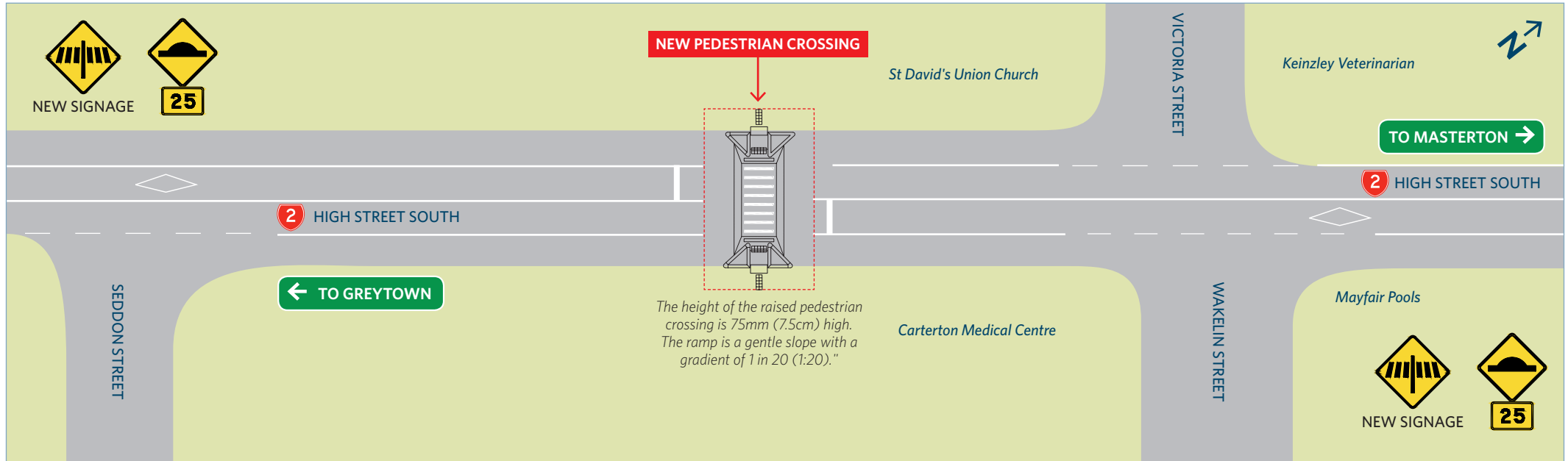
“The project is all about improving safety for pedestrians and cyclists, while maintaining freight and traffic flow efficiency on SH2,” says Regional Performance Manager, Mark Owen. “This project will make it easier and

safer for people to walk across this busy section of SH2. It will be safer for children to walk to school, and older people will have the time they need to cross the road.”

The decision to build a crossing came from community feedback requesting better access to the medical facility and followed an NZ Transport Agency review of pedestrian and traffic movement in the area.

The current crossing point only has kerb build outs that assist in reducing the width of crossing distance across SH2.

The “Guidelines for the Selection of Pedestrian Facilities” has been used to determine an appropriate new crossing, taking into account the location, traffic volumes and number of pedestrians crossing.



New pedestrian crossing features

The new crossing features a raised platform across the entire width of the road, similar to the crossings in and around the Martinborough Square. While raised platform crossings are common across the country, this will be the first crossing of this type in the Wairapa, adapted for highway traffic.

At approximately 75mm in height the crossing equates to a 1 in 20 (1:20) gradient for vehicles. This height is design to maximise visibility of the raised crossing to improve pedestrian safety, while minimising the impact on heavy vehicles travelling over the crossing.

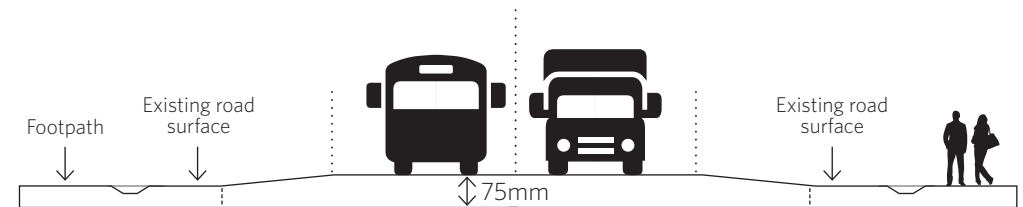
The challenge with the Carterton crossing is that it is on SH2, which has a large number of vehicles, being a critical transport route for freight.

The ramp and crossing has been designed by specialist engineers and road surface experts to withstand the very heavy loads that will travel over it each day.

The new crossing will also include advance warning signage to alert drivers that there is a crossing ahead and their need to slow down and stop if pedestrians are waiting to cross the road.

New lighting will be installed, making it easier for drivers to see pedestrians, along with raised tactile footpath studs on the footpath at either the end of the crossing for the visually impaired.

Raised pedestrian crossing - typical cross section



Work programme

Work will start by the end of June and is expected to take about two weeks to complete, subject to weather. Motorists are advised to expect short delays during the work. The main physical works to construct the new raised road surface across the highway will take approximately three days. The rest of the work to install new lighting, road markings and signage will have less impact on traffic flows.



An example of a raised pedestrian crossing in Martinborough

2 Carterton Pedestrian Crossing

Thank you from the Transport Agency

Every effort will be made to keep disruption to motorists, pedestrians and cyclists to a minimum. "We appreciate people's patience and understanding, while we complete a job that will have considerable safety benefits once it is finished," says Mr Owen. "We thank the community for their support to improve road safety in Carterton."

Keeping you informed

Stay up to date with this and other highway projects at www.nzta.govt.nz/wairarapa-maintenance.

For more information, contact NZ Transport Agency Safety Engineer **Steve James** on **021 245 3876**, steve.james@nzta.govt.nz or while the work is underway, Capital Journeys Project Manager **Paul Smart** on **0274 476 824**.

For daily information on what's happening with traffic on the roads, follow NZTA Wellington on Twitter and Facebook.



And finally...please let us know how we did

Once this work is finished we'd really like your feedback on how you feel it went. You can fill in a survey online at www.surveymonkey.com/nzta-feedback or simply email us your comments on info@nzta.govt.nz