

We're starting the Lincoln Town Centre upgrade

Further details have been confirmed for the Lincoln Town Centre upgrade, with detailed design underway and preparation works beginning in November.

The upgrade aims to create an attractive town centre fit for the future of Lincoln with more public space, while promoting safety for traffic.

Detailed design is in progress and early preparation work is beginning this year for the upgrade which will take place in stages from 2024-2033 working along Gerald Street from the James Street Edward Street intersection to Springs Road.

The Lincoln Town Centre Plan was confirmed after public consultation in 2016. It was scheduled to begin in 2028 but was brought forward in the current Long-Term Plan.

The feedback from the public consultation showed a desire for a safer town centre that catered to a wide range of users, Council Executive Director Infrastructure and Property Tim Mason says. "We're building a town centre for the future of Lincoln as the town grows, making it a safer space for all users; drivers, cyclists and pedestrians, and has increased safer car parking options."

The upgrade along Gerald Street creates an opportunity to create a more attractive town centre that encourages development in the future. Upgrades will include traffic lights and cycle lanes to support better walking and cycling links. Adding cycle lanes, increasing car parks and replacing angled parking with dedicated off-street car parks will help to prepare the town for the future growth and will allow for free-flowing traffic.

The Lincoln Town Centre upgrade will happen in four stages and include traffic lights at four key intersections with Gerald Street at Vernon Drive, Springs Road, James Street and Edward Street and West Belt.

Stage one will focus on upgrading Gerald Street between Kildare Terrace and West Belt. Stages two and three will focus on road widening and cycle lanes along Gerald Street, from West Belt to Springs Road. Stage four will involve upgrades to Gerald Street, from Kildare Terrace to James Street. Details on the remaining stages will be available as work progresses with stage one.

Stage one includes:

- 106 car parks an increase of 58 for the whole town centre. New north car park between Lyttelton Street and William Street and new south car park off Gerald Street beside Maurice Street.
- Increasing widths in front of businesses to create a wide pedestrian plaza on the sunny side of Gerald Street.
- Adding cycle lanes and streetlights.
- Undergrounding overhead power lines.
- Carrying out upgrades to sewer mains on side streets surrounding Gerald Street to combine work and minimise disruption.

Work to prepare the north and south car parks is scheduled to start in November 2024, with the car park construction scheduled to start in February/March 2025. Work is planned to begin on Gerald Street in spring/summer of 2025.

For more information on the Lincoln Town Centre, visit <u>selwyn.govt.nz/lincolntcplan</u>.

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