



Media Release  
Friday 5 June 2015

## **Shoulder removal work underway to improve road performance**

Work is now underway to improve the surface drainage on up to 350km of local roads in Selwyn.

The work is being funded from \$530,000 in extra funding provided by the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) to recognise the extra pressure on Selwyn roads from increased traffic as a result of economic and population growth.

Contractors are currently working to remove high grass shoulders along roads to allow water to drain away without ponding on the road surface.

"When the foundations of our roads become wet their strength is reduced and they become more prone to developing potholes or edge damage, particularly on heavy vehicle routes," says Selwyn District Council Assets Manager Murray Washington.

"A way to improve the performance and resilience of Selwyn's typically flat roads and roadsides is to improve how the road surface drains, especially as our roads are having to deal with more traffic," says Mr Washington.

Shoulder removal is a normal part of the Council's road maintenance programme and is normally done prior to resealing work or when gravel is replaced on unsealed roads. The extra NZTA funding has allowed additional shoulder removal to be done at other sites.

Image attached: *Shoulder removal work underway along Te Pirita Road near Hororata*

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