



# Rail Network Rebuild

PAPAKURA RAIL WORKS: 24/7 CONSTRUCTION

December 2025

Dear neighbour,

KiwiRail is rebuilding the rail network in your area to make train travel more resilient and reliable and to prepare for the more frequent trains the City Rail Link (CRL) will bring when it opens next year. We are completing a major upgrade of our rail network between Papakura and Wiri.

**Over the summer rail upgrade on the Southern Line** (see dates right), **KiwiRail will be installing turnouts**, which enable trains to move from one track to another, **in Papakura. We will also be upgrading drainage and foundations under the tracks between Onslow Road and Pratt Street, undertaking associated track works, and installing stop blocks through the Papakura stabling yard. Some of this work will happen day and night** so we can complete it as quickly as possible.

We will be using rail land at Railway Street West, a site at Ron Keat Drive and another at Pratt Street (as marked in the map – overleaf) as access points for vehicles needed for this work. Please exercise caution when in these areas. As this is a large and complex piece of work, it can only be undertaken when there are no passenger trains running.

There will be a full Auckland rail network closure between 27 December and 18 January. From 19-26 January, there will be no trains on the Southern Line south of Manukau. Testing of the new CRL timetable means the entire network will be closed to passengers on 27–28 January 2026. Please check the AT Mobile app or visit the Auckland Transport website to plan your train travel [at.govt.nz/journeyplanner](https://at.govt.nz/journeyplanner)

These upgrades are part of the Rail Network Rebuild (RNR) programme that is replacing aging foundations under the tracks and upgrading drainage to make the network more resilient to weather events and help get ready for CRL.

## What we are doing:

Teams will be undertaking a full turnout replacement, which allows trains to switch tracks. This involves removing track infrastructure, digging new foundations, and then replacing the infrastructure with new assets.

This will be intensive work, involving rail grinding and cutting, digging new formations, welding and then putting into place the new turnout. Once this has been done, the tamper will then tamp the new ballast into place. Associated track and other works will also be completed during this period.

## Upcoming dates

- **27 December to 18 January 2026:** 24/7 construction works to improve rail infrastructure
- **19-26 January:** no passenger service south of Manukau
- **27-28 January:** City Rail Link timetable testing – no passenger services

## Find out more

For enquiries and to sign up to work notifications by email please contact us via **contactus@kiwirail.co.nz** or **0800 801 070 ext 43042**.

Visit our website: **kiwirail.co.nz/aklrailrebuild**.

**Thanks for your patience while we carry out this important work - The KiwiRail team.**  
contactus@kiwirail.co.nz or 0800 801 070 ext 43042

**KiwiRail** 



## Night works – what you can expect

We are undertaking major track works in your area. During this work there may be noise, dust, vibrations and lights needed to keep the workers safe at night. Our teams are mindful that they are working in residential areas and will do their best to keep the disruption to a minimum. However, despite their efforts this work may cause you some disturbance and we apologise in advance for this.

There will also be increased vehicle movements near Railway Street West, Pratt Street, and Ron Keat Drive so please take extra care when in these areas. Work areas and the access points are shown in the map below.



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