

30 May 2011

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Dear Trevor

Forming the National Land Transport Programme for 2012-2015

The NZ Transport Agency (NZTA) is preparing the National Land Transport Programme (NLTP) for 2012-2015, for release on 1 July 2012. The NLTP is an important document that sets out the three year programme for national investment in land transport and is developed in conjunction with your Regional Land Transport Programme (RLTP). I want to take the opportunity to outline the key intent and direction that this document will take, and the current and proposed work programmes that will help us achieve this release date.

Background - 2009/2012 NLTP

The current (2009-2012) NLTP was introduced during a period of significant change, with a new political climate and tight economic conditions leading to a shift in transport investment priorities.

As such the NLTP was not implemented until September 2009, which caused uncertainty for you as you sought to progress projects through to funding approval and payment. We also had some challenges aligning the regional and national land transport programmes, largely due to the limited time for the planning and partnering work to produce RLTPs. Despite this however, the current NLTP is delivering the impacts sought by the Government Policy Statement on Land Transport Funding (GPS).

Building the next NLTP - Key Intent and Direction

The GPS, to be issued by the Minister of Transport during July 2011, will provide the basis for the investment signals for the next NLTP. We anticipate it will build on the momentum provided through the current investment period and it will focus on investing the National Land Transport Fund in projects and activities that will deliver economic growth and productivity, value for money and road safety for New Zealand.

These outcomes are possible if based on a planned and integrated transport network that provides better value for money from our combined investment in transport.

To achieve this, we are changing the way we work. We want to work with you early in the planning process to give clear investment signals, negotiate joint outcomes, priorities and strategies to achieve them, and develop packages and programmes to deliver those outcomes as funding becomes available. We also want to ensure the timetable fits as well as possible with your own planning processes. This better alignment will create more certainty for all parties, a more efficient investment process, and for the 2012-15 NLTP help ensure that the investment contributes to regional and national economic

growth outcomes. The attached pdf '*Planning and Investing for Outcomes Regional overview*' documents this approach and provides a summary of the investment signals to date.

Key RLTP and NLTP Milestones

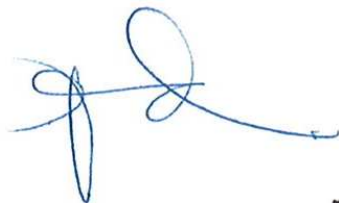
To meet the above outcomes and the NLTP release date of 1 July 2012, we have started to work with Transport Planners and Road Managers within the region outlining the key milestones and processes.

The milestones are presented in the accompanying presentation *2012-2015 RLTP and NLTP*. In particular, the NZTA needs to receive your approved Regional Land Transport Programme (RLTP) by **30 April 2012** so we can adopt the NLTP by 30 June 2012. These timeframes are based on the assumption that the GPS for 2012-22 will be published around July 2011. However, if the timing is significantly later than expected, we may need to adjust the NLTP adoption date and will inform you of any relevant changes.

We appreciate that these timelines cause some challenges due to the parallel nature of the Long Term Plan (LTP) / RLTP processes. We will be working with you to establish a high level of confidence in programmes early in the process. We have already been engaging with the working groups set up to develop the RLTPs (e.g. RAGs and TAGs) and Approved Organisations on process and respective responsibilities. We will continue to engage and discuss this process in the coming months.

We look forward to continuing to work with you in the development of your RLTP, which is a vital step in the development of the NLTP and in achieving agreed transport outcomes that will benefit your region and the country. We will be in contact again shortly to discuss this information with you in more detail, and to discuss strategies for taking this work programme forward with the RTC. In the meantime, please feel free to contact me directly if you would like to discuss any of these matters in more detail.

Yours sincerely



Jenny Chetwynd
Regional Director, Central