



From: Ernst Zollner
Sent: Wednesday, 23 July 2014 1:17 p.m.
To: Mike Sabin
Subject: RE: Media Statement: Matakoho bridges a priority for Northland - Sabin

Hi again Mike

Here is the official timetable from Chris Powel at NRC

Project Plan for Regional Land Transport Plan 2015/2018

ITEM: 5.1
Attachment 1

Phase	Timelines
Regional Transport Committee agrees to regional priorities for RLTP 2015/2018 period	April 2014
NZ Transport Agency and Approved Authorities discuss early investment signals	February 2014 – June 2014
Ministry of Transport release draft Government Policy Statement for engagement	April 2014
Ministry of Transport release the Government Policy Statement	June 2014
NZ Transport Agency releases approved One Network Road Classification system	June 2014
NZ Transport Agency releases approved Financial Assistance Rates for 3 year NLTP	July 2014
NZ Transport Agency releases indicative activity class investment levels	July 2014
Northland Regional Council advises public that the RLTP 2015/2018 process has commenced	July 2014
Approved Authorities and Highway Network Organisation (NZTA) submit projects for regional prioritisation	July 2014 – October 2014
NORTEG makes recommendations on the prioritisation of relevant projects	October 2014
Regional Transport Committee reviews and approves prioritised projects to meet agreed regional priorities.	November 2014
Northland Regional Council compiles Draft RLTP 2015/2018 for public submission	November 2014 – December 2014
Regional Transport Committee approves Draft RLTP 2015/2018 for release for public submission	December 2014
Draft RLTP 2015/2018 released for public submission	December 2014
Public submission period	January 2014
Hearings on submissions	February 2014
Northland Regional Council compiles Draft RLTP 2015/2018	March 2015
Regional Transport Committee approves release of RLTP to NRC for approval	April 2015
Northland Regional Council approves release of RLTP to NZTA	April 2015
Approved Authorities and NZ Transport Agency to download the RLTP 2015/2018 into Transport Investment Online (TIO)	22 – 29 April 2015
Cut off for Approved Authorities and NZ Transport Agency to download the RLTP 2015/2018 into Transport Investment Online (TIO)	30 Apr 2015
NZ Transport Agency and Transport Minister release National Land Transport Programme 2015/2018	31 Jul 2015

Acronyms

RLTP – Regional Land Transport Plan 2015/2018
NLTP – National Land Transport Programme 2015/2018
NZTA – NZ Transport Agency
A/O – Approved Organisation

RTC Meetings

12 February 2014;
2 April 2014;
4 June 2014
6 August 2014
1 October 2014
3 December 2014

From: Ernst Zollner

From: Ernst Zollner

-----Original Message-----

From: Mike Sabin [mailto:Mike.Sabin@parliament.govt.nz]
Sent: Tuesday, 22 July 2014 8:12 a.m.
To: Ernst Zollner
Subject: RE: Media Statement: Matakoho bridges a priority for Northland - Sabin

Thanks very much for taking time to attend Ernst. I have found your input invaluable and very appreciate it.

As mentioned a big part of this process has been to build a public recognition and pressure on local government to ensure this project gets put on the Regional Transport Plan.

I'd appreciate it if you can let me know the timeline form here around this process and any other suggestions/recommendations you may have to help progress this.

Thanks again.

Kind regards,

Mike Sabin

Authorised by Mike Sabin 116A Kerikeri Rd, Kerikeri

-----Original Message-----

From: Ernst Zollner [mailto:Ernst.Zollner@nzta.govt.nz]
Sent: Tuesday, 22 July 2014 7:35 a.m.
To: Mike Sabin
Subject: Re: Media Statement: Matakoho bridges a priority for Northland - Sabin

Thanks again Mike, I think the community found it a very helpful meeting in finding out where things stand.

My official title is 'Director Auckland and Northland' but I like the one below!

Sent from my iPad

On 22/07/2014, at 1:36 AM, "Mike Sabin" <Mike.Sabin@parliament.govt.nz> wrote:

> Mike Sabin
> National MP for Northland
>
> Media Statement
>
> 21 July 2014
>

> Matakoho bridges a priority for Northland - Sabin Mike Sabin MP for
> Northland made it clear that the Matakoho bridges realignment deserves to be one of Northland's roading priorities for the 2015-18 Land Transport Plan for the region at a public meeting this evening attended by more than 180 residents of the Matakoho community.

> "These bridges are a death trap, unfit for purpose and I believe that the information I have accumulated after 2 years of investigation substantiate the need for this project to be one of the priorities advanced by the Northland Rooding Committee to the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) for the next round of work programming," says Mr Sabin.

> During the public meeting at the Matakoho War Memorial Hall this evening organised by Mr Sabin he updated the local residents on why he believes the bridge realignment hasn't occurred and the process he has undertaken to build a case for the realignment. This has involved looking at the economic importance of the bridges to the Kaipara and investigating injuries and deaths that have occurred on or near the bridges since they were constructed in the 1930.

> "What is clear is that the locals are right to be concerned about these bridges; they are not only a vital economic route for the highest performing primary goods producer of Northland's economy, they are a death trap," says Mr Sabin.

> "My inquiries have established that at least 10 people have been killed in crashes at, or leading up to these bridges and many more have been seriously injured.

> "I have reviewed screeds of economic data, searched archives and records, interviewed locals and undertaken Official Information Act requests, which have most concerningly, uncovered a horrific legacy of death and carnage dating back to the 1950's. This has shed an entirely different light on the need to re-align these bridges and prevent further victims, of what amounts to poor road engineering, that has long ago shown it is not fit for purpose" says Mr Sabin.

> "The analysis of the fatalities and serious injury crashes shows that more than three quarters of the crashes are as a result of the road engineering itself – something that hasn't changed since the road and bridges were built over 80 years ago when carts and horses were using it.

> "The carnage I have been able to confirm on these bridges amounts to a social cost of what would be more than \$70 million, let alone the devastating affects to the lives of those impacted.

> Mr Sabin explained that he had presented his findings and case for re-alignment to the Northland Road Transport Committee (RTC) who are responsible for determining priorities for roading projects of this nature and am also working closely with NZTA on the best way forward.

> "For this project to proceed the four councils on the RTC need to agree to make this a priority project and put it in the Northland Regional Transport Plan for the 2015 – 18 period, which is being finalised later this year," says Mr Sabin.

> "It is quite simple; if the RTC don't put this project in the Transport Plan it wont happen, and given 10 people have already lost their lives as a result of this piece of road I sincerely hope that it is included in the plan.

> "Once it is submitted to the NZTA as part of Northland's Regional Transport Plan I believe a new funding category introduced in the new Government Policy Statement, called the Regional Improvements Activity Class could well provide the solution to getting this project signed off," says Mr Sabin.

> Ernst Zollner, NZTA Auckland, Northland Rooding Manager and Jacqui Hori-Hoult, Northland Regional State Highway Manager for NZTA also attended the meeting an explained the process through which capital projects such as this are evaluated, approved and funded.

> Mr Zollner reiterated the requirement for projects to be assed under the national NZTA criteria for approval they first have to be prioritised and included in the Regional Transport Plan. He also concurred with Mr Sabin that the new Regional Improvements Activity Class created funding opportunities for rural projects which have "high personal risk" factors and therefore warrant doing.

> "I am really pleased that the RTC are now looking at this project and considering it for the 2015 – 18 plan and I am keen to keep working with them and NZTA to ensure the Matakoho realignment gets sign-off.

> "The recent storms which have seen major closures and detours around our Northland roads has essentially seen SH12 become SH1, which is something I am sure wont be lost on the Far North and Whangarei District Councils with heavy vehicles from these districts having to use SH12 as the main thoroughfare through to Auckland.

> Ironically, the Matakoho bridges reminded all at the meeting of their dangers when on the very day of the meeting there was a head-on between a truck and motor vehicle requiring closure of the road while a person was cut from the car and airlifted to hospital.

> "No-one else should die or be seriously injured awaiting the realignment of these bridges. The information is all there now and the case for this project is overwhelming and compelling in my view and I sincerely hope the people of Matakoho and the wider Kaipara are supported by the RTC to put this job forward on the next Regional Transport Plan," says Mr Sabin.

> ENDS

> Caption: From left - Advocate for the Matakoho Bridge realignment Suzy Klement , Ernst Zollner and Jacqui Hori-Hoult (Right) with Mike Sabin, MP for Northland at the meeting with locals at the Matakoho War Memorial Hall.

> MEDIA CONTACT: Mike Sabin 0277052707

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> [Nat_hor_CMYK.jpg]

> Authorised by Mike Sabin 116A Kerikeri Road, Kerikeri

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