

12 May 2015

Liz Banas
Senior Producer
Radio New Zealand
liz.banas@radionz.co.nz

Dear Liz

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 13 April 2015 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982:

'This is a request for information on what the plan is for roads that are currently State Highways - once bypass routes (such as Transmission Gully, McKays Crossing to Peka Peka etc) become the State Highways - in terms of funding maintenance costs.'

When sections of state highway become local roads, we undertake a process called revocation. This process is guided by the Transport Agency working together with the affected local authority. The final decision on revoking a state highway rests with the Ministry of Transport.

Our policy guiding revocation states that the sections of highway should be fit for purpose in relation to their transport function. This means that the asset will be handed back in good condition, with no obvious road, structural or safety defects. After revocation the highway becomes part of the local authority asset, and it would qualify for funding assistance from the NZ Transport Agency for its upkeep. The value of the funding is calculated against the costs of maintaining other comparable sections of road within the local authority area.

In the case of the Wellington Northern Corridor Road of National Significance projects, Wellington City Council, Porirua City Council and Kapiti Coast District Council are affected. We are working closely with Kapiti Coast District Council on the revocation of the MacKays to Peka Peka section, and arrangements are well advanced. We are also in discussions with Kapiti Coast District Council about the Peka Peka to Otaki section, and with both Kapiti Coast District Council and Porirua City Council about revocation associated with the Transmission Gully.

We expect that the revocation process will be completed within two years of each new state highway route being opened.

Together with the councils, we anticipate many benefits to arise from the revocation of the highway at these locations. Thousands of vehicles – including large numbers of trucks - will no longer be routed through local communities. These areas can then be designed to become more safe, convenient and accessible for users such as cyclists, shoppers, school children and elderly. We will support this

process and we will be working closely under current and subsequent agreements with councils to ensure positive outcomes for these local communities.

If you would like to discuss this reply with the NZ Transport Agency, please contact Anthony Frith, Media Manager Central, on 04 894 5251 or anthony.frith@nzta.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Raewyn Bleakley', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Raewyn Bleakley
Regional Director Central
For Chief Executive