

MINISTERIAL BRIEFING NOTE

Subject	Update on re-evaluation projects – Tranche 2
Date	2 November 2018
Briefing number	BRI-1502

Contact(s) for telephone discussion (if required)				
Name	Position	Direct line	Cell phone	1st contact
Brett Gliddon	General Manager, System Design and Delivery	s 9(2)(a)		✓
Raewyn Bleakley	General Manager Governance, Stakeholders and Communications			

Action taken by Office of the Minister

- Noted
- Seen by Minister
- Agreed
- Feedback provided
- Forwarded to
- Needs change [please specify]
- Withdrawn
- Overtaken by events

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2 November 2018

Minister of Transport

UPDATE ON RE-EVALUATION PROJECTS – TRANCHE 2

Purpose

1. This briefing is to update you on the proposed revised approaches for four corridors that were subject to a re-evaluation process. The NZ Transport Agency (Transport Agency) has now completed re-evaluations for 10 of the 12 projects. The four corridors that form the subject of this briefing are:

Out of Scope



- SH2 Melling
2. Revised programme summary reports for each of the corridors are attached to this briefing as **Appendix A**.
 3. The proposed approaches for the corridors are scheduled to be considered by the Transport Agency Board on 9 November 2018.

Background to re-evaluation

4. To ensure alignment with the 2018 Government Policy Statement on Land Transport (GPS), the Transport Agency is reviewing 12 state highway projects (10 corridors), including the Four Corridors, across New Zealand to ensure they:
 - align to government direction;
 - achieve the outcomes of improving safety, better access to social and economic opportunities, and to protect the environment; and
 - ensure value for money.
5. On 9 November 2018, the Board will consider the proposed approach and package of interventions for the Four Corridors. Decisions on investment and phasing will be taken by the Board in December 2018.
6. The methodology used for re-evaluation examined the business cases and reviewed problems, benefits, investment objectives, and options against the strategic priorities of the GPS.
7. Where required, a revised direction prioritising safety, access to social and economic opportunities, transport choice and resilience was developed. The direction was tested against the intervention hierarchy, the GPS themes (mode neutrality, land use integration and technology), the Investment Assessment Framework, and the Transport Outcomes Framework developed by the Ministry of Transport.
8. Within the revised direction, additional capacity or offline alignments are considered where:

- additional capacity is necessary to support transport choice and liveability outcomes, particularly where there are significant community impacts in reallocating existing road space.
- there is improved value for money by managing corridors constraints via an offline alignment.

Re-evaluation findings

9. The findings of the re-evaluation process undertaken for the Four Corridors are set out below:

Corridor	Previous direction	Revised direction
<p>Out of Scope</p>		
SH2 Melling interchange	Improving travel time reliability and safety through improving the interchange.	Supporting enhanced flood mitigation and enabling land use development by designating the longer term replacement of the Melling Bridge and improvement of the interchange to enable safe multi-modal access.

Informing local government partners about re-evaluation

10. The Transport Agency is briefing local government elected officials before the Board meets on the high-level direction of the re-evaluation projects that fall within their regions. These briefings will be given in confidence, noting that the Board's decisions are yet to be taken.
11. More detailed briefings after the Board meeting will continue over the coming weeks. The following table outlines the current timeframes for engagement:

Date	Briefing
Out of Scope	
5-7 November 2018	Update to Hutt City Council and Greater Wellington Regional Council officials on SH2 Melling
9 November 2018	NZ Transport Agency Board meeting
12 November 2018	Brief Minister of Board decisions
Week commencing 26 November 2018	Update Mayors /RTCs /Council officers on Board decisions
Out of Scope	

12. Your office has been provided with copies of the letters that have been sent to communities to keep them updated on the process and the likely timeframes for decisions. A similar framework and approach is being planned for these corridors. This includes letters or updates to communities and stakeholders, media releases and possible media briefings. The timings for these are still being finalised.

Proposed next steps

13. The table below outlines the next steps for each of the Four Corridors.

Corridor	Proposed next steps
Out of Scope	

Corridor	Proposed next steps
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Out of Scope

SH2 Melling interchange	<p>Completing the business case and investigations with partners will enable a co-ordinated approach to land protection to be taken for the future flood protection, city centre revitalisation, and the Melling Bridge and Interchange work.</p> <p>The transport components (bridge replacement and interchange) will be undertaken in the longer-term to support the ongoing enhanced flood protection and city centre revitalisation.</p>
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Risks and mitigations

14. Risks, and the mitigations proposed by the Transport Agency, are set out below.

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Reduced levels of service

16. For some corridors the revised direction is pared back to focus on safety rather than travel time improvements. This could mean that travel times increase, particularly in seasonal and holiday peaks. The Transport Agency will explore and develop travel demand management and operational tools (such as customer information, managing merges and access, and using technology etc.) to help manage peak demand.

Resource Management Act provisions

17. The relevant provisions of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) will need to be considered in light of the revised direction for each corridor/project. As business cases are completed, project objectives may need to be revised, consistent with the RMA.

It is recommended that you:

1. **Note** the contents of this briefing

Noted

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Brett Gliddon
Group Manager Service Design and Delivery

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Hon Phil Twyford, Minister of Transport
Date: 2018

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APPENDIX A: PROJECT SUMMARY REPORTS

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Out of Scope

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