

25 August 2023

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

TVNZ

[REDACTED]

REF: OIA-13177

Dear [REDACTED]

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 25 July 2023 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

Under the Official Information Act I would like to request all correspondence Waka Kotahi holds regarding congestion in Nelson and Richmond over the last year starting in August 2022.

I am after official updates, memos, reports or advice. I do not require general email correspondence.

On 28 July 2023 you refined your request to:

- 1) *It can be narrowed to sections of road between Nelson and Richmond, particularly but not limited to SH6. Essentially the roads which carry commuters.*
- 2) *There's been various issues regarding congestion so I don't want to limit it to one particular subject*
- 3) *No need for anything on the Nelson Future Access Project*

On 1 August 2023 you further clarified your request to information about the Hope Bypass and Tahunanui Drive. The following documents fall within the scope of your request and are enclosed:

- Attachment 1 – Letter Tahunanui Drive Concept Layout Final 20230222
- Attachment 2 – NFAP Southern Link proposal (*media response that mentions Hope Bypass*).

Certain information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act. This section allows for the withholding of information to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.

With respect to the information that has been withheld, I do not consider there are any other factors which would render it desirable, in the public interest, to make the information available.

Investigation, design and implementation of possible improvements to the Tahunanui Drive/Bisley Avenue intersection was identified in the 2021 Nelson Future Access Detailed Business Case. The timing of when this work may start is subject to future National Land Transport Plan processes for 2024-2027.

With regard to the Hope Bypass, on 24 May 2022 Tasman District Council's Richmond Programme Business Case was approved and endorsed by the Waka Kotahi Board and can be accessed at <https://www.tasman.govt.nz/my-council/key-documents/more/transport/richmond-future-transport-needs/>.

A recent media release on the Government Policy Statement (GPS) on land transport for consultation can also be accessed at <https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/5-billion-boost-transport-funding-2024-27-208-billion>. This is a significant update to our previous position as outlined in Attachment 2.

Under section 28 of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision to withhold part of this information. The contact details for the Ombudsman can be located at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

In line with Waka Kotahi policy, this response will soon be published on our website, with personal information removed.

If you would like to discuss this reply with Waka Kotahi, please contact Felix Marwick, Lower North Island Media Manager, by email to felix.marwick@nzta.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely



Emma Speight

Director Regional Relationships, Greater Wellington and Top of the South