

25 August 2022

[REDACTED]

REF: OIA-10720

Dear [REDACTED]

**Request made under the Official Information Act 1982**

Thank you for your email of 8 August 2022 requesting information regarding the tender of ART21/22 Māori experiences and expectations of the transport system in Aotearoa New Zealand under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*[...] I would (accordingly) appreciate your frank and open responses to my following questions:*

- 1. Who is the lead agency for this research?*
- 2. Which other government agencies are involved?*
- 3. What was the specific catalyst for and is the specific driving force behind this research?*
- 4. Who will be involved in the decision making as to whom the research contract is awarded?*
- 5. What is the \$ budget for this specific research contract.*
- 6. How will the research findings – and the planned application of these findings be publicly notified?*

I will address each part of your request in turn.

**1. Who is the lead agency for this research?**

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency is the lead agency.

**2. Which other government agencies are involved?**

Te Manatū Waka | Ministry of Transport.

**2. What was the specific catalyst for and is the specific driving force behind this research?**

In the Transport Evidence Base Strategy (published by Te Manatū Waka Ministry of Transport in December 2019, linked below), which guides the Sector Research Programme, there is the following “enduring question”:

*“What is the relationship between Māori and transport, what impact does transport have on Māori traditions, aspirations and well-being, and how are these things changing over time?”*

This was identified within the strategy as a research priority. This question was also listed in the proceeding document (the Domain Plan, published in July 2016).

- Transport Evidence Base Strategy: [www.transport.govt.nz/area-of-interest/strategy-and-direction/transport-evidence-base-strategy/](http://www.transport.govt.nz/area-of-interest/strategy-and-direction/transport-evidence-base-strategy/)
- A transport system for Aotearoa: [www.transport.govt.nz/area-of-interest/strategy-and-direction/a-transport-system-for-aotearoa/](http://www.transport.govt.nz/area-of-interest/strategy-and-direction/a-transport-system-for-aotearoa/)

***4. Who will be involved in the decision making as to whom the research contract is awarded?***

A panel consisting of three staff from both Waka Kotahi and the Ministry of Transport will evaluate the proposals to decide who is awarded the research contract.

***5. What is the \$ budget for this specific research contract.***

\$200,000.

***6. How will the research findings – and the planned application of these findings be publicly notified?***

This research report will be published on our website alongside our other completed pieces of research. It will then be used to inform decision-making that supports the improvement of agencies' responses to Māori aspirations and priorities for the transport system. Our research programme landing page can be found at: [www.nzta.govt.nz/planning-and-investment/research-programme/](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/planning-and-investment/research-programme/).

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 Jonathan Boow, Manager, Research and Evaluation Programme, by email at [jonathan.boow@nzta.govt.nz](mailto:jonathan.boow@nzta.govt.nz).

Yours sincerely



**Galina Mitchelhill**

Senior Manager, Research and Analytics