

30 September 2022

[REDACTED]

REF: OIA-10752

Dear [REDACTED]

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 11 August 2022 requesting the following information regarding the North Auckland Rapid Transit Corridor under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

The information I specifically would like to see is :

An environmental impact conducted by an entity who are qualified to do so .

An economic study on this and how much it will cost us the tax and rate payers with an audit process to check these numbers .

A carbon impact study factoring in the increased footprint this will produce .

I am refusing your request under section 18(e) of the Act because the documents alleged to contain the information requested do not exist. This is because the reports and studies you have requested do not yet exist.

The assessment process to determine the routing of the corridor is still underway through Te Tupu Ngātahi Supporting Growth Alliance (the Alliance). No decision has been made on the position of the corridor. All documents pertaining to the assessment process are currently in active preparation, and therefore there are neither draft nor final documents to release to you.

We understand the concern this process has caused you and other affected parties, and the Alliance is currently reviewing the information that landowners have provided in response to the consultation. The Alliance will ensure that all supporting information is made available to affected parties on completion of this stage of the assessment.

The Alliance decided to engage with the affected parties because of the potential impact a change in route would have. Providing information as early as possible to landowners and other parties in good faith was considered a priority, even though a final decision has yet to be made.

The Alliance is now progressing the Detailed Business Case (DBC) phase of the North Auckland Rapid Transit Corridor investigation.

During this ongoing DBC process, supporting assessments that inform its conclusions will be completed. The Alliance is looking at a range of route options through the Dairy Flat, Silverdale West and Wainui East growth areas.

Waka Kotahi intends to publish the final DBC on its website and information of the kind you have requested will be contained in its appendices. We expect the DBC to be signed off by the Waka Kotahi Board and Auckland Transport in mid-2023 and the information will subsequently be made publicly available.

Under section 28 of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision to refuse this request. 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 the Ministerial Services team by email to official.correspondence@nzta.govt.nz

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in grey ink, appearing to read 'Robyn Elston', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Robyn Elston

National Manager, System Design