

20 October 2022

[REDACTED]

REF: OIA-11070

Dear [REDACTED]

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

Thank you for your email of 23 September 2022 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*I request a copy of any research and statistics you have on the impact of Covid 19 related changes in transport behaviours for road and rail in Auckland. I'm interested in changes in patronage of road and rail since 2010 to post Covid.*

The rail and bus patronage data as well as the Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT) data for Auckland from 2010 to 2022 are released to you in full and are enclosed in the two attached spreadsheets listed below. The data in the spreadsheets should be read in conjunction with the caveats on the first page:

- Attachment 1 - Auckland - annual average daily traffic (AADT) 2010-2021
- Attachment 2 - Auckland Rail and Bus patronage 2010-2022

I am refusing your request for copies of any research on the impacts of COVID-19 pandemic on transport behaviours in Auckland under section 18(d) of the Act as the information requested is publicly available. This research is available here: [www.nzta.govt.nz/resources/covid-19-impacts-on-transport/](https://www.nzta.govt.nz/resources/covid-19-impacts-on-transport/).

The research papers that are most relevant to your request are the *Core report wave 24 (March 2021)*, the *Core report wave 23 (November 2020)* and the *Australian Transport Data Action Network Report (March 2022)*. Of particular relevance to your request is slide 41 of the *Core report wave 24* report.

Factors other than the COVID-19 pandemic also impacted transport behaviours in during this time. For example, the Harbour Bridge closures caused congestion on the wider roading network in Auckland. In addition, the limited rail network service at the time lead to a reduction in the number of people using the rail network which may have also impacted the transport behaviours in Auckland.

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

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Galina Mitchelhill', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Galina Mitchelhill**

Senior Manager, Research and Analytics