



Transport Services Report

December 2020

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Legal Review **Lucy Riddiford**

IN CONFIDENCE / Legally Privileged (as marked)

Executive Summary

Mount Messenger Bypass

- The High Court has dismissed the Poutama and Pascoe (affected landowner) appeal against the Environment Court's interim decision on the Mt Messenger Bypass resource consents and designation. The High Court found that the Environment Court made no errors of law on any of the four grounds of appeal. The interim decision in December last year, about cultural and related ecology matters, was generally favourable for the project.
- We have received this news ahead of the Environment Court's final decision, which we hope will also be positive and should arrive before the end of the year.
- The project has been through a rigorous three-year consenting process involving hearings at Taranaki Regional Council/New Plymouth District Council, the Environment Court and High Court.