

# Nelson Future Access Project



## Background

The concept of improving access through Nelson has a long history. An efficient and reliable transport network is vital to Nelson's export-led economy and improving community access to Nelson's environment and amenities.

We know this subject has been well-covered over the last 30 years, which is why the Nelson Future Access Project will build on previous investigation work. It will investigate a future-proofed transport system that considers the needs of all users - whether they are behind the wheel of a car or truck, on foot, going by bike, or using public transport.

The 2018 Government Policy Statement (GPS) on land transport places greater focus on safety, accessibility, resilient and liveable cities, the environment, mode neutrality, reducing dependency on non-commercial private vehicles, and recognising how the transport system can improve access to economic and social opportunities.

The 2018 GPS provides an opportunity for the Transport Agency and Nelson City Council to take a broader perspective of Nelson's transport system.

It will look at how we use our state highway, which is crucial for primary industry and export trade growth in the region, as well as the Waimea Road corridor and all the roads and linkages in between. It will recognise community aspirations for the transport system to enable a thriving CBD, a people

focused waterfront, a healthy environment (including reducing greenhouse gas emissions), and consider how to best create a safe, accessible and resilient transport system.

The specific project area, shown below, extends to SH6 at the north and west, Rutherford Road/Waimea Road to the east and south to the Annesbrook Drive roundabout. However, there is a far bigger area of influence, extending beyond Richmond to the south and west, and Atawhai to the north.

This project will see the NZ Transport Agency, in conjunction with Nelson City Council, prepare a Detailed Business Case that investigates an investment programme for a multi-modal transport system.

It will take everything we have learned from the past, add context from today, and identify how to prepare Nelson for the future.

The Detailed Business Case will be completed by September 2020, in time for consideration in the development of Nelson's 2021-24 Regional Land Transport Plan and the 2021-24 National Land Transport Programme.

# Project Reference Group

On Wednesday 14 August, we will hold our first Project Reference Group (PRG) workshop.

The PRG is made up of the project team and representatives from a wide range of organisations and groups. They include, our partner organisation Nelson City Council, business groups, statutory organisations, community groups, primary industry, road and transport providers, emergency services, active and public transport interest groups.

This group will provide input into the decision-making process for the investigation phase of the Nelson Future Access Project.

At the first workshop, the group will set out how they are going to work together; discuss what we know from the previous projects and what the current problems are; and think about possible solutions.

We'll report back on how the first workshop goes and make sure we keep you updated about how the group is working together, the korero they are having and what decisions they are making.

We will also be working closely with local iwi to make sure their input is at the forefront of our thinking.

The diagram below shows the problems we're trying to solve and the benefits we hope to see for this project.

# Keeping in touch

There will be opportunities for the public to have a say throughout the process, and we will keep our website up-to-date as the project progresses:

[nzta.govt.nz/projects/nelson-future-access-project](http://nzta.govt.nz/projects/nelson-future-access-project)

If you want to learn more about this work, Project Manager Rhys Palmer will be available, via appointment, every second Monday at the Elma Turner Library from 3pm to 5pm. Please email [nelsonfutureaccess@nzta.govt.nz](mailto:nelsonfutureaccess@nzta.govt.nz) if you'd like to set up a time to talk with Rhys.

