



## Have your say

# Toll proposal for Ōtaki to north of Levin new highway

Consultation closes 5pm, Monday 7 October 2024

NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) is seeking feedback on a proposal to toll the new Ōtaki to north of Levin highway to support activities associated with the planning, design, supervision, construction, maintenance and operation of the new highway.

## Supporting growth and efficiency in the region

The 24km new Ōtaki to north of Levin (Ō2NL) highway will improve reliability, safety and efficiency for those moving around or through the Horowhenua District and lower North Island and will increase transport choices for the area's growing population.

The new highway is expected to reduce travel times. Without the new highway, evening peak trips in 2039 on the current highway from Ōtaki to north of Levin are expected to take 32-33 minutes, compared to 17-21 minutes for trips on the new highway. In 2039, trips from Ōtaki to Levin town on the current highway are expected to take 23 minutes if Ō2NL isn't built, compared to 17 minutes on the new highway.

The more reliable and resilient new highway will enable travellers to better plan their travel and become more efficient. This is particularly important for freight and logistics companies on the critical Wellington to Palmerston North link.

The new high quality Ō2NL highway is being designed to modern safety standards and will have a KiwiRAP (Road Assessment Programme) rating of 4 or more on the 5-star safety rating. The Crown-funded highway project is one of the original Roads of National Significance.

## Assessing Ō2NL as a tolled road

Every time a new state highway is built in New Zealand, NZTA carries out an assessment to see if it meets the criteria to be tolled.

Tolling provides an opportunity for an additional source of revenue, supporting faster delivery of infrastructure, providing safer and more efficient routes, and protecting the existing funding in the National Land Transport Fund (NLTF). NZTA will consider tolling of all new roads as outlined in the Government Policy Statement for land transport 2024 (GPS 2024).

The Land Transport Management Act 2003 allows a toll to be established, as a mechanism for funding road infrastructure projects and sets out the process required.

Tolling assessments are designed to analyse tolling feasibility, including how a potential toll road might interact with the wider transport network.

NZTA has assessed Ō2NL's suitability as a tolled road and is now seeking public feedback on a tolling scheme.

## Tolling to support the new highway

Tolling revenue could fund maintenance and operations of the new Ō2NL highway, which will be a significant cost over the life of the road. This would ensure the road continues to be safe and resilient without additional pressure on the NLTF.

While construction of the new Ō2NL highway is Crown funded, tolling revenue could also provide the ability to top up funding if costs were to change.

## Availability of alternative routes

All toll roads in New Zealand are required to have a feasible, untolled, alternative route available to road users. In the case of Ō2NL, the current SH1/SH57 would provide an untolled alternative.

Implementing a toll on the new highway could result in some drivers who may have travelled on Ō2NL choosing instead to stay on existing roads. Modelling shows when the road opens a tolled Ō2NL could result in approximately half of the traffic expected on the southern section of the new highway instead continuing to use the existing roads or choosing other options. The existing SH1 would still see a considerable drop in vehicle numbers once the new highway opens. South of Ohau in 2029, traffic would reduce by 38% compared to if Ō2NL was not built.

Long term, other tolling sites around the country have seen more traffic move from local routes to the tolled routes over time as the benefits of the new road become clear.

## Get involved in our consultation

Let us know what you think of the tolling proposal. You can provide feedback between 9 September and 7 October 2024 by visiting [www.nzta.govt.nz/O2NL-tolling](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/O2NL-tolling) and completing the online consultation form, or returning this consultation form.

## Tolling for Ō2NL

NZTA is seeking feedback on tolling the southern 15km of Ō2NL, from the on/off ramps at Taylors Road (southern half interchange) to the Tararua Road interchange. The northern 9km of the new highway would not be tolled.

For the tolled section of the new highway the prices being consulted on are \$2.70 for light vehicles and \$5.40 for heavy vehicles and would be the same rate 24-hours a day.

The tolling prices were identified by comparing a range of options to find the tolling scheme that balances revenue with the level of diversion back to the old state highway.

We are consulting on the following toll prices.

Section	Light vehicles	Heavy vehicles (Over 3500kg gross vehicle mass)
Southern half interchange to Tararua Road interchange	\$2.70	\$5.40
Tararua Road interchange to northern end of Ō2NL	No toll	No toll

The toll prices being consulted on are in 2024 dollars. The opening of the new Ō2NL highway is more than 5 years away, and factors including Consumer Price Index increases between now and road opening could affect the actual price at the time of the road opening.

## Next steps

Following the consultation period, we will provide an engagement report on our webpage so you can see public feedback.

All submissions and feedback collected via the public consultation will be summarised to the Minister of Transport. This will provide insights into the level of community support for the tolling scheme in the region.

The NZTA Board will consider the results of the consultation, and the Board may then recommend tolling to the Minister of Transport. The final decision on whether or not to toll each road rests with Cabinet on the recommendation of the Minister of Transport.



# Benefits of a tolled Ō2NL

- Provides maintenance and operations funding, easing pressure on the National Land Transport Fund.
- Top-up financing if highway construction costs change.



Roundabout at north end of new highway

Levin

Roundabout at SH57

Tararua Road interchange

Ohau

Tolling proposed between southern on/off ramps and Tararua Road interchange

Manakau

Ōtaki

Half interchange



## Find out more



You can find out more at [www.nzta.govt.nz/O2NL-tolling](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/O2NL-tolling)



Or scan the QR code above, open the camera on your mobile device and hover over the QR code to be directed to the website.

# Submission form

## Ō2NL tolling consultation

### Your details

Name:

Email:

Address:

Are you submitting as an authorised representative on behalf of an organisation or group?  Yes  No

Organisation (if applicable):

### Which area do you live in?

Greater Wellington region

Ōtaki

Manakau

Ohau

Levin

Elsewhere in Manawatū-Whanganui region

Other

### What is your interest in the Ō2NL project?

I live along/near the new Ō2NL highway

I own property or a business along/  
near the new Ō2NL highway

I work in the area

I commute/travel through the area regularly

I visit friends in the area

I visit the area for recreation

I study in the area

I have no link to the area

### How will you use the new Ō2NL highway?

To get to and from work

To take children to school/after school activities

For recreation or to visit whānau

Walking or cycling along this route

Public transport along this route

I will not use if it is tolled

I will not use this road at all

Other

### Your response and privacy

The information you send to us in a written submission or on an online form will be used by NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) to help inform our consultation for this tolling proposal. NZTA may publish in part or in full the information you submit, for example in a consultation report, but we will not include any information that could be used to identify an individual person. If you have indicated you are an authorised representative of an organisation, we may publish your organisation's name. Please clearly indicate if your comments contain commercially sensitive information or, if for some other reason, they should not be disclosed.

If you would like to request official information from us please don't include that in your submission. Instead, please direct it to the project team at [O2NL@nzta.govt.nz](mailto:O2NL@nzta.govt.nz) so we can respond to it in a timely manner.

You can find more about how we hold and protect your information, and our obligations under the Official Information Act on our website.

Please do not disclose details of my submission, for commercial or other reasons.

### How to submit your feedback:

- Use our online form at [www.nzta.govt.nz/O2NL-tolling](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/O2NL-tolling)
- Complete the hardcopy form on this infosheet and post it back to us for free



**Consultation closes**  
Monday 7 October 2024





**Consultation closes**  
5pm, Monday 7 October 2024

FOLD HERE

FreePost Authority 493



NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi  
Private Bag 6995  
Marion Square  
Wellington 6141

ATTENTION: Toll consultation for Ōtaki to north of Levin new highway