

# National Land Transport Programme 2009-12

## Northland



# What has been happening in Northland

The past 18 months have seen a significant investment in Northland.

The 2009-12 NLTP was born out of the 2009 GPS, and reflected as much alignment as possible with the Regional Land Transport Programme. Significant progress has been made on a number of state highway and Whangarei district projects during the period, with many of these tracking to budget while being delivered on time or ahead of programme. Northland has seen the Bulls Gorge and Kamo Bypass projects advance to construction, and funding for design and construction of Whangarei district's Lower Hatea River Bridge has been approved.

A review of the NZTA's investment strategy and a new streamlined approach to undertaking its business has also led to the NZTA announcing and promoting its approach to investing in outcomes rather than outputs.

NLTP cash is tight and this is resulting in state highway projects being deferred in the region, including Akerama Curves realignment and Tarewa intersection improvements.



### Achievements and highlights

- Sealing and widening of the final 19 kilometres of SH1 from Waitiki Landing to Cape Reinga has been completed.
- The Bulls Gorge project on SH10 has commenced construction.
- The Kamo Bypass and Spedding Road Link projects are under construction (the NZTA and Whangarei District Council).
- The Lower Hatea Bridge and Porowini Avenue extension projects have been approved for construction (Whangarei District Council).
- Consultation with the community is underway for a number of complementary projects that aim to smooth the flow of traffic through Whangarei on SH1.
- Northland is one of the few regions to have been allocated T (Community Transport) funds, which has enabled some seal extension works in areas of socio-economic deprivation.
- A funding arrangement for the Hokianga vehicular ferry service has been concluded with Far North District, giving greater certainty around NZTA funding.
- A total of \$12.8 million of Crown regional development funding has been invested in Northland to support forestry activities (outside of the NLTP but managed by the NZTA).
- Work is progressing on several HPMV (high productivity motor vehicle) routes to assist economic performance of transport operations in the region.

	\$ R
Total	\$75.0m
Spent/committed	\$75.0m
Planned	\$0.0m

Northland R funds have been spent or committed to projects in the region, including the Waitiki Landing to Cape Reinga sealing of SH1, Porowini Avenue extension and Kamo Bypass stage 2. The full utilisation of R funds with five years remaining of a 10-year allocation is quite an achievement for the region.

### Key messages

The pressure on funding for improvement projects in the NLTP remains intense, meaning that only high priority state highway and local road projects will be considered for investment. Pressure on funding in the next NLTP is likely to see closer scrutiny of proposed programmes to ensure outcomes will be delivered and best value for money achieved.

It is also critically important for the NZTA to be informed by approved organisations as early as possible about any funded project or group allocation not likely to proceed as planned, so the funds can be reallocated to high priority projects.