

National Land Transport Programme 2009-12

Otago



What has been happening in Otago

There has been significant activity in Otago in the first 18 months of the 2009-12 NLTP.

The overall spend on base programmes was higher than before but the amended GPS brought some tension in terms of the Capital Expenditure programmes. Otago has been in the fortunate position of having a good balance of regional funding available for projects. This fund has funded the bulk of the Otago improvement programme for the 2009-12 NLTP.

In particular, we have seen two high-profile projects come forward for funding consideration: Dunedin City Council's SH88 realignment project, which creates a new road around the Forsyth Barr Stadium and thus provides better definition of the university campus area; and the commencement of the Highways and Network Operations' SH1 Caversham Improvement project, with work starting on the four-laning section this month.

The challenge will be to commit the balance of the remaining R funds, having regard to the regional priorities and the NZTA Investment Revenue Strategy to get the best result possible as soon as possible. The NZTA will prepare a list of priorities to be discussed with the Otago Regional Transport Committee at its earliest convenience. Once the R funds are committed, other Otago projects will then be considered with other projects around the country for N funds.

Achievements and highlights

- All Otago approved organisations have supported procurement strategies in place.
- The Otago Regional Council-Queenstown passenger transport trial is underway.
- Construction has commenced on Dunedin City Council's SH88 realignment project.
- The NZTA's Caversham package has been endorsed, with stage 1 about to commence construction and R funds committed to both stages in the package.
- The High Productivity Motor Vehicle (HPMV) project is progressing, with investigation about to commence.

Key messages

Approved organisations should have the balance of the 2010/11 year now planned and the cash flow for the remainder of this year and into early 2011/12 prepared.

It is critical that approved organisations identify if their approved programmes and allocations are not going to be utilised fully in 2010/11 and 2011/12 and that the allocation is declared as surplus to provide us with sufficient time for the funds to be reallocated within this NLTP.

The NZTA will be in a position to provide early investment signals in the first half of 2011 and would like to commence preliminary discussions with local authorities looking forward to the 2012-15 NLTP. It should be noted that the availability of funding from the NLTP is tight and will remain so into the next NLTP.



	\$ R
Total	\$96.0m
Spent/committed	\$88.2m
Planned	\$8.0m

Of the \$96 million of regionally distributed funds available to Otago to 2015, approximately \$8 million remain. The NZTA is planning to allocate this to the next highest priority activities to utilise the remaining funds. This could be to either local road or state highway projects.

