

15 August 2024

██████████
Senior Research and Policy Adviser
Green Party of Aotearoa New Zealand
████████████████████

REF: OIA-15802

Dear ██████████

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 4 July 2024 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- *Coastal Shipping Activity Class Overview*
- *Briefing on the Roads of National Significance*
- *Transport portfolio investment in Auckland*
- *Joint GPS advice*
- *GPS advice updates*
- *NZTA position on Waitematā Harbour Connections project and next steps*
- *Capital Connection transitional funding options*
- *Mt Messenger Bypass: Environment Court Ruling 10 May 2024*
- *Review of the Public Works Act and potential amendments to the Fasttrack Approvals Bill*
- *GPS Updates*
- *Speed Limits Outside of Schools*
- *Additional GPS Advice Update*
- *Budget 2024 advice for local councils in Greater Wellington and Northland/Far North*

Can I also please request any advice prepared by Waka Kotahi to any Ministers on the impact the transport GPS, or roads of national significance, may have on housing growth and/or housing density.

I have enclosed the documents in scope of your request as outlined in the document schedule at the end of this letter.

Certain information has been withheld within the documents under the following sections of the Act:

- 9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons
- 9(2)(f)(iv) – to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials,
- 9(2)(g)(i) – to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to Ministers of the Crown or members of an organisation or officers and employees of any department or organisation in the course of their duty, and

- 9(2)(j) – to enable a Minister of the Crown or any department or organisation holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).

With respect to the information that has been withheld, I do not consider there are any other factors which would render it desirable, in the public interest, to make the information available.

I am refusing several documents under section 18(d) of the Act which provides for refusal when the information requested is or will soon be publicly available. NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) and the Ministry of Transport are working on proactively releasing all advice used in the development of the Government Policy Statement (GPS) on land transport. This advice is expected to be released on our respective websites within the next eight weeks. This will include the following documents you have requested:

- *Joint GPS advice* (our reference MIN-4473)
- *GPS advice updates* (our reference MIN-4482)
- *GPS Updates* (our reference MINO-1060)
- *Additional GPS Advice Update* (our reference MINO-1033).

I am withholding *NZTA position on Waitematā Harbour Connections project and next steps* (our reference MIN-4488) in full under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act. I am also withholding *Mt Messenger Bypass: Environment Court Ruling 10 May 2024* (our reference MIN-4494) in full under section 9(2)(h) of the Act which provides for the withholding of information to maintain legal professional privilege.

With respect to your final request for advice prepared for Ministers on the impact the transport GPS, or Roads of National Significance, may have on housing growth and/or housing density, a brief search for information in recent months was conducted and no information in scope was found. Before a more thorough search was conducted, we asked you to specify the timeframe for which you were seeking the information. As no response to this was received, I consider that this question does not constitute a question made under the Act which requires requests to be specified with due particularity (see section 12(2)). We will be happy to consider a new request from you which specifies the timeframe you are seeking this information from.

Under section 28 of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision to withhold and refuse some of the information you have requested. The contact details for the Ombudsman can be located at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

In line with NZTA policy, this response will soon be published on our website, with personal information removed.

If you would like to discuss this reply with NZTA, please contact us by email to official.correspondence@nzta.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely



Leisa Coley
National Manager Government Relations

OIA-15802 Document Schedule

Ref	Document	Date	Description
1.	BRI-3048 Coastal Shipping Activity Class	15 May 2024	Redactions under s9(2)(a) and s9(2)(j).
2.	BRI 3058 - Briefing on the Roads of National Significance	24 May 2024	Redactions under s9(2)(a), s9(2)(f)(iv) and 9(2)(g)(i).
3.	BRI-3056 - Transport portfolio investment in Auckland	31 May 2024	Redactions under s9(2)(a), s9(2)(g)(i) and s9(2)(j).
4.	MIN-4486 Capital Connection transitional funding options	9 May 2024	Redactions under s9(2)(f)(iv).
5.	MIN-4508 Review of PWA and potential amendments to FTA Bill	31 May 2024	Redactions under s9(2)(f)(iv).
6.	MINO-1069 Speed Limits Outside of Schools	21 May 2024	Released in full.
7.	MINO-1085 Budget 2024 advice for local councils in Greater Wellington and Northland and Far North	31 May 2024	Released in full.