

MIN-3839 UDA Ministers' Meeting – State Highway 29

19 August 2022

This note provides the Minister with information on State Highway 29 (SH29) to support his UDA Ministers' Meeting on 22 August 2022.

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency's response:

We anticipate the key matters to be raised with you by the Tauranga City Council (TCC) Commissioners will be:

- They feel the priority growth area for the western Bay of Plenty should be the western corridor extending along SH29, and that this should take priority over the Eastern Town.
- The Crown should urgently fund the full package of transport improvements through Tauriko along SH29 s 9(2)(f)(iv)
- They may seek Crown assistance in respect of the financial risk associated with TCC's share of the Tauriko West Enabling Works, given potential delays in confirming Infrastructure Funding & Financing Act and Infrastructure Acceleration Fund funding.

Western Corridor growth area

The western growth area in the western Bay of Plenty extends from Tauriko up through SH29 towards the Kaimais. TCC is advocating for the western corridor to be the western Bay of Plenty's top priority growth area going forward.

The Crown and TCC are currently committed to enabling 4,000 homes in Tauriko West, the first 2,000 of which will be enabled via the Tauriko West Enabling Works transport project.

s 9(2)(b)(ii)

With respect to the timing of Tauriko West, TCC has not yet commenced the process to rezone the Tauriko West land from rural to residential, because it needs changes to be made to the National Policy Statement (NPS) and National Environmental Standard (NES) for freshwater. The current provisions are too restrictive to allow sufficient yield to be achieved.

Specific changes to the NPS and NES to enable growth in Tauranga were included in the recent exposure draft, with an updated NPS and NES expected to be in place until late 2023. s 9(2)(f)(iv)

Even once the changes to the NPS and NES that enable urban development in this area are made, there will still be a significant process to put in place the zoning changes.

TCC is exploring with Kāinga Ora using a specified development project under the Urban Development Act 2020 to accelerate this process. They would like this SDP to include the future growth areas in the upper end of the western corridor, s 9(2)(g)(i)

Prioritisation of growth areas

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

Tauriko West Long-Term Improvements transport project update

The Tauriko West long-term transport project is close to completing the detailed business case (DBC), which will go to the Waka Kotahi Board at the very end of 2022 or early 2023. This proposes a new four lane offline state highway which will provide reliable connections for freight, create a high-quality public transport connections, and provide safe separated walking and cycling facilities.

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

The National Land Transport Fund (NLTF) will not be able to afford this project based on the current funding model.

Part of the DBC looks at the potential staging of the works in light of current funding pressures, with the public transport improvements likely to come first. However, the TCC Commissioners are strongly of the view that the whole project needs to be delivered immediately. This is primarily because:

- Significant congestion along SH29 into Tauranga is impacting access to the Port of Tauranga for freight.
- The further 2,000 houses in Tauriko West can only be delivered once the long-term improvements are constructed.

Tauriko West Enabling Works transport project update

The Tauriko West Enabling Works project works is progressing well at a project delivery level. The detailed design is underway and the intention is to lodge RMA approval applications in September 2022.

NLTF funding for the project is confirmed. However, s 9(2)(j)

s 9(2)(j)



s 9(2)(j)



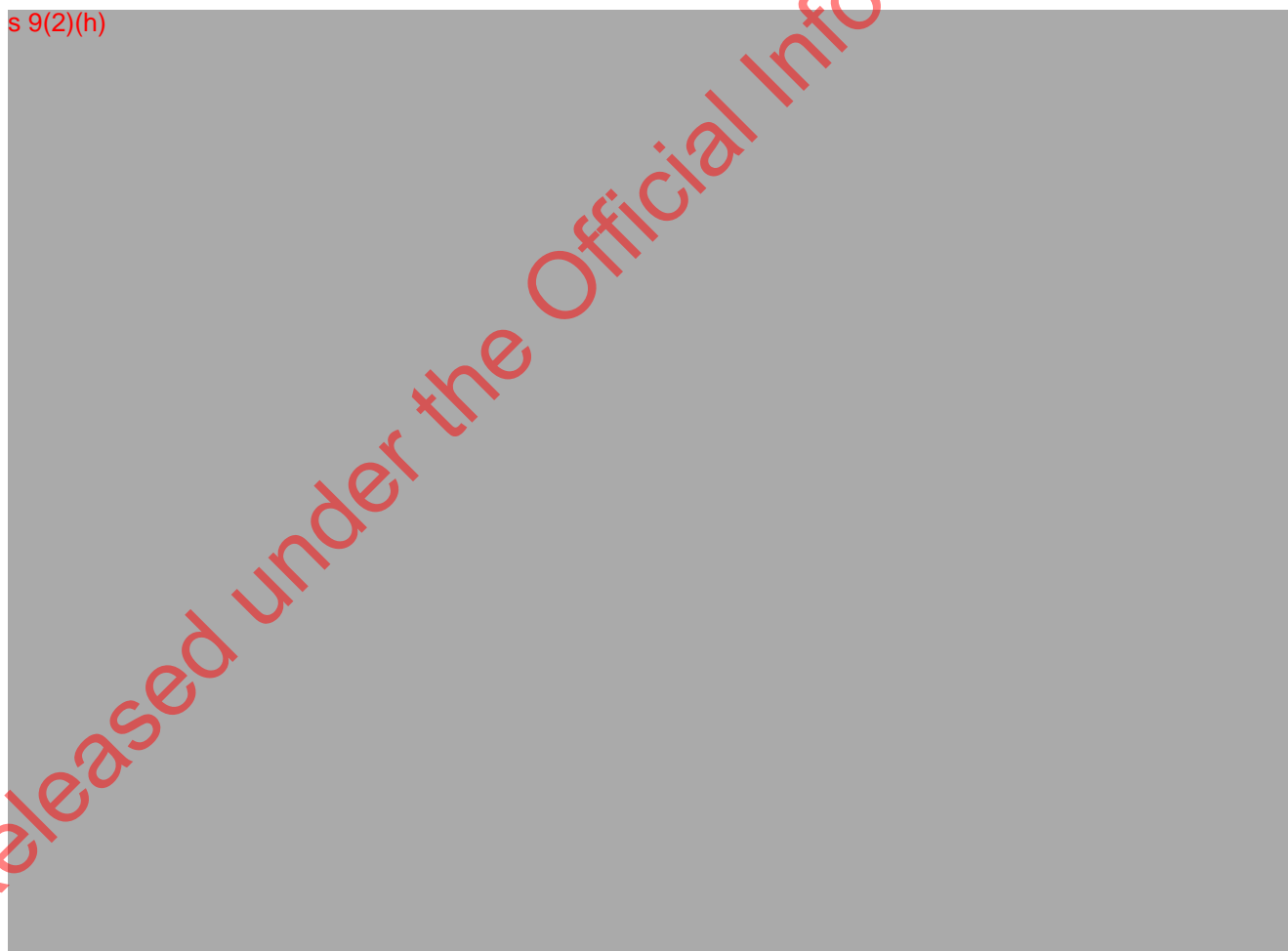
Tauranga Crossings Ltd – Judicial review

Note: this section is legally privileged

TCL has filed judicial review proceedings against Waka Kotahi and TCC, challenging the decisions around funding the Tauriko West Enabling Works. s 9(2)(h)



s 9(2)(h)



Appendix 1: UFTI growth map (2020)

