

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Transit's forecasts of expenditure in Gisborne for the next 10 years are set out in Table G1.

These forecasts of expenditure are based on a 10-year plan of maintenance and improvements, including commitments. The timeframe for the development and construction of the improvements proposed in the 10-year plan are indicative only, and might change, for example, as a result of changes in funding availability and delays in project development.

Major features of the Gisborne 10-year plan are:

- › improvements to the Custom House Street/Childers Road intersection on SH35, currently under construction
- › realignment of SH35, south of Ruatoria and north of Makarika Road, for construction in 2004/05
- › seal widening on SH35 between Gisborne and Tolaga Bay, and north of Tolaga Bay, and additional passing bays north of Gisborne, as regional development projects, subject to the current review of the Tairāwhiti Regional Transport Plan.

BACKGROUND

While the alignment of state highways in the Gisborne region is often winding and hilly, traffic volumes are quite low and major improvements to the alignment are generally not warranted in the next 10 years. There is, however, a need to maintain safety standards and levels of service. SH35 is a regionally important tourist route as well as forming part of the roading link to get products, particularly those relating to forestry, to the Port of Gisborne.

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

The locations of Gisborne projects in the 10-year plan are shown on Figure G and the expected cost and timeframe for the development and construction of these projects are indicated in Table G2.

Large improvement projects (with construction costs more than \$3M) have been planned for 10 years and small and medium-sized projects (with construction costs of less than \$3M) have been planned for 3 years.

Regional Development

The Ministry of Economic Development's Tairāwhiti Regional Transport Plan focuses on upgrading roads to provide all-weather access and reduce transport costs from forests to new and existing processing plants, and the Port of Gisborne. State highway projects in the plan include:

- › SH35: North Tolaga Seal Widening
- › SH35: Tolaga to Gisborne Seal Widening
- › SH35: North of Gisborne Passing Bays

The Tairāwhiti Plan also includes a number of rural realignment and bridge widening projects on state highways which are not currently prioritised in the plan for construction. Transit has completed substantial development work on a number of these projects and they are now ready to proceed to construction when funding becomes available.

The Tairāwhiti Regional Transport Plan is currently under review and this review may affect the priority of state highway projects in the plan.

MAINTENANCE and OPERATIONS

Low traffic volumes at present do not justify significant improvements to the state highways in the Gisborne region. Transit's focus instead, is on maintaining the existing network and undertaking minor safety improvements.

In undertaking this work to meet current and future levels of service and to preserve the asset, Transit proposes to:

- › carry out more road smoothing than in previous years
- › bring the network up to the target seal width as and when opportunities arise during maintenance activities
- › continue to work on a risk analysis of subsidence sites, particularly on SH35, to reduce these risks where appropriate.

Table G1**Forecasts of Expenditure on Maintenance and Improvements****Gisborne Region**

	03/04 (\$M)	04/05 (\$M)	05/06 (\$M)	06/07 (\$M)	07/08 (\$M)	08/09 (\$M)	09/10 (\$M)	10/11 (\$M)	11/12 (\$M)	12/13 (\$M)	Total (\$M)
Maintenance											
Structural	7.1	7.3	7.4	7.6	7.7	7.9	8.0	8.2	8.4	8.5	78.0
Corridor	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.8	15.0
Professional Services	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	9.9
Property Management	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Preventive Maintenance	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	2.1
Emergency Works	1.0	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	6.7
Sub-total	10.4	10.2	10.5	10.7	11.0	11.2	11.5	11.8	12.1	12.3	111.7
Improvements											
Minor Safety Projects	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	4.1
Committed Projects	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0
New Projects	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	4.2
Property Purchase	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Walking & Cycling	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Regional Development	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	1.3
Sub-total	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	9.7
Total	11.1	11.1	11.4	11.6	11.9	12.2	12.6	12.8	13.2	13.5	121.3