

Report to Regional Land Transport Committee

State Highway 1 Corridor Strategy: Tawa to MacKays Crossing

At its September 2002 meeting the Transit Authority resolved to “undertake further work on Transit’s State Highway 1 Corridor Strategy to determine whether or not the Pukerua Bay Bypass project should proceed in the short to medium term pending the construction of TGM.”

Transit New Zealand has now commissioned Montgomery Watson Harza to carry out a review of the strategy for State Highway 1 between Tawa and MacKays Crossing. This will be a low cost desktop review of existing corridor options in relation to possible timing of Transmission Gully Motorway (TGM).

In the first instance this work will involve:

- a) a review of traffic volume growth and capacity on the existing route; and
- b) a desktop review of the mid-1990s feasibility estimate for both TGM and existing corridor expressway options

Together with an update on social and environmental factors this work will support a report to the Transit Authority. It is expected to be completed by early 2003 after which Transit will consult with the RLTC, and other stakeholders before resolving a way forward in April 2003.

This work is consistent with decisions by the Transit Authority in 2000 to defer consideration of appropriate timing for the Pukerua Bay Bypass until mid-2002 to allow the Wellington Regional Council time to resolve whether TGM could be completed early through an alternative funding arrangement. Transit’s analysis at that time estimated that without TGM the Pukerua Bay Bypass would be needed by 2005 to avoid significant congestion and difficulties with local access, cyclists and pedestrians.

One of the expected outcomes from the study is consideration of whether or not to proceed with further development of plans for the Pukerua Bay Bypass. It will also assist in the consideration of regional priorities. Transit’s Draft State Highway Programme will be available for consultation in late December, with submissions due on 1 April 2003.

Brian Hasell
Wellington Regional Manager
Transit New Zealand
6 November 2002