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Joe Hewitt
Greater Wellington Regional Council
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Dear Joe

Briefing on key State Highway projects for RTC meeting of 08 April 2009

As requested, I have detailed below the current status of the various projects under development. As you are aware, the RLTP is currently out for consultation and there is potential that this could result in changes to priorities for some of these projects. Should this be the case, a further update will be provided for the RTC.

Kapiti SH Strategic Study

Modelling is currently being undertaken with the first results due for NZTA internal review shortly. Our consultant will then be assessing the likely packages of work required to implement this strategy. Following our internal review, we will submit the strategy to the NZTA Board such that public consultation can commence in September. On this basis we expect to have a final strategy by December 09.

The above programme is however subject to change as a result of the recent Ministerial announcement of the Airport to Levin "Road of National Significance". We are currently assessing what the impact of this will be both on the scope of work and the programme. Whilst we expect the above forecasts to change, we have not yet completed our impact assessment and will notify the RTC once this analysis is complete.

Ngauranga to Airport

Investigation funding for the Basin Reserve project was approved in December 2008 and our consultants are currently updating the Paramics model to allow further, more detailed testing to be conducted. This is expected to be complete by the end of May 2009. An Options Assessment report is expected to be available in July based on this analysis.

In parallel with the above, we will tender the Scheme Assessment Report(SAR) contract in April such that this work can commence once the options assessment is completed in July. We currently expect the Scheme Assessment to start in July 09 and for a draft SAR to be available for consultation to be available in March 10 with a final report being available in June 10.

Whilst this project forms part of the Road of National Significance, we are not currently expecting this to cause any delay to the above programme.

Melling/Kennedy Good

Investigation funding for this project was approved in Feb 09. In order to ensure that the consulting industry can respond appropriately, this work will be tendered once the tender of the Basin Reserve SAR is complete. We currently expect the draft Scheme assessment report to be available in Sep 10 with a final report available in Dec 10.

Waikanae Transport Interchange

We are currently undertaking the Scheme Assessment for this project with our options report expected in June 09. Thereafter, public consultation will take place with a draft SAR expected in August 09 and a final report expected in October 09.

SH2 Hutt Strategic Study and SH58 Study

The traffic assessments for these studies are now complete and we have appointed a consultant to complete the reports (this overcomes a resourcing issue on our part). We are expecting to be able to consult with HCC, UHCC, PCC and GWRC in June 09.

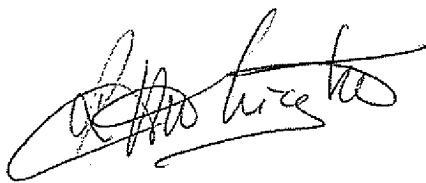
Ngauranga Triangle Study

Stage One consultation with key stakeholders was recently completed and the Options Assessment Workshop is scheduled to take place on 07 April. We are expecting to be able to release a draft report for public consultation in July 09.

In addition to the above, we are currently preparing a high-level programme that summarises the position of all work being undertaken in the Wellington Region. I have reviewed a first draft of this combined programme and, once a number of further amendments have been included, we will be able to circulate this to provide our stakeholders with increased visibility of our progress on all projects.

Should you require any further information on the above (or other) projects, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Rob Whight
Acting State Highway Manager (Wellington)