

1 April 2021



**Response - Official Information Request**

I refer to your request for information received on 5 March 2021. Your request has been considered under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA) and I provide the following information.

**1. What steps are being taken to meet Sec 14 (a) (ii) of the Land Transport Management Act 2003, which requires your RTC to be satisfied the RLTP is consistent with the GPS?**

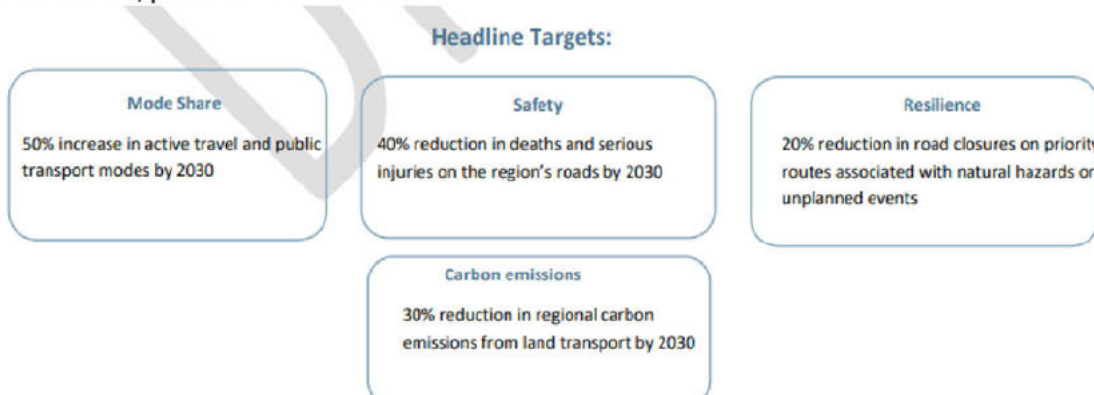
Horowhenua District Council is represented in the Horizons Regional Transport Committee by Mayor Bernie Wanden, and as such contributes to the RLTP, but is only partially responsible for the content of the RLTP. This question would be better answered by the Horizon’s Regional Council as they are the organisation responsible for the development of the RLTP.

The Regional Transport Committee has considered that the Draft RLTP available on Horizon’s website (Horizons Draft RLTP - <https://www.horizons.govt.nz/HRC/media/Media/Draft-Regional-Land-Transport-Plan.pdf?ext=.pdf> ), is consistent with the GPS, as well as regional land transport strategic directions. This consideration will continue once all public submissions have been received and submitters have had the opportunity to speak the hearings, which are due to be held on 8 and 9 April.

Although Horowhenua District Council cannot answer on behalf of the entire RTC, it is Council’s position that the Draft RLTP is consistent with the GPS, as the Draft RLTP’s Headline Targets of: Mode Share, Safety, Resilience and Carbon Emissions directly relate to the GPS Strategic Priorities of Improving Freight Connection, Climate Change, Safety and Better Travel Options.

**2. How will ensure your RLTP is consistent with all four of the Strategic Priorities and is on track to deliver the short to medium term results required by 2031 (per Section 2) of the GPS 2021?**

Horowhenua District Council support the Headline Targets in the Draft RLTP, shown below, for further information, please review the Draft RLTP.



3. How does your Council/RTC handle conflict in advice between that of GPS 2021 and from NZTA? Please comment on these specific examples:

a) NZTA has a low threshold for consistency with the GPS 2021 which allows rising emission to be ignored. However, given the Government's focus on emissions (per Clause 53) will your RLTP require transport projects to be consistent with the result of reduced greenhouse gas emission per Section 2.5 of GPS 2021?

The RTC will assess transport projects against the RLTP Objectives to determine inclusion and prioritization into the Regional Land Transport Programme. The Draft RLTP does include a Headline Target of a 30% reduction in regional carbon emissions from land transport by 2030.

b) NZTA advises that *"The project team should select the appropriate criteria for their activity on a case by case basis"* However, will your RLTP require transport projects to be assessed against the 31 progress indicators set out in Section 2.6 of GPS 2021 (as required by Clause 89 of the GPS)

The RTC will assess transport projects against the RLTP Objectives to determine inclusion and prioritization into the Regional Land Transport Programme. Although there is consistency with the GPS progress indicators, projects will not be directly assessed against the GPS progress indicators, as this is the responsibility of Waka Kotahi when projects are considered for inclusion and prioritization in the National Land Transport Programme (NLTP).

c) The GPS 2021 does not seek "travel time savings" for motorists (and NZTA has produced some excellent material to support this significant policy change). However NZTA's Cost-Benefit Appraisal of projects continues to use travel time savings for motorists. In considering projects for the RLTP, will your Council exclude changes in travel times for motorists from Cost-Benefit Appraisal in order to ensure consistency with GPS 2021 per Clauses 52, 53, 76 and 89?

The RTC does not consider Cost-Benefit appraisals in consideration of the Region Land Transport Programme, this is considered at the NLTP level.

When submitting projects for consideration to the NLTP, which require a Cost-Benefit Appraisal, Councils are required to follow the current Economic Evaluation Manual (EEM). Until the EEM is amended to be consistent with the GPS, travel time savings (and negative impacts of travel time costs) will continue to be included, at least initially, but potentially removed if Waka Kotahi believe it is justified on a case by case basis.

If you have any queries regarding this information, please contact the LGOIMA Officer on 06 366 099 or email - [LGOIMAOfficer@horowhenua.govt.nz](mailto:LGOIMAOfficer@horowhenua.govt.nz)

Horowhenua District Council publishes responses to Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA) requests that we consider to be of wider public interest, or which relate to a subject that has been widely requested. To protect your privacy, we will not generally publish personal information about you, or information that identifies you. We will publish the LGOIMA response along with a summary of the request on our website. Requests and responses may be paraphrased.

Yours sincerely,



Lisa Slade  
**Executive Sponsor - LGOIMA**