

Chairperson and Committee Members
OPERATIONS & FINANCE COMMITTEE

4 APRIL 2019

Meeting Status: **Public**

Purpose of Report: For Decision

**ACCELERATION OF RATANUI ROAD / MAZENGARB ROAD
INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS**

PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1 This report seeks approval to accelerate the Ratanui Road / Mazengarb Road intersection improvements earlier than programmed in the current 2018/38 Long Term Plan (LTP).

DELEGATION

- 2 *This Committee will deal with monitoring and decision-making on all broader financial management matters. Key responsibilities will include:*
 - *financial management, including risk mitigation.*

BACKGROUND

- 3 The LTP provides Council funding with no budgeted NZ Transport Agency (NZTA) subsidy for the construction of the Waikanae Emergency Access Rail Crossing in the 2018/19 year. This provides emergency vehicle access to East Waikanae in the event that the rail crossing point at Elizabeth Street is temporarily blocked. A contract has been awarded for this project, and it is on track for completion by the end of the 2018/19 financial year.
- 4 Since the formulation of the LTP Officers have secured additional NZTA subsidy towards safety and resilience projects including the Waikanae Emergency Access Rail Crossing. This additional, unbudgeted subsidy frees up funding which is proposed to be used to advance the Ratanui Road / Mazengarb Road intersection improvements.
- 5 The LTP provides funding for safety and travel time improvements to the intersection of Mazengarb Road and Ratanui Road (intersection improvements) in 2020/21. These improvements include the installation of a roundabout, along with footpath upgrades and improved pedestrian crossings points, estimated to be in the order of \$750,000.
- 6 The original timeframe for the proposed intersection improvement was the 2018/19 year but due to funding pressures it was deferred to the 2020/21 year as part of the LTP process.

ISSUES AND OPTIONS

Issues

- 7 Congestion around this intersection continues to increase, leading to longer travel times and delays, whilst increasing the safety issues, although there have

been no major accidents at the site in recent years. When exiting from Ratanui Road onto Mazengarb Road the traffic queues can be in excess of 200 metres, resulting in delays of up to 10-15 minutes.

- 8 This intersection is a major connection in our roading network, including access from Waikanae for the many vehicles travelling from Waikanae to the nearby Paraparaumu College. There are also very limited pedestrian crossing points and a lack of adequate footpath at the intersection currently.
- 9 Ease of movement around the district is one of the Access and Transport activity areas current key performance measures which has continued to be below target over the last 18 months with residents expressing concern over travel delays and congestion.
- 10 The proposed improvements at this intersection will have a significant benefit with regard to reduced travel time and congestion. The improved pedestrian crossing points and footpath upgrades will also provide for a safer environment for both pedestrians and motorists.

CONSIDERATIONS

Policy considerations

11 Relevant policy considerations include:

- The LTP sets out Councils objective to enhance community connectedness through the creation of a well-planned physical transport system that allows for the reliable, efficient and safe movement of people and goods.
- Council's Sustainable Transport Strategy that details community investment is needed to reduce constraints on travel access and mobility such as congestion.
- Policies contained within Councils Proposed District Plan that ensure the creation of an efficient and economic transport network that promotes reliable access and enhances the safety of all transport users in the operation, maintenance and upgrading of the transport network.
- Additionally, the Government Policy Statement on Land Transport (GPS) identifies strategic priorities including safety and access to ensure a safe transport system, which is free of death and injury and provides increased access to economic and social opportunities. This is also reflected in the Regional Land Transport Plans vision *"to deliver a safe, effective and efficient land transport network that supports the region's economic prosperity in a way that is environmentally and socially sustainable"*.

Legal considerations

12 There are no legal considerations arising from this report.

Financial considerations

13 The additional NZTA subsidy will help accelerate the proposed intersection improvement works earlier than planned. There still however remains a shortfall in overall funding which is proposed to be met from the current SH1 revocation budget.

- 14 Due to the delays in starting the revocation works some funding can be allocated to the intersection upgrade and paid back to the project in 2020/21 from the intersection upgrade budget with no impact on the overall programme.
- 15 The following table details the effect of accelerating the intersection improvements (the figures in brackets are income or a reduction in costs):

Projects	LTP Budget	LTP Subsidy	LTP Council base funding	Revised project costs	Revised subsidy	Revised Council base funding	Difference funded from Revocation
Waikanae Rail Access	354,715	-	354,715	420,000 ^A	(214,200)	205,800	(148,915)
Ratanui Road/ Mazengarb	- ^B	-	-	750,000	(382,500)	367,500	367,500
	354,715	-	354,715	1,170,000	(596,700)	573,300	218,585^C

- A The cost of the Waikanae Emergency Access Rail Crossing has increased from the LTP budget due to a change in location.
- B The LTP budget (\$750,000) for this work falls in 2020/21.
- C The shortfall of this funding will be offset from 2018/19 revocation funding until this funding is 'paid back' in 2020/21.

Tāngata whenua considerations

- 16 There are no issues for consideration relating to Iwi.

Strategic considerations

- 17 The following strategic considerations will be enhanced by early completion of these projects:
- infrastructure investment that supports resilience and agreed growth projections;
 - investing in the right things at the right time, and in the right place, to support the needs of our communities; and
 - improved accessibility of Council services.

SIGNIFICANCE AND ENGAGEMENT

Significance policy

- 18 This matter has a low level of significance under Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

Consultation already undertaken

- 19 This project was consulted on as part of the 2018/38 LTP. Adjacent residents at the intersection of Ratanui Road and Mazengarb Road have been consulted

with. Further wider engagement with residents will be undertaken as the works progress to the construction stage.

Engagement planning

20 An engagement plan is not needed to implement this decision.

Publicity

21 A detailed communications plan will be developed in advance of these works it is also planned to undertake further wider publicity if a decision is made to proceed with the advanced improvements.

RECOMMENDATIONS

22 That Council accelerates the Ratanui Road and Mazengarb Road intersection improvements and commences this project in the 2018/19 financial year.

Report prepared by

**Approved for
submission**

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