

Mayor and Councillors
COUNCIL

27 JANUARY 2011

Meeting Status : Public

Purpose of Report: For Decision

**NZTA EXPRESSWAY MACKAY'S CROSSING TO PEKA PEKA:
COUNCIL SUBMISSION**

PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1 This report recommends the Council's adoption of a submission on the proposals for the Mackay's Crossing to Peka Peka Expressway presented for consultation between November 2010 and February 2011.

SIGNIFICANCE OF DECISION

- 2 This report does not trigger the Council's Significance Policy.

BACKGROUND

- 3 The New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) is seeking feedback on proposals for alignment and access options for the Expressway from Mackay's Crossing to Peka Peka.
- 4 The proposals are described in a brochure which was delivered to all households in the District and also available on the NZTA website. Project Expos were held at four locations in late November/early December where information was presented on display boards and the alignment was marked on aerial photographs. Display material has also been available at the Expressway Information Centre in Coastlands. The closing date for submissions is 4 February 2011.
- 5 Following the current round of consultation the Alliance will prepare a report on the proposals – and any changes recommended as a result of the consultation – for the NZTA Board's approval. Work will continue on design and preparation for the consent application and there will be a further round of consultation in late April/May. This consultation will focus on detailed design issues, including mitigation measures.

CONSIDERATIONS

Consultation proposals

- 6 Since the Council decision to join the Alliance in September 2010, and as signalled in that report (SP-10-998), staff have been able to be more involved in the project. Although much of the substantive work for the proposals currently available for consultation, eg interchange location, was largely completed by the time staff became more involved, there has been opportunity to influence some

aspects of the design such as the form of the interchanges at the southern and northern ends of the route.

- 7 During the current round of consultation the NZTA is seeking feedback on proposals for:
 - how the Expressway would connect to the current State Highway 1 and local roads at the southern and northern ends of the route; and
 - the location and design of interchanges, ie full connectivity to the local road network, at Paraparaumu town centre and Te Moana Road, Waikanae.

The Council's submission

- 8 In September 2010 the Council adopted a set of Guiding Objectives for the Alliance Board (report SP-10-998 refers) as the basis for the decision at that meeting to join the Mackay's to Peka Peka Alliance. A separate report on this agenda (SP-11-116) summarises project progress against the objectives.
- 9 The Council's submission has been prepared on the basis that the decision to join the Alliance and to take part in the project was on the understanding that participation would "*allow for the Council's duty to work in a transparent manner with the community and tangata whenua;*" (Reports DP-10-806, 25 February 2010, and DP-10-870, 22 April 2010 refer.)
- 10 The submission attached to this report (Appendix A) generally supports the proposed alignment of the route and the location of the interchanges. Issues of detail are raised for particular locations along the route, eg Smithfield Road, Waikanae, Poplar Avenue, and some matters of principle are reiterated. These include those issues important to the community and described in the Guiding Objectives for the Alliance Board, eg the need to maintain existing and proposed local connections.
- 11 In two areas alternative options for the alignment of the Expressway have been identified.
- 12 At Waikanae, it is recommended the Council supports the eastern alignment option but that, should the planning risks be removed through tāngata whenua agreement, it would support the western option.
- 13 At the southern end the consultation document only showed a route from Poplar Avenue to the existing Western Link designation at Raumati Road. However, an alternative route through QE Park was shown on the aerial photographs at the Project Expos and in the Information Centre. The consultation document included a brief description of why alternative routes at this location were considered less favourable. There are a number of social and environmental issues associated with the route through QE Park but fewer property owners would be directly affected by this option and this has stimulated a significant level of interest and debate.
- 14 Despite the alternative route having a very considerable effect on QE Park, neither the Department of Conservation (DOC), who own the land, nor the Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC), who manage the park, are intending to make a submission on the matter.

- 15 It is recommended the Council states its support for the Main Road/Poplar Avenue connection as described in the consultation document.
- 16 Recognising the different issues relevant to the route through QE Park, it is recommended the Council's support for that route would only be provided if GWRC and DOC, after full formal public consultation undertaken by both organisations, adopt formal resolutions approving the alienation of the required park land, and that those processes occur before NZTA lodges any consent application with the Environmental Protection Authority. In addition, if the Council did agree to support the route (although it would reserve the right to oppose the alienation of park land in any formal consultation process) it should make it clear that support would be contingent on a range of mitigation actions.

Financial Considerations

- 17 There are no financial considerations.

Legal Considerations

- 18 There are no legal considerations.

Delegation

- 19 Under the Governance Structure approved on 11 November 2010, section A.2,
“The Council has the responsibility for setting the Council strategic direction. This includes the: ...
2. Overall strategic direction including planning and oversight of: ...
 - *Advocacy on matters pertaining to strategic directions, including making submissions.”*

Consultation

- 20 The draft submission attached to this report is consistent with the Council's strategic and policy position and the Guiding Objectives for the Alliance Board approved by the Council in September 2010.

Policy Implications

- 21 While the Mackays to Peka Peka Expressway has substantial implications for the District Plan these will be addressed through the current District Plan Review. There are no policy implications directly arising from the recommendations in this paper.

Publicity Considerations

- 22 There is a very high level of local interest in the Council's response to the NZTA proposals. A comprehensive media release will be prepared explaining the Council's position and the content of the submission.

Other Considerations

- 23 NZTA and the Alliance have been in direct consultation with tāngata whenua including Ngāti Toa, the Working Group established by Te Āti Awa, and the Takamore Trust. The Council understands there is a commitment to a partnership process by all parties and the process is working well.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 24 That the Council approves the submission on the NZTA Expressway: Mackay's Crossing to Peka Peka attached to this report (SP-11-117) as Appendix A.
- 25 That the Council encourages Greater Wellington Regional Council and the Department of Conservation to make a submission on the Expressway proposals as they affect Queen Elizabeth Park.

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ATTACHMENTS:

Appendix A: Mackay's to Peka Peka Expressway - Draft Kāpiti Coast District Council Submission