

14. TRANSIT NEW ZEALAND STATE HIGHWAY PROGRAMME

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The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee of the Transit New Zealand draft State Highway Programme for the 2003/04 financial year and their draft ten year forward works programme, and to confirm a process for making a submission to Transit New Zealand.

The draft State Highway programme as provided by Transit is attached.

The programme is in two sections:

1. Non block - projects with a total cost greater than \$3 million. Information is provided on a national basis for the next ten years.
2. Block - projects with a cost of less than \$3 million. Information is provided for the Canterbury area only for the next three years.

In establishing their programme Transit have responded to the Government's request to give a high priority to congestion relief. This has resulted in the great majority of the projects in the non block programme being in the Auckland region.

Only one Christchurch project remains in the non block programme for the next ten years. This is the four laning of Russley Road between Sawyers Arms Road and Memorial Avenue.

Four other Christchurch projects are on the programme but have been placed outside the ten year timeframe. These are:

1. Main North Road four laning (Northwood - Redwood).
2. Christchurch Southern Motorway Extension and Duplication.
3. Russley Road four laning (Memorial to Yaldhurst).
4. Carmen/Masham Road four laning (Yaldhurst to Waterloo).

Of particular concern is the deferral of the completion of the Main North Road four laning. Under their previous programme Transit was due to apply for resource consents early in 2003 and commence construction later in 2003. The new programme represents at least a ten year delay to the project.

Transit New Zealand have invited submissions on:

- The priority order of non-block projects.
- Which potential projects have a high priority for further development in 2003/04.

In the block section of the programme, Christchurch projects are:

- Empire Road Off Ramp,
- Yaldhurst/Russley Road signalisation,
- Buchanans/Russley Road signalisation,
- Carmen/Main South/Shands Road improvements,
- Kirk Road/West Coast Road intersection improvements (I&R in year 3),
- Russley Road/Pound Road Passing Lanes on Yaldhurst Road (I&R in year 3),
- Misc cycle facilities.

Transit have invited submissions on:

- The priority order of the block projects.
- The proposed level of funding allocation for block projects in relation to the non-block programme.

PROCESS FOR SUBMISSIONS

Submissions are required to be lodged with Transit's Regional Office by 31 March 2003. It is proposed that a submission is prepared by the Land Transport Subcommittee for reporting back through Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee and the Council's March round of meetings. This submission would then be available for Council's representatives to use at the Regional Land Transport Committee meeting on 20 March 2003.

Staff

- Recommendation:**
1. That the information be received.
 2. That the Land Transport Safety Committee prepare a submission.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the above recommendation be adopted.