

13 September 2021

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REF: OIA-8669

Kia ora Leon

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 16 August 2021 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- 1) *Details on any decision as to the postponement or cancelling of the consultation on the Hutt Valley.*
- 2) *If the consultation has been postponed: the new proposed date for the consultation.*
- 3) *If the consultation has been cancelled, the reasons why, including evidence used to guide the reasoning.*

State Highway 2 (SH2) is an important, busy corridor that carries large volumes of people and goods every day, connecting Wellington, the Hutt Valley, the Wairarapa and beyond. The road is very complex and spans across multiple communities. The initial stages of the speed review take time and effort and involve several parties, both internal and external to Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency.

As part of this project Waka Kotahi is making investigations into physical safety improvements and reviewing the speed limit along this stretch of road. In order to make the right decision, Waka Kotahi must ensure that it has a detailed understanding of the safety issues along this stretch of road.

The engagement period of the SH2 Ngauranga to Featherston speed review and safety improvements has not been cancelled or postponed. Waka Kotahi is aiming to set the date for public engagement for the end of September / mid-October 2021, subject to COVID-19 alert level changes.

The public engagement must be completed before formal consultation can begin. It is essential we hear community views on this before we decide on any next steps. It is great to see that this is important to you, as it is to us, and we thank you for your interest and patience as we firm up our approach.

If you would like to discuss this reply with the Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency, please contact David van Staden, Programme Director - Safe Network Programme, by email to david.vanstaden@nzta.govt.nz.

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'D van Staden', written in a cursive style.

David van Staden
Programme Director - Safe Network Programme