

26 September 2018

OIA-4132

Peter Ramage

fyi-request-8571-57c2ade5@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Peter

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 29 August 2018 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

"the latest timeline for the completion of all components and work streams of the Wellington to Hutt Valley cycleway, as well as all relevant documents describing the status of the project as of today.

Please also provide all relevant factors that have resulted in the failure to deliver the most recent publicly available timeline (from 2015), whereby the Petone - Melling and Ngauranga - Wellington sections were to be complete by mid 2018, and the design and construction of the Petone - Ngauranga section was to be underway."

The NZ Transport Agency is partnering with Wellington City Council (WCC), Greater Wellington Regional Council and Hutt City Council to provide a safe and efficient 12km walking and cycling route between the Wellington CBD and Melling, in Lower Hutt (W2HV). The W2HV will connect with existing walking and cycling facilities located along the Petone Esplanade and the Hutt River Trail.

One document has been identified as falling within the scope of your request – the detailed business case for the Route. This is publicly available and can be found here:

www.nzta.govt.nz/assets/projects/wellington-to-hutt-valley-walking-and-cycling-link/Part-A-Detailed-Business-Case-Final-V8.pdf

In relation to the W2HV's current timeline and the reasons for delays for each section of the project, these are summarised below:

Wellington CBD to Ngauranga section – This section of the W2HV is being delivered by the WCC. It runs from Bunny Street, along Thorndon Quay and Hutt Road, to the Ngauranga interchange. The project has been divided into two parts – Hutt Road improvements and Thorndon Quay improvements. The Hutt Road improvements are nearing completion, with the final stages of widening and upgrading the pathway from the Aotea Quay Overbridge to Tinakori Road intersection due for completion in September.

On Thorndon Quay, WCC is considering undertaking safety improvements. It has recently approved on-road bike lanes for both sides of Thorndon Quay between Davis and Mulgrave Streets, which will require parking changes. The Transport Agency understands that this work will be completed during

the current financial year. Further information about this section of the project can be found here:
www.transportprojects.org.nz

Ngauranga to Petone (N2P) section - This section of the W2HV is being delivered by the Transport Agency, and will comprise a shared walkway/cycleway path running between the Ngauranga interchange and the Petone Overhead Bridge. The current preferred location for the W2HV is on the seaward side of the Hutt Rail Line.

The Transport Agency is currently completing final investigative work on the preferred location for the W2HV, as well as working on the coastal reclamation designs needed to obtain the required resource consents. At the same time, the Transport Agency is considering the impacts on the Hutt Rail line with KiwiRail to inform development of the preferred location for the W2HV. We expect to finalise the outstanding investigation works, including the coastal reclamation designs for the preferred W2HV, within the next six months.

Due to the complexity of the consenting process, it is anticipated it will take up to 24 months to complete. During this time, the Transport Agency will actively engage with stakeholders and the community. Subject to the outcomes of the consenting process, the earliest construction start for this section of the W2HV is likely to be 2021 (with a two to three year construction period).

The work on this section of the W2HV has taken longer than expected due to the time needed to fully consider the safety and resilience requirements of State Highway 2 (SH2) and the rail corridor, as well as the environmental mitigation needed for a walkway/cycleway seaward path.

Petone to Melling (P2M) section - This section of the W2HV is being delivered by the Transport Agency. It comprises an off-road cycle path that would run parallel to SH2 from the Petone Station to the Melling Station and will connect to Petone Station and the Hutt River Trail.

Detailed design of this section of the W2HV has been completed and consents approved; however, construction of this section is on hold whilst we undertake further cost reviews of the W2HV. This review is expected to be completed within six months.

If you would like to discuss this reply, please contact Michael Siazon, Senior Project Manager, by email to w2hvlink@nzta.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely



Kevin Reid
Senior Manager, System Design