



**Report** 05.79  
**Date** 20 February 2005  
**File** TP/01/05/01

**Committee** Regional Land Transport  
**Author** Günther Wild, Policy Advisor

## Large Project Investigation Priorities

### 1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to recommend priorities for investigating large projects so that they are ready for consideration in the large project construction programme as soon as possible.

### 2. Background

Large investigation projects are defined in Transit's terminology as potential projects. This year Transit has supplied a list of five projects in alphabetical order. The list is:

Project Name	Notes
Aotea Quay off ramp realignment	Considered last year
Ngauranga to Aotea Quay 8 laning	Considered last year
Otaki – Te Horo expressway	New addition by Transit to last year's list. However, the Committee removed the project in 2004 because consultation in 2003 showed the project to be many years away
Petone – Ngauranga auxiliary lane	Considered last year
Paekakariki Interchange	Considered last year

Summary descriptions of all investigation projects are shown in **Attachment 2**.

With the exception of the Otaki – Te Horo expressway project, all projects in this category were considered by the Committee last year. Transit also put forward four projects which are not included in the list above or considered as part of this process as they are projects subject to a Western Corridor decision later this year. These projects are:

<b>Project Name</b>
Kapiti Western Link Road – Stage 3
Peka Peka to Poplar 4 laning – Stage 1
Pukerua Bay Bypass
Transmission Gully - Centennial Highway

### 3. Additional projects

The Technical Working Group (TWG) considered the following nine additions were necessary to this category:

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Akatarewa Road upgrade	UHCC and KCDC project
Featherston to Wellington Express Train Service	New GWRC project, Wairarapa Corridor Plan
Increase Hutt Rail frequency	New GWRC project, Hutt Corridor Plan
Kennedy Good interchange	Hutt Corridor Plan, joint investigation with HCC
Masterton bypass and forestry roading	MDC project
Petone to Grenada	Hutt Corridor Plan, joint investigation with WCC & HCC.
Rail electrification to Timberlea	New GWRC project, Hutt Corridor Plan
Rimutaka Hill 70kph design	
SH 2 safety improvements	

These additional projects have arisen from:

- the adoption of the Hutt Corridor Plan;
- Wairarapa forestry blocks coming online for harvesting; and

- the inclusion of low priority investigations considered last year but not included by Transit on the list this year.

#### **4. Technical ranking**

The TWG met on four occasions (21 October 2004, 4 and 17 November 2004 and 17 February 2005) to complete this year's technical process. The method used to achieve the recommended rankings was the Transport Package and Project Prioritisation Method as set out in report 05.80. The technical scores are shown in **Attachment 1**. These scores are the officer's best estimate of the likely benefits that the project will produce. Further investigation is required to confirm the scores.

#### **5. Discussion**

Last year the TWG acknowledged that gaining certainty about a Western Corridor decision was critical to allowing determination of the region's strategic transport investment plan. As a result of this, the Western Corridor transportation study was formed and is due to report it's findings later this year. As such, any project awaiting a decision on the Western Corridor has not been considered in this year's prioritisation process.

There are three roading projects focused on reducing congestion and improving accessibility in the core of the Region's strategic road network, the Ngauranga-Petone-Aotea Quay area. The TWG agreed that it was a high priority to develop these three projects simultaneously (in an integrated way) to the stage where solid information could be used to determine how soon they should be delivered. With Western Corridor issues being addressed separately, gaining certainty about this area clearly remains the 1<sup>st</sup> priority.

Other projects receive a higher rank this year due to investigation projects that are subject to a Western Corridor decision being removed from current consideration.

#### **6. Communications**

There is nothing to communicate as a result of determining priorities for recommendation to Transit's current consultation process.

#### **7. Recommendations**

*That the Committee:*

- adopts the following priorities for large project investigations; and*

ii) submits State Highway project priorities to Transit New Zealand.

<b>Project</b>	<b>RLTC 2004 Rank</b>	<b>2005 Recommended Rank</b>
<i>Petone to Grenada link</i>	2=	1=
<i>Ngauranga to Aotea Quay Capacity Improvements</i>	2=	1=
<i>Petone - Ngauranga Capacity Improvements</i>	2=	1=
<i>Increase Hutt Rail Frequency</i>		4
<i>Akatarawa Rd upgrade</i>		5
<i>SH2 intersection safety improvements</i>		6
<i>Masterton Bypass and Forestry Roothing</i>		7
<i>Paekakariki Grade Separation</i>	11	8
<i>Kennedy Good interchange</i>	13	9
<i>Aotea Quay Offramp Realignment</i>	12	10
<i>Otaki to Te Horo Expressway</i>	6=	11
<i>Rail electrification to Timberlea</i>		12=
<i>Featherston to Wellington Express Train</i>		12=
<i>Rimutaka Hill 70 kph design</i>	5	14

Report prepared by:

Report approved by:

Report approved by:

**Günther Wild**  
Policy Advisor  
Access Planning

**Joe Hewitt**  
Manager  
Access Planning

**Dave Watson**  
Divisional Manager  
Transport

#### **Attachments**

1. Scoring spreadsheet for Large Project Investigation priorities for 2005/06
2. Summary Large Project Investigation Descriptions