

MIN-2842 State Highway 3

The Minister recently met with Neil Holdom, Mayor of New Plymouth District Council, to discuss local roading issues. Following this meeting the Minister's office has requested the following:

"The Mayor voiced his frustration with the lack of progress on SH3 between Bell Block and Waitara, He asked the Minister if there was any way for the delivery of these projects to be sped up."

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The Minister has asked that the issues raised by Mayor Holdom be put on the officials meeting for this Monday. Can NZTA please add this to the agenda and be prepared to talk to the Minister about the issues raised? The Minister has seen MIN-2838 and BRI-1434 already, so anything that can be discussed further to this would be appreciated."

SH3 between Bell Block and Waitara

As previously advised in MIN 2838, detailed investigations on State Highway (SH) 3 between Bell Block and Waitara are drawing to a close and are expected to be confirmed by the NZ Transport Agency (NZTA) within the next three months.

At this stage, the National Land Transport Programme (NLTP) 2018-21 includes provision for the completion of these investigation works, together with the pre-implementation and implementation phases for two projects on this section of SH3. These projects are the SH3/Mangati Road and SH3/Princess Street intersection improvements.

The NLTP 2018-21 does not include implementation funding for the SH3 Bell Block to Waitara route improvements, other than the two projects noted above. However, it is possible that further work may be scheduled and/or re-prioritised over the three-year period 2018-21 following completion of the detailed investigations that are currently underway and confirmation of the preferred option(s).

In addition, the timing of improvements on SH3 between Bell Block and Waitara will also be considered as part of a wider national review of the road safety programme. This review will consider the priority and timing of safety activities, including the option of bringing some works forward, and is expected to be completed within the next three months.

The NZTA is also investigating other minor improvements along this section of SH3 that can be delivered within a shorter timeframe.

NZTA officials will continue to liaise with the Council on this matter.

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