

31 January 2024

Cyclist Fan  
fyi-request-25359-bbcc61bb@requests.fyi.org.nz

REF: OIA-14410

Dear Cyclist Fan

**Request made under the Official Information Act 1982**

Thank you for your email of 9 January 2024 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*What is the total km of sealed road network in Aotearoa?*

*How many km of road are being replaced per year?*

*What is the funding gap between current expenditure by the Government (including National's \$500 million funding promise), and actual budget required to sustainably replace all roads in NZ over the lifespan of 25 and 40 years of the road.*

I will respond to each of your questions in turn.

*What is the total km of sealed road network in Aotearoa?*

As at 2022/23, and noting that the network grows each year, there were 65,633.3km of sealed roads, of which 11,072.3km are a state highway. Further information on the length of urban and rural, sealed and unsealed roads is publicly available at [www.nzta.govt.nz/planning-and-investment/learning-and-resources/transport-data/data-and-tools/](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/planning-and-investment/learning-and-resources/transport-data/data-and-tools/). 2022/23 is the most up to date information we have. This information is updated annually for financial years ended 30 June.

*How many km of road are being replaced per year?*

Please see Attachment A which shows the length of roads being built, reconstructed or seal extended across New Zealand.

Further information on the length of roads being built, reconstructed or seal is publicly available at [www.nzta.govt.nz/planning-and-investment/learning-and-resources/transport-data/data-and-tools/](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/planning-and-investment/learning-and-resources/transport-data/data-and-tools/).

*What is the funding gap between current expenditure by the Government (including National's \$500 million funding promise), and actual budget required to sustainably replace all roads in NZ over the lifespan of 25 and 40 years of the road.*

NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) does not hold this information in the form you have requested it. NZTA provided advice to the Minister of Transport on 30 November 2023 on asset condition and maintenance. Sections of this briefing would be relevant to your request with respect to state highways only. This advice is being withheld in full under section 9(2)(f)(iv) which allows for the withholding of information to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials.

In September 2023, NZTA also published a *State highway investment proposal 2024-34* available at: <https://www.nzta.govt.nz/resources/state-highway-investment-proposal-2024-34/>

While the above proposal covers investment in maintenance and renewal of state highways over the next 10 years, it is likely to be revised as a new Government Policy Statement (GPS) is being developed to reflect Government investment priorities. Each local Roadway Control Authority (RCA) will also have a maintenance and renewal investment plan for their region once a new GPS comes into effect.

With respect to the information that has been withheld from your request, I do not consider there are any other factors which would render it desirable, in the public interest, to make the information available.

Under section 28 of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision to withhold this information. The contact details for the Ombudsman can be located at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz).

If you would like to discuss this reply with Waka Kotahi, please contact Ministerial Services by email to [official.correspondence@nzta.govt.nz](mailto:official.correspondence@nzta.govt.nz)

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in brown ink that reads "AD Clark". The letters are cursive and somewhat stylized.

**Andrew Clark**  
National Manager – Maintenance and Operations

## Attachment A: Length of roads built, reconstructed or 'seal extended' measured in lane kilometres – New Zealand

Region	State highway/ local road	Work Undertaken (see Key)	2011/ 2012	2012/ 2013	2013/201 4	2014/ 2015	2015/ 2016	2016/20 17	2017/ 2018	2018/ 2019	2019/2 020	2020/ 2021	2021/ 2022	2022/ 2023
National	Local road	New roads	46.0*	77.9	19.0	20.1	16.7	48.1	39.9	86.0	63.2	52.4	69.3	84.1
National	Local road	Pavement rehabilitation	734.0	566.0	1384.9	630.3	453.4	443.0	436.7	338.5	296.1	324.1	252.4	237.6
National	Local road	Resurfacing	6081.0	5860.5	5863.5	6301.6	6067.1	6186.1	5578.8	5588.1	5364.3	6003.7	5537.3	4845.2
National	Local road	Road reconstruction	70.0	58.4	32.0	28.3	35.617	234.3	116.0	70.4	108.4	155.0	25.1	40.2
National	Local road	Seal extension	117.0	14.2	32.1	19.6	26.8	33.7	73.1	88.2	53.9	85.2	12.7	30.2
National	State highway	New roads	12.0	18.0	68.2	5.1	15.6	96.5	-	5.0	226.9	-	16.8	158.9
National	State highway	Pavement rehabilitation	285.0	231.1	274.0	182.0	118.5	72.3	115.3	154.0	138.3	114.5	120.1	100.8
National	State highway	Resurfacing	2053.0	2402.9	2185.0	1592.0	1071.5	1167.3	1596.5	2141.6	1975.6	1733.3	2118.5	1988.1
National	State highway	Road reconstruction	21.0	-	38.0	2.7	2.8	-	73.4	177.0	38.1	-	42.6	14.3
National	State highway	Seal extension	4.0								1.0			

\* Figures have been rounded to 1 decimal point

### Key

Works	Details
New roads	The construction of a new road or road link that is additional to the existing road network, including any associated new road structures.
Road reconstruction	Improvements to or upgrading of existing roads
Seal extension	The sealing of existing unsealed roads.
Resurfacing	Renewals based on Resurfacing of Reseals
Unsealed road metalling	Renewals based on Unsealed road metalling
Rehabilitation	Renewals based on Rehabilitation (Pavement rehabilitation, Area wide pavement treatment, Pavement smoothing)

Source: [Number and length of roads built, reconstructed or seal extended](#)