



OIA-3124

28 August 2017

Tony Randle

fyi-request-6255-4dd477ec@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Tony

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 21 July 2017 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

I understand from your web site that the NZTA undertakes a twice yearly travel time survey of New Zealand cities (<https://www.nzta.govt.nz/roads-and-rail/management-and-maintenance/traffic-management/travel-time-reliability/>) I further understand that this data is made available to local authorities to inform transport business case and other analysis.

1) Could I please have a copy of the meta data about the Time Travel Survey (i.e. what/how/when data is collected in a Time Travel Survey)?

2) Could I please have a list of all the years when then Time Travel Survey was performed and location at which that survey was performed?

3) Could I please have a copy of the summary report completed as part of each Time Travel Survey?

4) Could I please have a copy of the summary Time Travel survey data for all locations and all years? By Summary, for each survey location, the following data for AM Peak, Inter-peak and PM Peak times:

** Mean Journey Time*

** Journey Time Standard Deviation*

** The Minimum Journey Time*

** The Maximum Journey Time*

** Any notes or comments held about the data for this survey.*

As per the conversation with you on 2 August 2017, it is understood that your request is refined to include:

- Information about Wellington, particularly access into and out of the city;
- More recent information between 2015 and 2017; and
- Focus on Public Transport (PT), walking and cycling data, if available.

As discussed, given your preference to focus on PT, walking and cycling and that the NZ Transport Agency relies on our local government partners for such information, the Transport Agency recommends directing your query to:

- The Greater Wellington Regional Council for the PT information; and
- The Wellington City Council for the walking/cycling information.

The Transport Agency's responses:

- 1) *Could I please have a copy of the meta data about the Time Travel Survey (i.e. what/how/when data is collected in a Time Travel Survey)?*
- 3) *Could I please have a copy of the summary report completed as part of each Time Travel Survey?*

As advised, the Transport Agency engages a third party to collect the relevant data. Consequently the Transport Agency is not able to provide you with the meta data but it can provide you with a summary of the data. This information is attached as Attachments 1 and 2.

Please note that data for 2017 will soon be publicly available and as such this aspect is refused under section 18(d) of the Act.

- 2) *Could I please have a list of all the years when then Time Travel Survey was performed and location at which that survey was performed?*

The list below provides the years and locations at which Time Travel Survey was performed.

1. 2004: Auckland, Tauranga, Wellington, Christchurch
2. 2005: Auckland, Tauranga, Wellington, Christchurch
3. 2006: Auckland, Tauranga, Wellington, Christchurch
4. 2007: Auckland, Tauranga, Wellington, Christchurch
5. 2008: Auckland, Tauranga, Wellington, Christchurch
6. 2009: Auckland, Tauranga, Wellington, Christchurch, Hamilton
7. 2010: Auckland, Tauranga, Wellington, Christchurch, Hamilton
8. 2011: Auckland, Tauranga, Wellington, Christchurch, Hamilton
9. 2012: Auckland, Tauranga, Wellington, Christchurch, Hamilton
10. 2013: Auckland, Tauranga, Wellington, Christchurch, Hamilton
11. 2014: Auckland, Tauranga, Wellington, Christchurch, Hamilton

Additional Information:

In our conversation of 2 August 2017, you enquired about the twice yearly travel time survey of New Zealand cities mentioned on the Transport Agency's website.

This refers to a programme of bi-annual travel time surveys that the Transport Agency undertook in collaboration with relevant local councils. These surveys started in Auckland in 2004 with the aim to help assess the reliability and congestion of New Zealand road network. The surveys were done using vehicles equipped with global positioning systems (GPS) that drove specific sections of state highways and local roads during peak travel times on five consecutive weekdays in March and again in November. Over time this bi-annual programme of surveys expanded to also cover Wellington, Tauranga, Hamilton and Christchurch.

Since those early days, new data collection methods have emerged and in 2014 the original bi-annual surveys ceased and instead a new productivity measure was implemented. This measure, called the *change in productivity of the state highway network in major metropolitan areas* indicator, is what the Transport Agency currently reports on in its annual reports. It measures lane capacity utilisation (network productivity) of the urban network. Productivity is measured in terms of the product of speed and flow compared with road lane optimal vehicle throughput. It demonstrates how effectively the current road network and operational management activities handle peak demand for vehicle movement. The new method was originally introduced in Auckland and has since been expanded to Wellington and Christchurch.

4) *Could I please have a copy of the summary Time Travel survey data for all locations and all years? By Summary, for each survey location, the following data for AM Peak, Inter-peak and PM Peak times:*

- * Mean Journey Time*
- * Journey Time Standard Deviation*
- * The Minimum Journey Time*
- * The Maximum Journey Time*
- * Any notes or comments held about the data for this survey.*

The summary data is provided as Attachments 1 and 2. Please note that since 2015 the Transport Agency has not received summary reports with analysis from its provider.

Additional information

The Transport Agency manages its own traffic monitoring sites that are used to count traffic on state highways. Traffic count data is used widely as a measure of demand which is used to plan maintenance and operations, and is also used for decision making on the future investment in state highways. Each count site is associated with a particular road and I have attached a map (Attachment 3) of the relevant Wellington sites along state highways providing access into and out of the city.

You can find a description of this service and links to the summary traffic data reports from these sites on the Transport Agency's website: www.nzta.govt.nz/traffic-and-travel-information/counting-the-traffic-on-the-state-highways/.

Note that this service monitors all traffic and does not provide specific information on public transport, walking or cycling. However, if you consider this information of relevance, the Transport Agency would be happy to work with you to develop a more detailed report for these traffic monitoring sites. If you are interested or would like to discuss this reply, please contact Henry Pretorius Manager, Business Intelligence Direction by email henry.pretorius@nzta.govt.nz.

Under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act 1982, you have the right to apply to an Ombudsman for an investigation and review of the decision to withhold the 2017 data as detailed above. The email address is www.ombudsman.parliament.nz/.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kate Styles". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kate Styles

Senior Manager, Government & Governance
Governance, Stakeholders and Communications