

# Chief Executive's Report - March

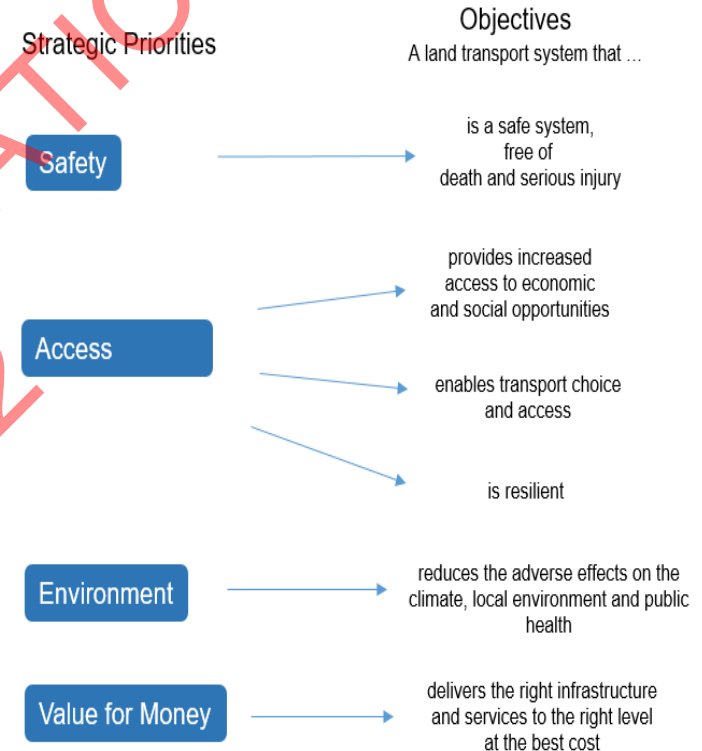
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# Government Policy Statement on Land Transport 2018 (GPS) – latest actions

Since the NZ Transport Agency Board’s workshop on 9 February 2018:

- There has been ongoing work to revise the draft GPS in line with feedback from Minister Genter’s office (mainly on access), but the priorities remain unchanged
- The Transport Agency has provided further advice to Ministers on funding/revenue issues and options
- We have begun work to revise the Investment Assessment Framework (IAF) to incorporate the new GPS priorities
- The Minister wrote to local government on 15 February 2018 to update them on the emerging priorities, funding/revenue considerations and engagement timeline
- The Transport Agency provided supplementary information to councils on 16 February 2018 about how the Transport Agency will engage with councils following release of the GPS to help them revise their regional land transport plans

## GPS 2018 – Strategic Direction



# Government Policy Statement on Land Transport 2018 (GPS) – current issues

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- The strategic direction of the draft GPS is now largely agreed with Ministers, and the current focus is on funding, revenue and activity class allocations
- The Ministry's advice to Ministers has been based on an \$11 billion scenario for state highways, but Ministers are considering scenarios lower than this
- Ministers are also looking at options to increase investment in some additional activities through the National Land Transport Fund (for example, heavy rail, cycling), including through use of targeted Financial Assistance Rates (FARs). This would further constrain available spend for state highways
- Specific ministerial direction would be needed to give effect to any new targeted FARs – such as for mass transit, heavy rail, safety, regional improvements, walking and cycling
- On 21 February 2018, Ministers agreed that the release date for the draft GPS will be deferred from early to late March
- This will put significant pressure on the time that councils have available to review their regional plans to align with the GPS. The Transport Agency will need to be ready and agile to support councils to work through changes to their regional programmes as soon as possible after the draft GPS is released

# Government Policy Statement on Land Transport 2018 (GPS) – Next steps

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- The timeline agreed by Ministers on 21 February 2018 for finalising the draft GPS by 30 June 2018 is :
  - Cabinet approval for release of the draft GPS to be sought on 26 March 2018
  - Public engagement on the GPS from 27 March to 24 April 2018 with the draft IAF and State Highway Investment Proposal (SHIP) to be released for engagement as soon as possible after release of the GPS
  - Formal ministerial consultation with the NZ Transport Agency Board – 14 to 21 May 2018
  - Cabinet approval of final GPS – 25 June 2018
- Timing of engagement with the Board on the draft GPS is likely to be:
  - Endorsement of the draft IAF for engagement, by round robin in March
  - Endorsement of the revised draft SHIP for engagement following release of the draft GPS, by round robin
  - Ministry presentation to the Board on 20 April 2018
  - Formal ministerial consultation on the draft GPS with the Board in May

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# Mass Transit in Auckland

- As indicated earlier, the Minister of Transport, after consultation with colleagues, has decided to progress the City - Airport light rail link and Airport to Puhinui station frequent bus connection as immediate high priorities to be funded primarily from the National Land Transport Fund with some potential funding from Auckland Council. Value capture opportunities will also be explored as well as contributions from Auckland Airport. The remainder of the Auckland Rapid Transit Network will be progressed as part of Auckland Transport Alignment Plan with funding to be determined through that process
- The Minister of Transport plans to take a paper to Cabinet shortly to seek agreement to this approach including the City – Airport light rail as a Government priority <sup>s 9(2)(f)(iv)</sup>  
[REDACTED]
- The Transport Agency is supporting the Ministry of Transport by identifying when particular powers would be required to expedite the programme
- The Minister has also asked the Transport Agency to develop, in conjunction with the Ministry of Transport, a possible partnership approach to progress the City – Airport project with Auckland Council and Auckland Transport



# Ex Cyclones Fehi & Gita

- **Ex-tropical cyclone Fehi:** Much of New Zealand experienced severe weather on 1 February 2018. On the South Island's West Coast, Fehi downed trees and power lines, disrupted communications infrastructure, and caused extensive damage to sections of State highway 6. As a consequence of the resulting road closures, 115 road users, many of them tourists, were trapped in vehicles between Fox Glacier and Franz Josef overnight on 1 February
- **Ex-tropical cyclone Gita:** On 20 February 2018, this cyclone arrived in New Zealand, significantly impacting Taranaki, Manawatū, Wellington, Nelson/Tasman, West Coast, Canterbury and Central Otago. The cyclone caused significant road closures due to flooding, high winds, rock fall, slips, heavy rain, sea swells, fallen trees, debris and one instance of a bridge drop-out in Geraldine
- Managing these types of events is a significant challenge and our focus is on the safety and well-being of our customers, contractors and staff. The Transport Agency is currently focused on restoring access where this has been impacted