

## **Corridor Plans Overview**

Corridor plans translate the vision, objectives and policies of the Regional Land Transport Strategy into specific action packages for the region's five major transport corridors. A transport corridor is the alignment of transport infrastructure that links activity centres. The corridor plans aim to provide affordable, efficient, reliable, safe and sustainable connections which can accommodate reasonable capacity and ensure regional and inter-regional accessibility.

### **The corridors**

The five transport corridors in the Wellington Region are:

1. Western Corridor – Otaki to Ngauranga Merge
2. Hutt Corridor - Upper Hutt to Ngauranga Merge
3. Wairarapa Corridor – Masterton to Upper Hutt
4. Wellington CBD Corridor – Ngauranga to Airport
5. Connections between State Highways 1 and 2.

### **Matters common to all corridors**

#### **Network balance**

The Wellington strategic road and rail network need to be operated and developed in a way that carefully balances capacity throughout the network. Accordingly, to ensure efficient network performance is maintained, improvements in one part of the network cannot be thought of as independent to the rest of the network.

#### **Corridor plan sequencing**

The sequencing of projects may be strategically significant. This happens when large new increments of road capacity are provided which will disturb the network balance if the projects are not sequenced correctly. Where the sequencing of projects is strategically significant this will be specified in the corridor plans. It is expected that implementation will occur in line with demand, subject to available funding.

#### **Locally significant routes**

A number of locally significant routes, such as the Melling Rail Line and Wainuiomata Road, are not separately identified in the following corridor plans. In these cases, no significant change is proposed as it is assumed that current levels of service will be maintained.

## **Structure of the plans**

All the proposals in the corridor plans derive from technical analysis, which has been based on identified needs and issues. The needs and issues for each transport corridor are summarised at the beginning of each corridor plan.

The corridor plans outline the proposed strategic changes to roading and passenger transport both for the short to medium term, 2007-2016, and additional projects which may be implemented in the long term beyond 2016. Actions are grouped under the following categories:

- Land use integration
- Travel demand management
- Roothing
- Passenger transport
- Walking and cycling.

## **Statutory requirements**

The statutory requirements of the Regional Land Transport Strategies (sections 175-183 of the Land Transport Act 1998) only apply to the projects shown for the short to medium term, 2007-2016. Roothing controlling authorities, the Regional Council, and Land Transport NZ have to take into account the RLTS when performing their functions.

## **Alternative projects**

The proposals put forward for both the short and medium term are those which best meet the transport needs of the region at this time. Alternative projects that equal or better match the framework of the Strategy may be acceptable. Existing technical processes, such as benefit cost analysis and the resource consent procedures under the Resource Management Act, assist with evaluation of alternative projects. Projects identified in the corridor plans will only receive Land Transport New Zealand funding support if they satisfy the prevailing funding criteria at the time they are ready for implementation.

## **Costs and funding**

The costs shown in the corridor plans are indicative and reflect the best information available at the time of writing. They will be subject to change as the scope and timing of projects, programmes and packages are developed over time. Similarly the suggested funding communicates the Region's expectation at the time of writing. Funding processes are the responsibility various agencies under various acts and requirements will be subject to change.