

10 March 2023

Kane Patena  
Director of Land Transport  
Kane.patena@nzta.govt.nz  
Private Bag 6995  
Marion Square  
Wellington 6141  
New Zealand

Dear Kane,

### **Director approval for speed changes – State Highway 30 Tikitere to Whakatane, Bay of Plenty**

Waka Kotahi as Road Controlling Authority ('RCA') respectfully requests that the Director of Land Transport approves the setting of various permanent speed limits on a 70km long section of SH30 from its intersection with SH33 on the eastern shore of Lake Rotorua to the east coast town of Whakatane (shown in the map in **Attachment A** to this letter) in accordance with Clause 2.6(2)(a) of the Land Transport Rule: Setting of Speed Limits 2022 (the Rule).

#### **Background**

Waka Kotahi undertook the speed review for the SH30 Tikitere to Whakatane corridor in accordance with the Land Transport Rule: Setting of Speed Limits 2017 ('2017 Rule'). The changes include

- SH30 - a permanent 80km/h speed limit from Tikitere to east of Curtis Road (Lake Okataina).
- SH30 - a permanent 60km/h speed limit from east of Curtis to west of Morehu Road (the southern shore of Lake Okaitaina)
- SH30 - a permanent 80km/h speed limit from west of Morehu Road to west of Oxford Street
- SH30 - a permanent 60km/h speed limit from west of Oxford Street to west of the SH34 Kawerau Junction west (southern shore of Lake Rotomā).
- SH30 - a permanent 80km/h speed limit from west of the SH34 Kawerau Junction west to Te Teko
- SH30 - a westward relocation of the start point of the 50km/h speed limit to better reflect township extent.
- SH30 – a permanent 60km/h speed limit at the eastern approach to Te Teko
- SH30 - a permanent 80km/h speed limit from north east of Galatea Street to south west of the SH2/SH30 Awakeri Junction
- SH30 & SH2 – a permanent 60km/h speed limit encompassing the dual-identified-SH2/SH30 Awakeri junction and its immediate approaches.
- SH30 - a permanent 80km/h speed limit from east of the SH2/SH30 Awakeri Junction to west of the SH30/Gateway Drive Roundabout
- SH30 – a permanent 60km/h speed limit from west of the SH30/Gateway Drive Roundabout to north of the Whakatane Bridge

Waka Kotahi understands that during the interim period of the Rule speed limits can be set in accordance with the clause 2.6 process for changes in advance of a new plan (by way of Schedule 3, clause 12.8) or in accordance with a modified 2017 rule process under Schedule 3, clause 12.9.

## Matters for Approval

This review completed pre-implementation, consultation and internal approval stages on the proposed new speed limits prior to the new Rule commencing. However, Waka Kotahi has not yet made a bylaw or a land transport record to legalise the approved speed limit changes. In theory, this could be included in a future speed management plan, however, the timeframes involved would also delay implementing safe speed limits on this corridor.

Waka Kotahi considers that the requirements for clause 2.6 have also been met. In particular:

- For clause 2.6(3)(a) Waka Kotahi took into account the guidance and information developed and maintained by Waka Kotahi (Agency) under clauses 3.14 and 3.15 by using Megamaps (Edition 2) for development of the technical aspects.
- For clause 2.6(3)(b) Waka Kotahi assessed the speed limits of the adjoining roads and considered the impact of the speed change and received feedback from adjacent RCAs.
- For clause 2.6(4) Waka Kotahi considers that there is a good reason for the proposed speed limit to be set before the next plan is published as the review had been predominantly carried out under the 2017 rule and the timeframes involved in following an (interim) speed management plan would delay implementing safe speed limits on this corridor.
- For clause 2.6(6) Waka Kotahi undertook consultation that generally aligns with the requirements of clause 3.9. The extent and nature of the consultation undertaken is detailed in the Speed Review Report (**Attachment B**). Notably:
  - The consultation period was at least four weeks (21 January 2022 – 18 February 2022 and 14 March 2022 to 28 March 2022)
  - Consultation was undertaken with Māori from the commencement of the project with the Ngāti Pikiao Koeke / Council of Elders Ngāti Pikiao hui was held on 11 February at Te Waiti Marae. Status Updates have been provided on an ongoing basis as part of the wider projects hui held regularly in Rotorua.
  - The consultation was undertaken in accord with Waka Kotahi (RCA) best practice and is deemed to be a reasonably practicable approach under the requirements of the 2017 Rule at the time of consultation.
- For clause 2.6 (7) Waka Kotahi considered consultation submissions received.

**Attachment B** to this letter is a copy of the approved and signed Speed Review Report and its supporting documents which record the process undertaken for this speed limit change.

If Waka Kotahi receives your approval for setting the speed limit pursuant to Clause 2.6, it will complete the speed change in accordance with that Clause, including by creating and submitting a land transport record of the speed change and publishing online the information required under clause 2.6(8).

Waka Kotahi appreciates your consideration in relation to the SH30 Tikitere to Whakatane speed limit approval. Please contact me if you wish to discuss any aspect of this letter or require any further information.



**Vanessa Browne**  
National Manager, Programme and Standards

## Attachment A

# SH30 Tikitere to Whakatāne new speed limits



## Attachment B

Link to Speed Review Report save in Infohub - [here](#)