

25 February 2020

The Resident  
Kilbirnie  
Wellington 6022

Dear neighbour,

**Demolition of earthquake prone buildings – 29 and 47 Wellington Road**

We are preparing to demolish two buildings that we own in your area - 29 and 47 Wellington Road, Kilbirnie. We are writing to let you know first, before we announce this decision publicly.

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency bought these properties between 2012 and 2015 under previous plans to widen Wellington Road. Those plans are no longer going ahead. In their place, new plans for transport improvements in the area are being investigated by Let's Get Wellington Moving as part of a package of State Highway improvements. This also includes an extra Mount Victoria Tunnel, and unblocking the Basin Reserve.

Until the Let's Get Wellington Moving investigation and design work is completed, we don't know exactly what those plans will look like, or what land might be required for any upgrades to Wellington Road.

Both 29 and 47 Wellington Road have been vacant for more than four years. They are unsafe to live in because they are earthquake prone, rated at 21% and 18% of the New Building Standard (NBS) respectively. They also don't meet acceptable standards for safe and healthy rental homes.

We have investigated strengthening these buildings so they could be used again as homes. Our assessment found this work would cost \$5 million or more and take up to two years to complete. If the land is required for improvements to State Highway 1, the upgraded buildings would still be demolished after only a few years' use, and that investment would be lost.

Instead, we will investigate temporary uses for the land, once the buildings are demolished. We will discuss any proposals for temporary uses with the community and with you as neighbours.

We would like to assure you that we are not currently buying any further property, nor demolishing any other buildings that we own in the area. Decisions about the details of transport improvements in the area have not yet been made. Let's Get Wellington Moving will seek input and feedback from the community before any plans are confirmed.

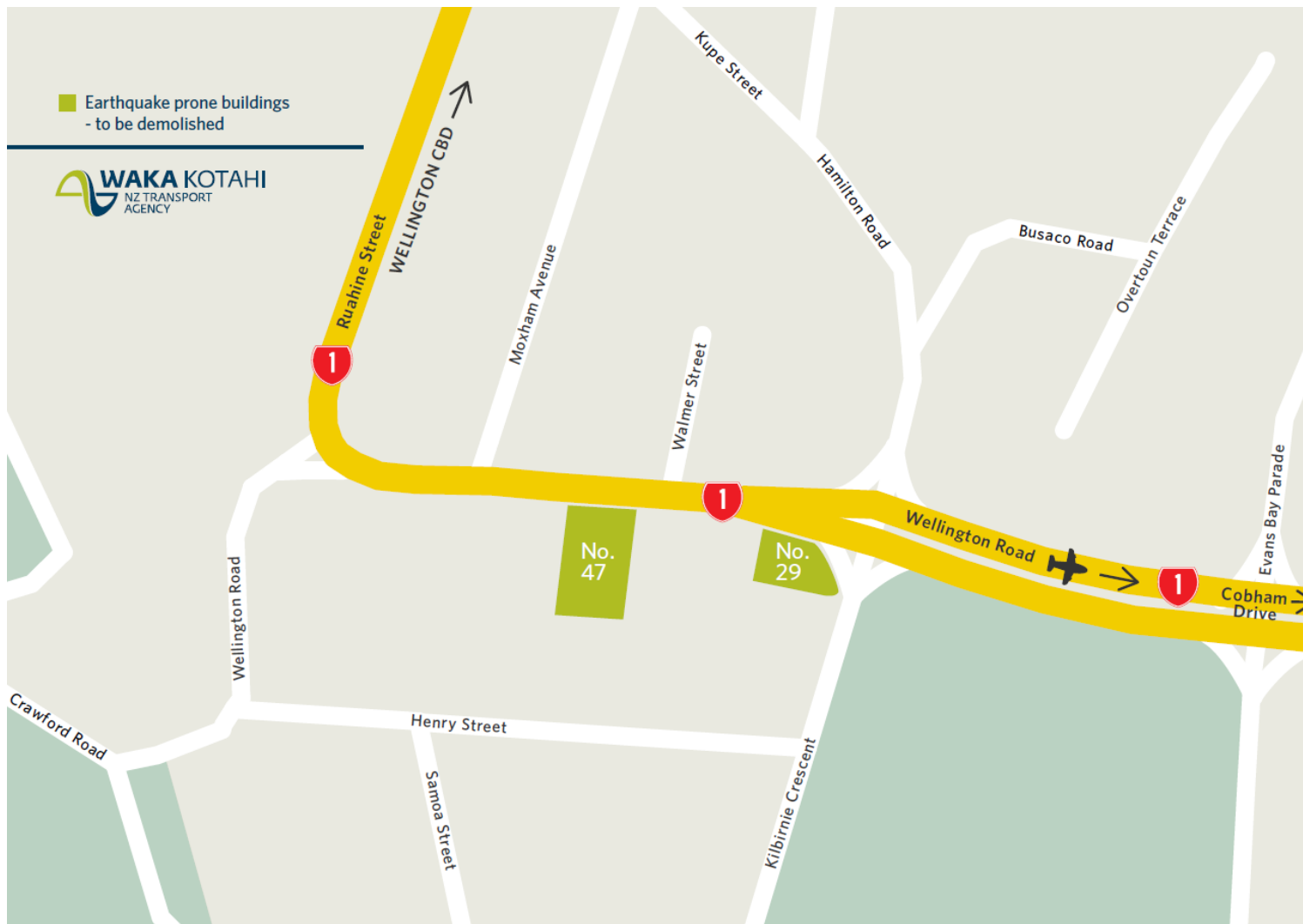
We are available to meet with you to answer any questions you may have as a neighbour. You can get in touch with Joel Rowan on 04 910 9978, or email any questions to us on [KilbirnieProperty@nzta.govt.nz](mailto:KilbirnieProperty@nzta.govt.nz). For more information, and to subscribe to email updates on this work, please visit: [www.nzta.govt.nz/kilbirnieproperty](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/kilbirnieproperty)

We expect demolition work to begin in the next few months, depending on approvals such as building consents and the availability of qualified contractors. We will get in touch with you again before work begins to provide more details.

Sincerely,



**Andrew Robinson**  
Senior Manager, Property Services  
Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency



Map of properties where quake prone buildings are to be demolished.