

## Request to vary the Regional Land Transport Plan for Taranaki 2015-2021

<b>Purpose:</b>	To enable the Regional Transport Committee of the Taranaki Regional Council to consider a request for a variation to the <i>Regional Land Transport Plan for Taranaki 2015-21 (RLTP)</i> .
<b>Requesting organisation:</b>	Stratford District Council
<b>Contact person/s:</b>	Stephen Bowden, Roding Asset Manager
<b>Variation request:</b>	Add a new project – Brecon Road Extension, Stratford

### Background to variation request

- The Brecon Road Extension project will provide critical infrastructure that connects Brecon Road North and Brecon Road South by virtue of a new link road and two bridges, one over the Patea River and another over the Paetahi Stream, using the existing “paper road” reserve – see attached map.
- Stratford township’s geometry is rather unique in that it is divided into four quadrants by virtue of State Highway 3 (North/South) and the Patea River (East/West). For residents living in the north western quadrant of Stratford, one route to access the community facilities located in the south western quadrant, is to use SH3 via the town’s Central Business District. At peak times, there are modest travel time delays due to the density of the traffic travelling along SH3 (15,000 vpd) that are negotiating the two roundabouts that “bookend” the CBD, Regan St (SH43) and Fenton Street.

This link road project will:

- Provide strategic improvements to road capacity by providing an alternative route to SH3 for the residents of Stratford to travel between the northwest and southwest areas of Stratford.
- Increase the opportunity for walking and cycling as this route has been identified as a key corridor for active modes of transport.
- Provide improved access to recreational facilities such as King Edward Park, Carrington Walkway, TET Stadium and the proposed new swimming pool complex.

### Details of variation request

The design and construction of two bridges to span the Patea River and the Paetahi Stream with an inter-connecting road linking both the north and south sections of Brecon Road.

- This project will provide the only crossing over the Patea River in the Stratford Urban area to the west of State Highway 3, which currently divides the Stratford Township into two. Once completed, this link road will also provide an alternative crossing to the residents in this western urban area of Stratford, should the bridge over the Patea River on SH3 be closed in an emergency, roadworks, and for planned street events (Christmas Parade, ANZAC Day Parade).
- Apart from providing good connectivity between the north and south sides of the Patea

River, this route has been identified as a key walking and cycling corridor, to serve schools (one high school and three primary schools), a medical centre, dentist, doctors and kindergartens, TET Stadium and hockey pitch as well as a new aquatic centre. At the present time, residents that live in the western half of Stratford, have to travel to SH3, along SH3 over the Patea River to access two primary schools (St Joseph's, Avon School), and the medical centre on Romeo Street.

- This link road will also provide the opportunity to develop an area of land locally known as "50 acre wood". This land is currently land-locked, with access currently only available via a narrow track from 24 Celia Street. With the development of Stratford District Council's Structure Plan, this area of Stratford lends itself to growth with residential development, as well as forming part of a proposed link between Flint Road to the North of Stratford and Opunake Road to the South. This link will also serve to provide improved access to King Edward Park and the Carrington Walkway for recreational activities.
- With two of the three emergency services located on Miranda Street, (Fire and Police) this link road will provide an alternative route for these services to attend emergency calls to the south of Stratford, without the need to travel through the Central Business District.
- This project has been submitted to Crown Infrastructure Partners as a "Shovel Ready" project as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and the Government's initiative to "kick start" New Zealand's economy by funding infrastructure projects that are ready to be constructed within a maximum of 12 months (30 May 2021).

<b>Location:</b>	Brecon Road, Stratford
<b>Scope and duration:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2020/21 – Detailed Design, Iwi Consultation, Resource Consent approval.</li> <li>• 2021/22 to 2023/24 – Construction</li> </ul>
<b>Estimated cost/s:</b>	\$11,500,000
<b>Funding source/s:</b>	Crown Infrastructure Partners (C Funds) and SDC (L Funds)
<b>Links to Objectives &amp; Policies of RLTP:</b> <i>Refer to Table 2 on page 42 of the <a href="#">Plan</a></i>	<p>This project aligns well to the strategic priorities of the RLTP. Most specifically, it supports growth and will contribute to the following Objectives &amp; Policies from the RLTP 2015-21:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An integrated and collaborative approach to transport and land use planning – Policy I2.</li> <li>• A safe transport network increasingly free of death and serious injury – Policies S1, S2, S3</li> <li>• A people focused, multi-modal land transport system that connects communities – Policy A1</li> <li>• A land transport system that is robust and resilient – Policy R1</li> </ul>
<b>Impacts on RLTP:</b>	<p>The proposal does not negatively affect any other projects in the RLTP, nor affect the overall integrity/affordability of the Plan, by virtue of Government funding from Crown Infrastructure Partners</p> <p>This project adds to the resilience and reliability of Stratford's land transport system.</p>

<p><b>Relationship to the RLTP’s Significance policy on variations:</b> <i>Refer to Section 7.4 on page 69 of <u>Plan</u></i></p>	<p>The proposed change of adding this project to the RLTP <b>does</b> require a formal variation process to be undertaken.</p> <p>This variation <b>does not</b> trigger the RLTP’s Significance Policy in terms of requiring that this project is publically consulted upon by the RTC, as this project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Was already signaled in Table 6 [Activities Included for Future Consideration] of the RLTP (on page 58). COVID-19 economic stimulus funding has provided an opportunity for this project to be brought forward from the planned timeframes.</li> <li>• Will receive appropriate community consultation with the Stratford community by the Stratford District Council.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Process for consideration and approval of variation requests</b></p> <p>The current RLTP for Taranaki was approved in April 2015 (then revised by a mid-term review in June 2018) and any significant new capital works that need to be included require a variation to the programme of activities component of the RLTP. A project must be included within the RLTP before it can be approved for funding from the National Land Transport Fund, which the NZ Transport Agency (NZTA) distributes through the National Land Transport Programme.</p> <p>In accordance with the RLTP variation policy, any variation to the RLTP should be considered and supported by the Regional Transport Advisory Group (RTAG) before being forwarded to the Regional Transport Committee (RTC) for consideration and endorsement, then to the Taranaki Regional Council (TRC) for final approval. The NZTA is then notified of the varied Plan, per section 18D of the <i>Land Transport Management Act 2003</i>.</p>		
<p><b>Timeframes for consideration of variation request</b></p> <p>The following outlines the expected timeframes for processing this variation request. The organisation requesting the variation is responsible for outlining the proposal to the RTAG and RTC.</p>		
Consideration by RTAG	27 May 20120	<p><i>Progression to the following step will only occur if support of the variation request is given by the considering body.</i></p>
Consideration by RTC	17 June 2020	
Consideration by TRC	30 June 2020	
Forward to NZTA	30 June 2020	
<p><b>Supporting attachments</b></p> <p>Indicative project plans for the Brecon Road Extension.</p>		



**PROJECT OVERVIEW PLAN**  
SCALE 1:2000



**BRIDGE OVERVIEW PLAN**  
SCALE 1:1000

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