



Pursuant to Clause 6 of the first Schedule of the Resource Management Act 1991

## Submission on Wanganui District Council Proposed District Plan Change 52

To: Wanganui District Council  
Po Box 637,  
101 Guyton Street  
Wanganui

From: NZ Transport Agency  
PO Box 1947  
Palmerson North 4440

---

- 1 The NZ Transport Agency (*Transport Agency*) generally supports the Wanganui District Council Proposed Plan Change 52.
- 2 The specific provisions of the Proposed District Plan that the Transport Agency's submission relates to are as follows:  
The proposed plan change provisions which are identified in 3.2.
- 3 The Transport Agency's submission is that:

### 3.1 Role of the Transport Agency

The Transport Agency's objective, functions, powers and responsibilities are derived from the Land Transport Management Act 2003 ("LTMA"), and the Government Roding Powers Act 1989 ("GRPA"). The statutory objective of the Transport Agency is "to undertake its functions in a way that contributes to an effective, efficient, and safe land transport system in the public interest."<sup>1</sup> The Transport Agency's functions that are relevant to Proposed District Plan include "to contribute to an effective, efficient, and safe land transport system in the public interest"<sup>2</sup> and the "management of the state highway system, including planning, funding, design, supervision, construction, and maintenance and operations, in accordance with this Act and the Government Roding Powers Act 1989"<sup>3</sup>.

The Transport Agency is a Crown entity<sup>4</sup>, with the sole powers of control and management for all purposes of all state highways<sup>5</sup>. The Transport

---

<sup>1</sup>. Section 94 LTMA.

<sup>2</sup>. Section 95(1)(a) LTMA.

<sup>3</sup>. Section 95(1)(c) LTMA.

<sup>4</sup>. Section 93(2) LTMA.

Agency is also an investor in the Wanganui District's local road network, funding maintenance and operations, renewals, capital works and public transport services. As an investor, we therefore have a significant interest in seeing that land use planning for the District is integrated with the transport system. We also have an interest in present and future land use decision-making to ensure that the public receive value for money transport outcomes from our investment.

The Transport Agency is also a requiring authority and a network utility operator in terms of the Resource Management Act 1991<sup>6</sup>. In managing these networks the Transport Agency must promote the safe, efficient and effective function of the land transport system and ensure the land transport system is not adversely affected in a significant manner.

The Government Policy Statement (GPS) 2012/13 – 2021/22 on Land Transport Funding issued by the Minister of Transport came into effect on 1 July 2015, and sets out the Government's objectives and funding priorities for the land transport sector for a six-year period, with further indicative information for the following four years. The Transport Agency must give effect to the GPS when performing its functions in respect of land transport planning and funding<sup>7</sup>. The current GPS confirms that economic growth and productivity remains the primary objective for land transport expenditure, and extends this to include value for money and road safety as additional priorities. In addition to investing in the State highway network, the GPS identifies that quality investments in public transport and improving the local road network both have roles to play. All of these areas of focus are directly relevant to the Wanganui District's transport network and the relationship between land use planning, network management, and transport investment.

The GPS also sets strong expectations regarding the role of integrated planning in transport investment. This means that, in order to ensure funding in the land transport system, including investment in local roads, is consistent with government objectives, it is essential that a policy framework aligns land use and transport planning within Wanganui District.

### **3.2 Specific comments applying to the amendments to the Proposed District Plan provisions.**

The Transport Agency supports the overall intent and direction of Proposed District Plan. The Transport Agency's specific comments on Proposed District Plan are as follows:

---

<sup>5</sup>. Section 61 GRPA.

<sup>6</sup>. Section 167 RMA.

<sup>7</sup>. Section 70(1) LTMA.

Proposed Engineering Document 2016	The Transport Agency's position & decision sought
3.3.17 Crossings	<p>Removal of 3.3.17,</p> <p>Performance standard 13.5.9(i) adequately deals with the issue of crossings on State highways, and that 3.3.17 in the Engineering Document could create unnecessary confusion and duplication.</p> <p>However if the Council is of the opinion that 3.3.17 should be retained the Transport Agency's would be supportive of the removal of the '<del>Planning Policy Manual</del>' replaced with the '<u>Transport Agency's current Guidelines</u>'.</p> <p>Removal of 3.3.17 Crossings.</p>

**3.3 The Transport Agency seeks the following decision from Wanganui District Council:**

That the Proposed District Plan be approved subject to the above amendments (or amendments to the same effect).

**4 The Transport Agency does wish to be heard in support of this submission.**

Dated at Palmerston North this the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of August 2016.



**Alan Catchpole**  
**Principal Planner**

*Pursuant to a delegation from the Chief Executive of the NZ Transport Agency.*

Address for service:      Attention: Shaun Harvey  
NZ Transport Agency  
PO Box 1947  
**Palmerston North 4440**

Telephone Number:      (06) 953 6671  
E-mail:                      [shaun.harvey@nzta.govt.nz](mailto:shaun.harvey@nzta.govt.nz)