

3 September 2024

Curious Wellingtonian  
fyi-request-27959-c921a1fb@requests.fyi.org.nz

REF: OIA-16116

Dear requestor

**Request made under the Official Information Act 1982**

Thank you for your email of 7 August 2024 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*In relation to the Thorndon Quay roading upgrades, please provide any letters, emails, Txt messages, WhatsApp messages, Signal messages, Viber messages, calendar appointments, and handwritten/typed notes/recordings of phone conversations/meetings between:*

- *Wellington City Councillor Diane Calvert and the New Zealand Transport Agency*
- *Wellington City Councillor Tony Randle and the New Zealand Transport Agency*
- *Wellington City Councillor Ray Chung and the New Zealand Transport Agency*
- *Wellington City Councillor Nicola Young and the New Zealand Transport Agency for the period between 1 June and 7 August 2024.*

The following documents held by NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) fall within the scope of your request and are enclosed:

- Attachment 1: Letter from WCC Councillors to NZTA – 9 July 2024
- Attachment 2: Response from NZTA Board Chair to WCC Councillors – 1 August 2024
- Attachment 3: Response from NZTA to WCC Councillors – 6 August 2024

Certain information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act. This section allows for the withholding of information to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.

With respect to the information that has been withheld, I do not consider there are any other factors which would render it desirable, in the public interest, to make the information available.

In addition, some information in Attachment 1 falls outside the scope of your request and has been marked as such within the document.

Projects which were previously part of Let's Get Wellington Moving, such as the Thorndon Quay and Hutt Road works, retain any funding previously approved by the NZTA Waka Kotahi Board.

However, if the Wellington City Council (WCC) changes the scope or cost of such projects, it must return to the Board for re-approval to ensure the project is still a value-for-money investment and aligns with the Government Policy Statement on Land Transport (GPS) 2024.

Because the Wellington City Council is proposing changes to the scope of its project and is not progressing with the Hutt Road section, the project needs to be reassessed.

Any reassessment and decisions on revised funding would have to align with the direction and priorities set out in the new GPS, where the Government has signalled a shift in direction in road safety investment.

We are working with the WCC to understand the impacts of the changes being proposed.

Under section 28 of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision to withhold some this information. The contact details for the Ombudsman can be located at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz).

In line with NZTA policy, this response will soon be published on our website, with personal information removed.

If you would like to discuss this reply with NZTA, please contact the Ministerial Services team by email to [official.correspondence@nzta.govt.nz](mailto:official.correspondence@nzta.govt.nz).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robyn Elston', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Robyn Elston**  
National Manager System Design