

## **Government plan launched to propel New Zealand transport into the future**

MEDIA  
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Secretary for Transport Martin Matthews today launched an Intelligent Transport Systems Action Plan that will help make transport safer and more efficient in New Zealand. The plan identifies what is needed in New Zealand for advancing the introduction of intelligent transport systems technologies.

Intelligent transport systems use technologies such as sensors, computing and communications in vehicles and in transport infrastructure such as roads; and include such things as traffic control systems, advanced driver assistance, vehicle monitoring and integrated electronic ticketing.

“Intelligent transport systems could transform all forms of transport in coming decades,” Mr Matthews said. “Many technologies such as driverless cars, and the capacity for vehicles to platoon (drive closely together like train carriages by being connected electronically) are already being trialled in other countries. These sorts of technologies have the potential to fundamentally change how our transport systems work – while making them safer, more effective and more efficient.”

“The action plan explains the government’s strategic context and leadership role. It takes a high-level, multi-agency approach to the introduction of new intelligent transport systems. These systems are becoming integral to transport in New Zealand and around the world.”

“We are likely to see many new and exciting transport systems in the future. Some may even be transformational. For example, vehicles of the future may be so well equipped they are almost impossible to crash. We want to make sure New Zealand is able to take advantage of these technologies and reap their benefits as soon possible” Mr Matthews said.

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The Ministry of Transport has developed the plan in collaboration with other government departments and agencies, following public consultation late last year.

“Submitters supported the government taking a stronger leadership role. This action plan is the first step in that process,” Mr Matthews said.

The Action Plan has been approved by Government Ministers.

For more information visit:

[www.transport.govt.nz/ourwork/intelligenttransportsystems/](http://www.transport.govt.nz/ourwork/intelligenttransportsystems/)

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