

Te Waka Submission on the NZ Freight & Supply Chain Issues Paper

Te Waka, the Waikato's regional economic development agency, welcomes the opportunity to provide a brief submission on the New Zealand Freight & Supply Chain Issues Paper, released by Te Manatū Waka | The Ministry of Transport for consultation on 20 April 2022.

At the heart of the golden triangle, we see the Freight & Logistics sector as a key driver of economic development in the Waikato.

As a result of this, and with a view to maximising the potential this sector offers (both directly and as a drawcard for manufacturing and distribution businesses to locate in the region), we have brought together industry leaders from the sector to collaboratively develop a Waikato & Bay of Plenty Freight Action Plan. We partnered with Ernst & Young to write the report, alongside a core industry group including Tainui Group Holdings, Fonterra, KiwiRail, Port of Tauranga, Netlogix, Mondiale and Priority One.

This Waikato & Bay of Plenty Freight Action Plan will be released on 23 June 2022. The Action Plan aligns with many of the key themes and issues identified in the Ministry's Issues Paper and will provide a consolidated view of key stakeholder perspectives on freight priorities for the Waikato and Bay of Plenty regions.

We ask that the Ministry reviews the Waikato & Bay of Plenty Freight Action Plan once released as an input into your strategy development, and would welcome the opportunity to engage with the Ministry to consider how we might collaborate to progress the actions outlined in the Action Plan. These actions align to four key themes/focus areas:

- Increasing capacity of the network (to meet future demand)
- Improving supply chain resilience (to ensure preparedness for disruption)
- Mitigating current and expected skills shortages (particularly for truck drivers)
- Embracing new technologies (particularly to support decarbonisation)

We thank you again for the opportunity to make this brief submission and look forward to collaborating with you in future to support the growth of the freight sector in the Waikato.

Kind regards,



Hamish Bell

Board Chair | Hemana, Te Waka | Waikato Regional Economic Development Agency

2nd June 2022