



**NZ TRANSPORT AGENCY**  
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24 September 2018

Tony Phipps  
Northland Regional Council  
Private Bag 9021  
Whangarei 0148

Dear Tony

### **RLTP Variation Request**

The purpose of this letter is to seek a variation to the 2018–2021 Regional Land Transport Programme (RLTP) to include the activity of 'Northland Passing and Overtaking Opportunities'. The detailed business case is due to be completed this financial year and is funded through the Provincial Growth Fund. The detailed business case is valued at \$600,000.00. At this stage there is no financial plan for the remaining phases. The total cost of the package of work is not yet confirmed.

As you know, there are long sections of the Northland State Highway Network that lack passing and/or overtaking opportunities. This issue is exacerbated by hilly topography that often restricts forward sight distance. The network carries a wide range of vehicles, including campervans, cars towing boats and freight trucks, which can cause delays and frustration for other road users due to lower traveling speeds. Because of the lack of safe passing opportunities travel time reliability is adversely affected and this can result in risky and unsafe manoeuvres being attempted.

In November 2017 the NZ Transport Agency began working on a proposal to group Twin Coast Discovery activities into a comprehensive programme of works for the Provincial Growth Fund. A new activity to improve passing and overtaking opportunities was included.

There is however, no line item in the Northland RLTP, so in order to utilise this opportunity, this is a formal request to the Regional Transport Committee to vary the 2018–2021 RLTP to include the activity of Northland Passing and Overtaking Opportunities.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Barnet', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Simon Barnet**  
Principal Transport Planner