

Transport Services Report

December 2023

ELT & issue owner **Brett Gliddon, GM Transport Services**

ATTACHMENT ONE: Health, Safety and Wellbeing Performance Update

ATTACHMENT TWO: NLTP Funding Outlook

IN CONFIDENCE/LEGALLY PRIVILEGED (AS MARKED)



State Highway 1 Brynderwyn Hills (1/2)

We're providing an update on SH1 Brynderwyn Hills following recent adverse media about closing the road for works, which preceded engagement with stakeholders about when and how to close the road. The update provides information on the work needed, how we determined that we need to close the road and next steps.

SH1 Brynderwyn Hills suffered significant damage from the severe weather events in early 2023. The severe under and overslips resulted in two full closures totalling 73 days of disruption to road users. Work to date has focused on the short-term emergency response including temporary walls and retaining systems and restoring the route for people and freight.

Additional repairs are needed as SH1 Brynderwyn Hills is susceptible to further weather events and disruptions. If only reactive works continue to be carried out, the approach will not be sustainable as SH1 Brynderwyns will be susceptible to further weather events and disruptions this coming winter and in the immediate years to follow. The work will lift the LoS, by creating space to enable us to maintain the corridor more appropriately, without having to close the road as often.

The confirmed option was selected based on criteria of:

- Quality - reducing the likelihood of future unplanned closures
- Cost - to implement and maintain over the coming years
- Disruption - to the network now and over the coming years
- Constructability - the safety of road users now and over the coming years.

Extensive investigation has determined that a full closure is the safest and most efficient way to accommodate this recovery and enabling work. Other options considered included partial, overnight, staggered or delayed closures. These options were not selected as they would result in significantly longer disruptions.

State Highway 1 Brynderwyn Hills (2/2)



Decision making about the funding and public release of information was challenging as it coincided with the caretaker period. We also experienced complex challenges while trying to balance a no surprises approach, confidentiality and completing the due diligence needed to inform advice provided to the Board when considering the request for funding approval. The project team's consideration of the option of closing the road between Waitangi weekend and Easter was made public before any engagement with the community.

A media release was issued on 24 November 2023 advising that conversations are underway with community and businesses to help inform our next steps and that planning work is ongoing as we and the community consider the best timing for critical recovery and enabling works. This needs to consider how we can minimise disruptions around key travel periods and make use of the drier weather needed to complete these critical works.

A Steering Group of Senior Business Leaders from Northland has been established. We're using RAPID to underpin our approach to working with this group and stakeholders, including the community.

We have the Steering Group's agreement that they will provide a recommendation and detailed information about the impacts of closing the road and that we'll make the decision. The Steering Group's recommendation and our decision will be informed by community input. This is important because the community provides valuable information relevant to traffic management (they've told us that last time the place the trucks parked was a problem), key lessons from previous closures, minimising disruption and how we can best communicate road closure to them while reassuring people that Northland is still open.

We've drafted a survey to capture the community's views on timing, use of the road and how we can improve their experience from previous closures. We're planning for the survey to be live on 4 December for one week.

We'll inform you of the outcome of the community engagement and work with the Steering Committee.