



**la Ara Aotearoa Transporting New Zealand**

**submission to:**

**Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency**

**on:**

**Waikato Expressway–  
Hampton Downs to Tamahere**

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# **Ia Ara Aotearoa Transporting New Zealand (Transporting New Zealand) submission to Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency (Waka Kotahi) on: Waikato Expressway – Hampton Downs to Tamahere**

## **1. Representation**

- 1.1 Ia Ara Aotearoa Transporting New Zealand (Transporting New Zealand) provides unified national representation for the four regional trucking associations that make the Road Transport Association NZ (RTANZ). That is, 1500 members with about 13,000 trucks.
- 1.2 Transporting New Zealand members are predominately involved in the operation of commercial freight transport services both urban and inter-regional. These services are entirely based on the deployment of trucks both as single units for urban delivery and as multi-unit combinations that may have one or more trailers supporting rural or inter-regional transport.
- 1.3 The road freight transport industry employs 32,868 people (2.0% of the workforce), has a gross annual turnover of \$6 billion, and according Ministry of Transport research (National Freight Demands Study 2018) transports 93% of the total tonnes of freight moved in New Zealand.

## **2. Introduction**

- 2.1 Transporting New Zealand provides sector leadership and believes we all need to operate in an environment where the following must be managed and co-exist:
  - The safety and wellbeing of our drivers and other road users; our drivers are our most valuable asset
  - The impacts of transport on our environment
  - The transport of goods by road is economically feasible and viable and it contributes the best way it can to benefit our economy.
- 2.2 Transporting New Zealand welcomes the opportunity to comment on Waka Kotahi's proposal for a 110km/h speed limit on the Waikato Expressway, Hampton Downs to Tamahere.
- 2.3 To supplement this submission the regional trucking associations for which Transporting New Zealand provides unified national representation may, at their discretion, provide local submissions.

## **3. Comments on the proposal**

- 3.1 Transporting New Zealand strongly supports the proposal.
- 3.2 We are strong advocates for designing and building roads appropriate for the travelling speed that meet the typical contemporary expectations of the public here and overseas.

- 3.3 We also appreciate the increased safety outcomes that a well-designed road should deliver, particularly in terms of the speed of 110km/h increasing the differential between light and heavy vehicles thereby, making passing manoeuvres safer; and the roads side environment and infrastructure mitigating risks in the event that mistakes are made.
- 3.4 We believe providing good quality sections of road like this is a much better solution to reducing harm on our roads than simply reducing speed on poorly designed and maintained roads and we urge Waka Kotahi to apply this approach much more widely across the New Zealand road network.