



SUBMISSION

Submission: Speed Limit review on SH1, Motutere, Lake Taupō, Waikato

To: NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi
waikato.speed.reviews@nzta.govt.nz

Date: 17 November 2025

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About Ia Ara Aotearoa Transporting New Zealand

Ia Ara Aotearoa Transporting New Zealand (Transporting New Zealand) is a national membership association representing the road freight transport industry. Our 1,200 members (with a combined fleet of 14,000 heavy vehicles) operate urban, rural and inter-regional commercial freight transport services throughout the country.

As the peak body and authoritative voice of the road freight sector, Transporting New Zealand helps trucking operators drive successful, safe, sustainable businesses. Our strategic priorities are:

- Providing one industry voice for advocacy
- Promoting the road freight transport industry
- Attracting talent and promoting workforce development
- Supporting our members and customers
- Sustainability, safety and responsible emissions reduction

New Zealand's road freight transport industry employs 33,000 people (1.2% of the total workforce), and has a gross annual turnover in the order of \$6 billion. This is part of a wider transport sector that employs 108,000 people and contributes 4.8 percent of New Zealand's GDP. Road freight transport accounts for 93% of the total tonnage of freight moved in New Zealand (MoT National Freight Demands Study 2018).

Ia Ara Aotearoa Transporting New Zealand submission on the speed limit review on SH1, Motutere, Lake Taupō, Waikato

Introduction

- 1 Ia Ara Aotearoa Transporting New Zealand (Transporting New Zealand) appreciates the opportunity to provide a submission on NZTA's speed limit consultations on SH1 Motutere.
- 2 There is nothing confidential in our submission and we permit it to be published in full.

Transporting New Zealand comments

- 3 Transporting New Zealand is generally supportive of the community's desire for speed limit reductions, however we are cautious of proposals to reduce posted speed limits as the sole means to reduce traffic speeds in order to address feedback from local communities. We urge NZTA to carefully consider the physical attributes of the road, the roadside development and the presence of hazards that will act as cues to help influence the driver to drive at an appropriate speed rather simply posting a reduced speed limit.
- 4 We recommend that NZTA reconsider whether this proposed speed reduction to 60km/h is sensible. It proposes a 40km/h reduction in the current posted limit of 100km/h, albeit over a short distance. However, the current mean speed through this route is 69km/h, suggesting that drivers are already adapting their speed to the local conditions, albeit that the road is self-explaining a speed around 70km/h and not 60km/h without engineering treatments. There are also a large number of users on this route, at nearly 6,400 vpd, who will incur an estimated 34 hours increase in travel time per day over this short distance. Transporting New Zealand would suggest a proposed limit of 70km/h unless engineering treatments are applied to reduce average speeds further.

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