

30 July 2020

TTP0201

LMS:RP

Kiwi Rail  
C/- Regional Growth Team  
Emailed to: [regionalgrowthhub@kiwirail.co.nz](mailto:regionalgrowthhub@kiwirail.co.nz)

Dear sir or madam,

## **HORIZONS REGIONAL COUNCIL - FEEDBACK ON KIWIRAIL REGIONAL FREIGHT HUB PROPOSAL**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed Regional Freight Hub (hereafter referred to as the Freight Hub) on Railway Road, Palmerston North. This feedback is made behalf of Horizons Regional Council who hold statutory responsibility for transport planning for the Manawatū-Whanganui region.

On the whole, Horizons supports the proposal to create a regional intermodal Freight Hub and agrees that logistically the area proposed is best suited for this type of development given its proximity to the Main Trunk rail line and connections for freight movement north and south.

Development of the proposed Freight Hub will be key to achieving a secure and efficient distribution point for New Zealand, particularly in the North Island. However it is anticipated there will be flow-on effects on the local and inter-regional road transport network from the Freight Hub, therefore we consider it important for there to be an integrated transport response to these effects.

The proposed Palmerston North Integrated Transport Initiative (PNITI) which is being led by Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency is a key project that will resolve a number of the road transport impacts from the Freight Hub. This body of work involves development of a regional ring road, which would act as a critical link for the Freight Hub to enable multi-modal freight movement. Put simply, we believe the success of the Freight Hub will be reliant on secure and efficient road connections which PNITI, if progressed, will deliver.

With that in mind, we strongly urge KiwiRail and Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency to work together to plan, coordinate and deliver these two projects with the aim of achieving an integrated solution to freight movement in the region.

We look forward to continuing the conversation and happy to provide further information or clarify and points made in this feedback. Please contact Rhona Hewitt, Transport Services Manager, by email at [Rhona.Hewitt@horizons.govt.nz](mailto:Rhona.Hewitt@horizons.govt.nz) or on 0508 800 800 for any matters related to this letter.

Yours sincerely



Rachel Keedwell  
**CHAIR, HORIZONS REGIONAL COUNCIL**