

Bay of Plenty Passenger and Freight Rail

Phase 1 Draft Report

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Phase 1 Investigation

Investigation is being undertaken in two phases:

- Phase 1 focused on improving the current understanding and updating evidence to support decision making.
- Phase 2 will look at what this could mean for a rapid transit system, primarily focused on Tauranga City.

Stakeholders

- Local authorities in Bay of Plenty
- KiwiRail
- Port of Tauranga
- NZ Transport Agency
- Interest Groups
- SmartGrowth / UFTI

Government Reviews

Number of reviews underway linked to Rail:

- Upper North Island Supply Chain Review
- Future of Rail Review
- Budget Announcement for Additional Rail Funding

Future Opportunities

Partner with Central Government to ascertain:

- Position on passenger rail services for the region, including appetite to invest in an extension of the Hamilton to Auckland start-up trial.
- Position on investing in further technical work on passenger rail services to and within the western BoP sub-region (integrated with urban form and transport planning initiatives).

Future Opportunities

Develop a Rapid Transit Transition Plan for the WBoP

- Evidence base that identifies possible steps to move to rapid transit services as the sub-region grows (bus, rail, multi-modal).
- Important that decisions on rail are made within wider transport system thinking to ensure that the region invests in the right mode, in the right place at the right time.
- Align and support the WBoP Urban Form and Transport Initiative (UFTI).

Future Opportunities

Encourage protection and optimisation of the Bay of Plenty rail network

Work with KiwiRail and the Government, on the opportunity to:

- optimise the Bay of Plenty rail network;
- protect current and future rail corridors; and
- identify future infrastructure options to increase access to rail i.e. new sidings and/or line extensions.

Future Opportunities

Include all rail activities within the National Land Transport Fund / Programme

- Influence central government and the NZ Transport Agency to include rail (planning and investment) within the National Land Transport Programme, or a similar, all of transport system model and approach.
- Important that decision makers can see specific benefits and outcomes across a full suite of transport options.

Future Opportunities

Define customer values within multi-modal choices

- Work with customers and communities to determine the ‘values’ people have when making decisions about multi-modal transport options i.e. pleasure, comfort, cost, time, access (including technology).
- Use this insight and data to support future decision making.