*In the matter of:* The Resource Management Act 1991

and:

In the matter of

Proposed Change 4 (Tauriko West Urban Limit) to the

Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement

Before the:

Independent Hearing Commissioners

Statement of Evidence - Kim Cottle for the NZ Transport Agency

Dated:

6 August 2017

## **QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE**

- 1 My name is Kim Harris Cottle. I am employed by the NZ Transport Agency (Transport Agency) as a Principal Planning Advisor in the Bay of Plenty Region.
- 2 I hold a BSc in Resource and Environmental Planning & BSocSci (hons) and I have approximately 16 years planning experience working as a planner.
- I am authorised to make the following comments on behalf of the Transport Agency in relation to the Regional Policy Statement Proposed Plan Change 4
- 4 With me today and available to answer any questions regarding the Tauriko West Network Connections Business Case are:
  - a) Neil Cree Programme Director (Independent)
  - b) Wayne Troughton Senior Project Manager (NZ Transport Agency)

## TRANSPORT AGENCY FUNCTIONS, POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- The Transport Agency's functions, powers and responsibilities are derived from the Land Transport Management Act 2003 (LTMA), and the Government Roading Powers Act 1989 (GRPA).
- 6 The functions of the Transport Agency are defined in section 95 of the LTMA, and include, among other things:

"to contribute to an effective, efficient and safe land transport system in the public interest;

to manage the state highway system ...; and,

to assist, advise, and cooperate with approved organisations (such as regional councils and local territorial authorities)."

As such, the Transport Agency monitors Plan development, like Proposed Plan Change 4, occurring under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) to ensure that appropriate consideration is given to the transport system.

## NZ TRANSPORT AGENCY SUBMISSION OF SUPPORT

7 The Transport Agency supports the Council staff recommendations contained in the Section

42A report.

8 As stated in our submission the Transport Agency would like to acknowledge the collaborative

approach taken by the SmartGrowth Strategy partners to develop the "Tauriko for Tomorrow"

project. This project enables the integrated land use and transport system planning of Tauriko

West.

9 The Transport Agency would like to continue to work collaboratively with the SmartGrowth

partners as the Tauriko for Tomorrow project is further progressed. We consider that a

continuation of the collaborative approach to the planning of this area will help to achieve the

desired community outcomes and individual partners project objectives.

10 We note that part of the Tauriko for Tomorrow project includes the development of the Tauriko

West Network Connections Business Case (currently at Detailed Business Case stage), which

is being developed jointly by the SmartGrowth project partners and the Transport Agency.

11 The focus of this Business Case is on identifying the transport system that enables the

urbanisation of the Tauriko West area, integrates with the surrounding area, and supports the

nationally significant freight route (State Highway 29) that extends through Tauriko.

12 We view the development of the Tauriko West Network Connections Business Case as an

important part of the assessment and information gathering process towards urbanisation of

Tauriko West. This is because the Business Case will identify a transport system for the next

30 years, including and implementation plan and co-investment delivery approach. We

consider that this will include a transport system that is multi-modal, safe, accessible and

resilient.

13 We look forward to continuing to work with the Project partners to deliver a community where

locals can live, learn work and play.

Kim Cottle - Principal Planning Advisor

NZ Transport Agency