WAKA KOTAHI
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16 April 2024

Rodney Witte
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REF: OIA-14941

Dear Rodney

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 18 March 2024 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

1. The mosi recent daily and weekly traffic counts, including where available by vehicle type (light/heavy), for all available traffic count points on State Highway 6 within the Nelson city urban area (Allisdair Street to Champion Road) including the section of Whakatu Drive from the Annesbrook Drive/ Tahunanui Drive/Whakatu Drive roundabout to the Waimea Road/Beatson Road/ Whakatu Drive roundabout.

2. Acopy of the acoustic modelling, including the name(s) and qualifications of the person(s) who undertook the modelling, undertaken in support of the 31 October 2023 Waka Kotahi submission to Nelson City Counci Plan Change 29. The submission was signed by Rodney Albertyn Principal Planner - Poutiaki Taiao /Environmental Planning Waka Kotahi.

3. Numbers of noise complaints relating to traffic noise from State Highway 6 within the Nelson urban by year over the past 10 years.

4, A list of New Zealand territorial authorities (city and district councils) that have incorporated in their district plans acoustic attenuation rules for private dwellings to mitigate the noise effects of traffic on state highways where such rules are similar or equivalent to the rules sought by Waka Kotahi in the 31 October 2023 submission on Nelson City Council Plan Change 29.

| am responding to each of your requests in turn.

1. The most recent daily and weekly traffic counts

There are three sites that count traffic for the Nelson urban area. Please find the most recent daily and weekly traffic counts for the Nelson urban area enclosed:

e Attachment 1: Vehicle counts Nelson urban area, 1 January 2024 to 31March 2024

2. ***A copy of the acoustic modelling, including the name(s) and qualifications of the person(s) who undertook the modelling, undertaken in support of the 31 October 2023 Waka Kotahi submission to Nelson City Council Plan Change 29.***

Please find the response to this part of your request enclosed:

- Attachment 2: State highway noise control overlay (23 March 2023)

The people who undertook acoustic modelling were:

- Lee Evans (AECOM) who undertook the acoustic modelling. Lee is a Principal Acoustics Engineer with AECOM. We do not keep a record of Lee's qualifications.

- Stephen Chiles (Chiles Limited) managed the checking of the overlay and instructions for minor manual adjustments specifically in the Nelson City District. Stephen's qualifications are:
  - Doctor of Philosophy, Acoustics
  - Bachelor of Engineering, Electroacoustics
  - Chartered Professional Engineer
  - Fellow of the Institute of Acoustics, United Kingdom
  - Experience working in acoustics since 1996.

We have also identified a further document relevant to your request *"Social cost (health) of land transport noise exposure in New Zealand"*. This research paper is currently being prepared for public release which we expect to occur in June 2024. I am therefore refusing to release this report under section 18(d) of the Act as the information requested is or will soon be publicly available.

3. ***Numbers of noise complaints relating to traffic noise from State Highway 6 within the Nelson urban by year over the past 10 years.***

Our records go back as far as 4 October 2016. Between 4 October 2016 and 9 April 2024, there have been a total of 30 communications to our Customer Relationships Management Service from customers about noise in Nelson area as follows:

Year	Number of communications recorded about noise in Nelson urban area
Part year - 4 October 2016 to 31 December 2016	3
2017	4
2018	2
2019	4
2020	6
2021	6
2022	1
2023	-
Part year - 1 January 2024 to 9 April 2024	4
	Total = 30

4. Alist of New Zealand territorial authorities (city and district councils) that have incorporated in their district plans acoustic attenuation rules for private dwellings to mitigate the noise effects of traffic on state highways

Noise generated by state highway traffic can adversely affect people's health and well-being. For this reason, NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) seeks to ensure that development near state highways is appropriately designed and constructed to protect users and occupiers of the sites.

One of the ways this is managed is through district plan rules.

However, NZTA does not systematically check all district plans for noise provisions. In 2020, NZTA did look to see which plans had noise provisions within them and produced the following publicly available map https://nzta.govt.nz/roads-and-rail/highways-information-portal/technical-disciplines/environment-and-sustainability-in-our-operations/environmental-technical-areas/noise-and-vibration/land-use-planning-noise-and-vibration/district-plan-provisions-for-noise/. Please note that since 2020 there have been a large number of district plan reviews and plan changes and these maps are now likely to be out of date.

NZTA does not maintain a list of noise control provisions in district plans. District plans are publicly available from each council. | am therefore refusing this part of your request under section 18(d) as the information is or will soon be publicly available.

Under section 28 of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision to refuse part of your request. The contact details for the Ombudsman can be located at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

If you would like to discuss this reply with NZTA, please contact Ministerial Services by email to official.correspondence@nzta.govt.nz

Yours sincerely

Se HS

Robyn Elston
National Manager System Design