



Southern Transport Package

Overview

National's Southern Transport Package consists of three elements:

- Road safety improvements to increase the resilience of the road network and increase safety.
- Bridge replacements to improve safety and support growth and expansion in the region.
- A series of projects designed to increase tourism opportunities and increase choice and accessibility for tourists and residents.

Safety Improvements

SH1 Mosgiel-Balclutha Safety Improvements

As Dunedin and the wider region continues to grow, investing in common sense road safety improvements is critical. Traffic volumes on the route have increased by approximately 13 per cent in the last four years, and between 2006 and 2015, 12 people were killed and 66 were seriously injured in crashes on this stretch of road.

National will fund and fast track work on this stretch of SH1, including widening the shoulders where possible in high-risk sections, putting in flexible roadside safety barriers to stop drivers running off the road, and widening the road.

Cost: \$10-20 million

Queenstown - Te Anau Safety Improvements

The route between Queenstown and Te Anau services a resident population, but is also regularly used by visitors to the region. The stretch of road on State Highway 6 from Queenstown travelling south is also noted a high risk road - between 2012 and 2018 there

were 209 crashes on this route. This has been put down to the nature of the road as well as limited passing lane opportunities and unfamiliar drivers with the route.

The Queenstown to Te Anau road also varies considerably in quality along its route with regular safety concerns being raised by locals about the State Highway 6 section from Queenstown and the State Highway 94 section between Te Anau and Milford Sound.

National would immediately begin work to deliver passing lanes and safety improvements across this key transport link.

Cost: \$10-20 million

Investigating Mosgiel heavy traffic alternatives

The southern area of Dunedin is growing but heavy traffic still uses the main street of Mosgiel: SH87, Gordon Road. This puts pressure on the local community and other options should be explored.

National will work with the Dunedin City Council and the Mosgiel-Taieri Community Board to investigate a heavy traffic bypass for Mosgiel.

Bridge Replacements

Replacement of the Beaumont Bridge

National will fund and fast-track the replacement of the Beaumont Bridge, which is currently a single lane bridge across the Clutha River at Beaumont. The current bridge was built in 1887 and is one of only a few wrought iron bridges still operating.

The bridge provides an important link over the Clutha River on the road connecting Dunedin with Central Otago and onto Queenstown.



National will ensure that the Bridge is completed and will fast-track the consenting of it to bring forward completion.

Cost: \$20 million

Upgrading and double-laning the Orari Bridge in Geraldine

The Orari Bridge is a single lane bridge on State Highway 79, about six kilometres north of Geraldine. It has been a regular cause for concern with the local community due to the safety issues on bridge for motorists and delays caused by incidents or weather events on the bridge. It has been described as an "urgent priority" by the Timaru Mayor.

National will upgrade the bridge and double lane it.

Cost: \$30 million

Southland Regional Bridge Replacement Programme (include Monowai Suspension Bridge)

The Southland District Council has identified a large number of bridges – 171 – in the region that will require replacement within the next twelve years, but for which little funding has been allocated. Planning for upgrading these bridges is required now. National will direct NZTA to work with the Council to put in place a systematic bridge upgrade programme over the next decade, and make sure funding is available to allow this to occur. Investment will be shared between the Council and NZTA.

National will ensure the suspension bridge on Lake Monowai Road (the only access to the Monowai community) is upgraded as part of this process.

Cost: \$40 million over the next decade

Other Projects

Hollyford Road

This 17 kilometre section of SH94 connects to the popular Hollyford track in Southland. The road receives an enhanced funding arrangement as a 'special purposes' designation but this funding expires in 2024, when responsibility for the road is due to transfer to the Southland District Council.

As with other roads like the road from Westport to Karamea (former SH67) and the Haast-Jackson Bay Roads, under National NZTA will continue to fund this road, rather than the Council. National will also ensure the road is repaired.

Cost: unknown but met form NLTF baselines

Dunedin – Mosgiel Commuter Rail Trial

Earlier this year, after Dunedin Railways tourism service was stopped due to the impact of COVID-19, there was community and City Council support for investigations into whether commuter rail between Mosgiel and Dunedin could be viable.

There are 30,000 vehicle movements per day between Mosgiel and Dunedin, with 75 per cent bound for the Dunedin CBD.

National is interested in whether a passenger service is viable, and will provide \$100,000 for a feasibility study. If the feasibility study is robust and warrants further investigation, National will fund up to \$300,000 through NZTA for a limited trial of the service, working with KiwiRail to make it happen.

Cost: \$100,000 for feasibility study and \$300,000 for limited trial

Dunedin Tunnels Trail

The Dunedin Tunnels Trail is a project to build a 15km cycle and walking trail between Dunedin and Mosgiel. The trail will follow the old railway alignment between Wingatui and Caversham, which was in use from 1880 until



1910. It includes two currently disused Victorian Railway Tunnels. The trail has been designated as a major project by the Dunedin City Council and enjoys strong support.

The DCC has given the project \$11.9 million as part of a wider \$23 million cycleway programme in the DCC 10 year plan. However the project does not yet have a final estimated cost or timeline.

National will work with local government to ensure the delivery of the full Dunedin Tunnels Trail over the next decade. Funding of \$10 million has been allocated as an initial investment, which will be released as work on the various elements of the project continues in the coming years. National will also work with the Council to fast-track consenting of the project.

Cost: \$10 million

Queenstown New Zealand Upgrade Package

Despite current challenges, the history of Queenstown is a city growing strongly with high population and tourism growth.

National will commit to the full \$90 million New Zealand Upgrade Package funded by the current government that includes:

- Funding for a range of public transport projects on SH6 and SH6A, between Ladies Mile, Kawarau Falls Bridge and Queenstown's town centre.
- Bus lanes to prioritise travel by public transport on SH6 and bus priority on SH6A. These will be supported by a new bus hub on SH6.
- A new roundabout at Howards Drive (Lake Hayes Estate access).
- An upgrade to the SH6/SH6A intersection and an underpass at Ladies Mile to provide better cycling and walking connections.

Cost: \$90 million (met through NZ Upgrade funding)