

Warwick L Bennett
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

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MEMORANDUM

FILE:

DATE: 6 June, 1996

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MEMORANDUM

TO:

His Worship the Mayor

All Councillors

Huntly Community Board Members
Taupiri Community Board Members
Ngaruawahia Community Board Members

Management Team Stephen Colson

FROM:

Chief Executive

DATE:

FILE:

6 June, 1996

SUBJECT:

State Highway One - Proposed Route

As you will be aware, Transit New Zealand has now publicly released its proposed route of State Highway One from Ohinewai to Cambridge, or perhaps I should say a large shaded area that the proposed route will fall into. A copy of the article which appeared in the Waikato Times on Wednesday 5 June is attached for your information. Transit New Zealand will be conducting a series of public consultations but I consider it appropriate, with the support of His Worship the Mayor, for this Council to look at a position on this issue.

To this end it is my intention to hold a half-day workshop on Friday 14 June at 9.30am in the Council Chamber to discuss this proposed route and to list the issues which may arise as part of this process. You are most welcome to attend this workshop and discuss these issues with us. I realise the timing is short but would appreciate your attendance. The meeting will be chaired by His Worship the Mayor.

I look forward to seeing you all.

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE

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Waikato expressway bypasses three towns

By SIMON HENDERY Transport reporter

Huntly, Taupiri and Ngaruawahia will be by-passed when a four-lane expressway between Auckland and Cambridge is built.

But roading authority Transit New Zealand has yet to decide whether the new route will run to the east or the west of

Hamilton.
TNZ today released its "corridor" showing roughly where the long-awaited road will run along the Ohinewai to Tamahere section of the

to Tamahere section of the project.
When it is eventually built, at a cost of hundreds of millions of dollars, the expressway will cut travelling time through the Waikato and improve safety.
Waikato District councillars and Austh Consensity.

Waikato District council-lor and Huntly Community Board member George Dow said there was a fear Huntly would be "out of sight, out of mind" if the expressway bypassed the town, as proposed.

He said if the road did bypassed the town residents

bypass the town, residents hoped it would be built with good on and off-ramps so access to Huntly was

Construction could be 10 or 15 years away — depending on when funding becomes available,

TNZ is seeking submissions on the proposed corridor. A series of public meetings will be held in the communities affected by the communities a nected by the proposal within the next couple of months, regional state highways manager Colin Knaggs said.

A final decision will then

be made on the route.
The aim of the express-

way is to increase speed and safety by minimising the number of roads joining the main route.
TNZ believes the best

option is to bypass town and city centres.

"The present route through (Hamilton's) Greenwood St is becoming congested and cannot ac-

commodate a four-lane expressway," Mr Knaggs said.
"A faster and more efficient bypass route is clearly required. The key question is whether to take SH1 east of the idea of the state of of the city or through Hamilton West." It would be cheaper to build the bypass on the east of Hamilton, where more land is available.

However, most traffic heads to the west of the

city.
Huntly, Ngaruawahia and Taupiri will also be

and Taupiri will also be bypassed.

"The present route (through Ngaruawahia) forces highway traffic to slow down considerably and increases the potential for accidents where highway traffic merges with slower traffic merges with slower moving local traffic and pedestrians."

pedestrians."

Ngaruawahia Community
Board chairman Ron
Brownlee said the move to
shift SH1 out of the town
was positive because it
would improve safety.

He said the the town also
wanted good on and offramp access.

ramp access.

The expressway will run to the east of Taupiri Mountain. Mr Knaggs said the present SH1 route between the mountain and Waikato River "would cut the village off from the river, would require major earthworks near Taupiri Mountain, and would affect access to the mountain".

"The proposed corridor east of Taupiri Mountain involves a sleep grade to pass over the Taupiri ranges, but appears to offer most benefit at least cost."

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Waikato District Mayor
Angus Macdonald said he
wanted the road designated
along a route which would
be cheap to build so the
project could be started as

People wanting more information on the proposed route can ring Transit New Zealand's Hamilton office on 07 838 8220.

SEE Ngaruawahia looks to the future, page 3

