

## Submission on proposed variations to the Otago Southland Regional Land Transport Plan 2015 – 2021

To: Environment Southland

### **Introduction:**

Thank you for the opportunity for Gore District Council (GDC) to submit on the proposed variations to the Otago Southland Regional Land Transport Plans.

As you will be aware GDC is a key partner in the management and delivery of transport infrastructure in the Gore District for and on behalf of the Gore District community.

### **Concerns**

In general we support the main objectives within the document and only have one area of concern that we consider of higher importance than the document currently presents.

The Mataura Intersection Improvement project at SH1 and SH93 (Appendix 1, page 118) has been identified as a low risk/low cost project given the associated funding levels. The current situation presents key safety concerns on a regionally strategic intersection (freight movements), which also has potential indirect effects on the rail network and rail safety. The improvement works to this intersection have support from the local community, NZTA and KiwiRail, given the existing safety issues/risk.

Therefore, while we understand the variation from an improvement activity to a low risk/low cost project has been made based on financial criteria, we are concerned that the intersection project may lose impetus and we respectfully seek reassurance that these improvement works remain a priority within the plans and that some time frames around its commencement/completion are provided to ensure action.

GDC would like to speak in support of this submission.

Kind regards