

Before the Expert Consenting Panel

under: the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

in the matter of: applications for resource consents and archaeological authorities and notices of requirement by the New Zealand Transport Agency Waka Kotahi to develop a rapid transit link and associated infrastructure and connections between Brigham Creek and Auckland City centre, alongside State Highway 16, known as 'North West Rapid Transit'

applicant: **New Zealand Transport Agency Waka Kotahi**
Requiring Authority and Applicant

Memorandum of counsel on behalf of the New Zealand Transport Agency Waka Kotahi

Dated: 29 May 2026

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**MEMORANDUM OF COUNSEL ON BEHALF OF NEW ZEALAND
TRANSPORT AGENCY WAKA KOTAHI**

- 1 This memorandum is filed on behalf of the New Zealand Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (*NZTA*) in relation to its notices of requirement (*NORs*) and applications for resource consents and archaeological authorities (together, *Application*) for the North West Rapid Transit Project (*NWRT* or *Project*).
- 2 The Panel has set five deadlines for comments on the Application:
 - 2.1 26 May, for the first group of invitees (Minute 2);
 - 2.2 2 or 3 June (see paragraph 8 below), for a second group of invitees (Minute 4);
 - 2.3 2 June, for Auckland Council (Minute 9);
 - 2.4 15 or 16 June (see paragraph 8 below), for additional Westgate Shopping Centre invitees (Minute 6 and Minute 9); and
 - 2.5 22 June, for the Minister of Defence (Minute 9).
- 3 In addition, *NZTA's* response to the Panel's third request for information (*RFI#3*) is due on 3 June (Minute 7).
- 4 We wish to advise the Panel that *NZTA* intends to:
 - 4.1 respond to the first group of comments and *RFI#3* on 3 June; and
 - 4.2 respond to any comments lodged by subsequent invitees within five working days of the respective deadlines for those comments.
- 5 The multiple deadlines for comments mean that *NZTA* may need to lodge two or more statements of evidence from some of its experts (ie those experts that are responding to matters raised in comments from the first group of invitees, Council and potentially others). This approach may not be of the greatest assistance to the Panel.
- 6 We therefore respectfully request the Panel to advise whether it would be better assisted by statements of evidence being lodged by 9 June (ie five working days after the Council deadline for comments). Additional statements of evidence would then be limited to those necessary to respond to comments from the additional Westgate Shopping Centre invitees and Minister of Defence.
- 7 *NZTA* intends to file legal submissions addressing legal issues that have arisen since lodgement as well as updated versions of the designation and resource consent conditions by 22 June. Legal issues

arising from the comments will be identified in NZTA's responses to comments.

- 8 We note that the deadlines set for the second group of invitees and additional Westgate Shopping Centre invitees does not appear to account for the King's Birthday public holiday. We therefore respectfully request that the Panel update these deadlines.

Dated 29 May 2026

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'P. Brosnahan' or similar, written in a cursive style.

Paula Brosnahan / Nicola de Wit
Counsel for New Zealand Transport Agency Waka Kotahi