



Re: Woodend Bypass File ref FTAA-2512-1157

From [REDACTED]
Date Wed 15/04/2026 9:04 AM
To FastTrack Substantive <substantive@fasttrack.govt.nz>

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to provide feedback on the proposed State Highway 1 North Canterbury – Woodend Bypass project.

Firstly, I would like to express concern regarding the inclusion of a toll on the proposed bypass. It is widely understood that this would not be well received by the public, and there has already been strong sentiment indicating that many drivers would choose not to pay. If this occurs, a significant amount of traffic is likely to remain on Williams Street in Kaiapoi. This road runs directly past a primary school, and increased congestion in this area would create serious safety risks for children and families. In this respect, the bypass may fail to address the very problem it is intended to solve.

Additionally, the overall cost of the project appears difficult to justify, particularly at a time when many New Zealanders are facing financial pressure. Public investment of this scale should deliver clear and meaningful benefits, and it is not evident that this proposal meets that threshold.

I was also surprised to learn that the projected travel time savings from the bypass are minimal. If the benefit is only a reduction of a few minutes, it raises questions about whether the significant expense is warranted, as the costs and advantages do not appear to be well balanced.

In my view, alternative solutions should be more seriously considered. For example, in Woodend, an underground pedestrian tunnel could provide a safer and more efficient way for children and families to cross the road. The current traffic lights contribute significantly to congestion, and addressing this issue directly may be a more practical and cost effective approach.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback. I hope these concerns are taken into consideration as decisions are made regarding this proposal.

Yours sincerely,

Karla Allsopp

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