

2020-B-07280

Jessica Andrew
General Counsel Environment and RMA
Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency
s9(2)(a)

Dear Jessica

**COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-Track Consenting) Act 2020 – Wooing Tree Estate –
Comments sought**

In the week commencing 28 September 2020, the Minister for the Environment received an application to refer the above project to an expert consenting panel for consideration under the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 (the Act).

The project is described as follows, and a copy of the application and the transport assessment report provided by the applicant is attached:

Wooing Tree Estate

The proposed project includes the construction and operation of a staged (over 5 years) residential subdivision, dwellings, a neighbourhood commercial centre, cellar door facility for Wooing Tree Vineyard, a new roundabout and pedestrian underpass under SH8B, and associated works and infrastructure.

You have been identified as an agency that may have an interest in this project as the application is dependent on the construction of the roundabout on State Highway 8B adjacent to the Barry Avenue intersection. The application also proposes to construct roading connections onto State Highway 8B including a pedestrian underpass under State Highway 8B.

Under delegated authority from the Minister for the Environment, I invite you to provide written comments on the proposed project pursuant to section 21(2) of the Act (a template is attached for this purpose), including any information on any agreements with Wooing Tree Property Development LP (the applicant) and the potential timing of building the roundabout and underpass. We would also like to clarify whether these works will be carried out by the applicant and can be included in this application or whether these works will be undertaken by NZTA under the scope of the State Highway designations and associated outline plans (i.e. separate from this application).

If it is more efficient to discuss this application, please contact me or my team at fasttrackconsenting@mfe.govt.nz and we will make a time to contact you.

We note that if the Minister for the Environment decides to refer the project to a panel, applicants will provide a detailed assessment of environmental effects at the next stage.

Please provide your comments via return email no later than 10 working days so that the Minister for the Environment can take your comments into consideration when deciding on the application.

Yours sincerely



Sara Clarke
Manager, Fast-Track Consenting Team

Enclosures:

- A. Application to refer Wooing Tree Estate project to an expert consenting panel including supporting information.
- B. A transportation assessment report prepared by Carriageway Consulting.
- C. Response template for written comments.

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