

21 January 2021

Official Information Request No. 8140007932
(Please quote this in any correspondence)

Dear 

Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

Re: Auckland Regional Fuel Tax

I refer to your email, which we received on 21 December 2020, requesting information about Auckland Regional Fuel Tax.

I have liaised with our Financial Strategy and Planning Team, our Group Treasury and Transactions Team and our Finance Department and they have provided the following information.

Auckland Council have collected \$361 million from when the Regional Fuel Tax (RFT) was implemented until 30 November 2020.

A list of projects eligible for RFT funding was approved and set out in Schedule 2 of the Land Transport Management (Regional Fuel Tax Scheme—Auckland) Order 2018, prior to the RFT being implemented. These RFT funds can only be spent on these approved projects.

The process for establishing the RFT was:

- The Auckland Transport Alignment Project identified projects that would be delayed or not funded within the normal funding parameters.
- Auckland Council, with approval from the Finance and Performance Committee (which includes all Auckland Council councillors), consulted with Aucklanders on introducing a RFT to fund transport investment as part of its 10-year Budget 2018-2028 (from 28 February 2018 to 28 March 2018).
- Auckland Council prepared a draft proposal for a RFT scheme and consulted with Aucklanders on this (from 1 May 2018 to 14 May 2018), as approved by the Finance and Performance Committee. The draft proposal included a list of the proposed projects.
- Following consultation, the Finance and Performance Committee approved the proposal, which was submitted to Central Government.
- Central Government issued the order on 27 June 2018.

Below is the list of the specified projects and the RFT funding applied to those projects up to 30 November 2020.

Summary of Regional Fuel Tax Expenditure

Funding of capital expenditure

Project 1: Bus priority improvements	\$	6,545,912
Project 2: City centre bus infrastructure	\$	10,946,892
Project 3: Improving airport access	\$	11,049,313
Project 4: Eastern Busway	\$	29,740,982
Project 5: Park-and-ride facilities	\$	37,110
Project 6: Electric trains and stabling	\$	-
Project 7: Downtown ferry terminal and redevelopment	\$	34,692,569
Project 8: Road safety	\$	38,254,605
Project 9: Active Transport	\$	2,143,963
Project 10: Penlink	\$	989,013
Project 11: Mill Road corridor	\$	7,611,547
Project 12: Road corridor improvements	\$	7,587,854
Project 13: Network capacity and performance improvement	\$	18,723,933
Project 14: Growth-related transport infrastructure	\$	9,522,652
	\$	177,846,344

Funding of operating expenditure

Road safety	\$	5,544,690
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Total expenditure	\$	183,391,035
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Unspent funds, totalling \$178 million, are being held in a reserve fund, which earmarks the funds for these RFT projects. Many of the RFT projects are in their early stages, which means that capital expenditure to date is relatively low. However, all RFT funds are budgeted to be spent over the lives of the projects.

Auckland Transport manage the budgets for the regional fuel tax expenditure. More details on the projects can be found on their website: <https://at.govt.nz/about-us/our-role-organisation/corporate-plans-strategies/regional-fuel-tax/>.

Decisions relating to the information that is being released to you were made by **John Bishop Group Treasurer and Michael Burns acting GM Financial Strategy and Planning**.

Should you believe Auckland Council has not responded appropriately to your request, you have the right by way of complaint, under section 27(3) of the LGOIMA, to apply to the Ombudsman to seek an investigation and review of the decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you have any further queries please contact me on 09 301 0101 quoting official information request number 8140007932

Yours sincerely



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