

Hon Grant Robertson

MP for Wellington Central
Deputy Prime Minister
Minister of Finance
Minister for Infrastructure
Minister for Sport and Recreation
Minister for Racing



14 APR 2021

Marion Short
International Association for Public Participation
marion@iap2.org.au

Dear Marion

Thank you for your letter of 4 February 2021 to Hon Michael Wood, Minister of Transport, regarding engagement around delivery of shovel-ready projects. Minister Wood has referred your letter to me.

We welcome your support of the Government's \$3 billion 'shovel-ready' programme of infrastructure investment in response to COVID-19. Through this programme, the Government has provided ongoing support to the construction and infrastructure sectors while enabling key projects across New Zealand focusing on housing and urban development, climate resilience and flood prevention, sustainable energy, and community development.

The Government supports the role of effective community and stakeholder engagement to improve social, environmental and economic outcomes and increase transparency and trust in the democratic process. I would like to congratulate you on the efforts of IAP2 Australasia in responding to the Australian Bushfires and COVID-19, and supporting engagement and public participation professionals with training and educational resources.

The shovel-ready programme has included various points of engagement with communities and stakeholders since early 2020. This started with the open nature of the original application process that saw almost 2,000 submissions from local authorities, private sector companies, iwi and community groups, and government agencies across the country. As selected projects have been advanced, Crown agencies have had ongoing engagement with project owners and stakeholders to ensure they are progressing as planned and realising the intended benefits for New Zealanders.


You may be interested in the following resources that relate to the \$3 billion 'shovel-ready' infrastructure programme:

- <https://www.crowninfrastructure.govt.nz/> - the website of Crown Infrastructure Partners Limited who have a responsibility for coordinating and monitoring the programme
- <https://covid19.govt.nz/updates-and-resources/legislation-and-key-documents/proactive-release/> - a list of the Government's proactive publicly released documents relating to decisions made as part of the response to COVID-19
- <https://infracom.govt.nz/projects/> - The New Zealand Infrastructure Commission, Te Waihanga's website with a published pipeline of key infrastructure projects across New Zealand.

I have also forwarded your material to my officials to ensure they can also consider your messages around the importance of good community and stakeholder engagement.

Thank you for taking the time to write.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Grant Robertson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Hon Grant Robertson
Minister of Finance