Presented at
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on Tasman RLTP 2018

## Speaking Notes - Progressive Enterprises Limited Submission on Tasman RLTP 2018

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## Background

- 1. This submission relates to the Champion Road / Salisbury Road roundabout ("the roundabout").
- 2. Progressive owns land adjoining the roundabout, which was zoned for a supermarket use through Plan Change 62 (Tasman District Plan). We have applied for a resource consent and are expecting approval soon.
- As part of the Plan Change process, the traffic experts for the different parties at the hearing agreed that the current operation of the roundabout was at or near its capacity and there is a need to upgrade the intersection as soon as possible, regardless of the supermarket proposal.
- 4. Pressure on the roundabout is increasing due to various developments on both the Nelson and Tasman side of the boundary, and upgrading the roundabout will unlock growth in both districts.
- 5. The proposed supermarket is predicted to contribute around 10-15% of the traffic through the intersection at peak times.
- 6. Progressive has proposed a design for an intersection upgrade to address the existing capacity constraints at the roundabout. This design has been accepted as suitable by all traffic experts involved in the Plan Change process.
- 7. We are in discussions with Tasman District Council staff regarding an offer of land and money for works to upgrade the roundabout, and about bringing the funding for this project forward.
- 8. Separate to the need to upgrade the roundabout for traffic capacity reasons, there is also a proposal, which we understand is supported by both Tasman and Nelson Councils, for a pedestrian and cycle underpass under Champion Road. This will provide a safer walking and cycling connection between the Stoke and Richmond areas, and beyond. The underpass project is not related to the supermarket, but Progressive has no objections to this.
- 9. Both projects are provided for in the draft Tasman RLTP as one item in Year 4 (2021-22). (Row 5 of the table on page 33 of the draft RLTP). The total allowed for is \$3.3m, which we understand is roughly \$1m for the roundabout and \$2.3m for the underpass, including land acquisition costs.

## **Key points:**

- 10. Our submission is that the funding for the roundabout upgrade should be made available in Year 1 (2018-19). We are making the same submission to Nelson City Council, and will make our own contribution to this project as well.
- 11. We understand that the Council has other projects to fund as well, and that bringing this project forward may incur additional borrowing costs. We are in discussions with Council staff over the details of this, regarding the possibility of us funding the interest cost to bring the roundabout project forward.
- 12. The underpass project is not related to the supermarket. We understand that there are no designs in place for the underpass yet. Whilst there may be some efficiency from building the underpass at the same time as the roundabout upgrade, our submission is that these should be undertaken as separate projects to:
  - a. Enable the intersection upgrade to be undertaken as a priority project, easing traffic congestion sooner.
  - b. Allow time for the underpass to be designed and consented.
- 13. Given that the underpass makes up roughly two thirds of the overall cost, and that there is no private funding for this project, it may be appropriate to leave this as a separate project in year 4 of the RLTP, and bring the roundabout upgrade forward to year 1. This spreads the cost impact out, whilst enabling a "quick win" for the community in the form of a roundabout upgrade which is subsidised by a private developer.
- 14. The earlier completion of the roundabout upgrade will address existing congestion issues, will unlock further growth capacity on both the Tasman and Nelson sides of Champion Road and will enable more efficient movement around and between both districts. This should be progressed as a matter of priority, and the offer of private funding to assist the Council with this project provides a good reason to do so.

Any questions?