

NZTA safety improvement programme for Wairoa

WAIROA will be included in a New Zealand Transport Agency review of highways between Napier and Opoiki.

Hawke's Bay Regional Council Wairoa representative Fenton Wilson said it had been reported the Wairoa stretch would be left out, but council received confirmation at Friday's transport meeting that the Wairoa highways were still in.

He says NZTA has a safety improvements programme for Wairoa south to Bay View with a \$5.5 million price tag.

A detailed business case for the improvements will be submitted for approval this month with \$200,000 approved for a detailed business case.

Construction funding is to be approved and work is expected to commence in 2017-18.

The Transport Agency will then

proceed with formal engagement with councils and key stakeholders before beginning work on detailed design.

At the transport committee meeting, councillors heard how Tuhoe-Te Uru Taumatua had engaged Opus International Consultants to investigate non-petroleum products as alternatives to traditional sealing methods for SH 38.

A trial of Tall Oil Pitch to suppress dust is to be funded by Tuhoe-Te Uru Taumatua.

The trial began this month and will be monitored over the next year.

Funding has been approved for the reinstatement of flood damage and protection of the Black's Beach roadside to secure a critical route to Mahia peninsular.

This is costed at around \$4.8m and is in the Regional Land Transport plan.