



## TRANSPORT

United**Future** recognises that an efficient transport sector is an essential component of national infrastructure and well being. We will work towards an integrated national transport system that meets the needs of industry, commerce and the wider community at a reasonable cost.

It is United**Future** policy to:

- Support tolling, public private partnerships (PPPs) and other investment options for urgently-needed, high cost highways for which there is significant community support, but continue to treat the National Land Transport Fund as the primary source of funding.
- Ensure that a significant proportion of fuel excise duty collected within a particular region is earmarked for the roads in that region.
- Levy extra road taxes on any vehicle with a poor star rating to encourage people to use more economic vehicles.
- Increase the Financial Assistance Rate (FAR) that is paid by central government to local authorities for the construction and maintenance of local roads up to 80% of their total costs.
- Complete the strategic roading networks in Auckland and Wellington (including the construction of the Transmission Gully highway).
- Improve traffic flow and road safety by road straightening along State Highway 1.
- Promote research into alternative energy sources for transport, such as fuel cells.
- Promote barging and coastal shipping services where economically viable as an alternative to land-based freight movement.
- Investigate the possibility of introducing competition to the rail network.
- Support the continued use and upgrading of commuter buses and rail.
- Improve the school bus system to assist decongesting roads in the major cities.
- Encourage Walking Buses within a two km radius of every urban school.
- Support fair and free competition between air travel providers.
- Encourage the use of electric and hybrid motor vehicles.
- Require cars to meet a certain level of carbon emissions as part of the Warrant of Fitness process by 2015.
- Implement policies to reduce the average age of New Zealand's vehicle fleet, thereby reducing average fuel consumption and vehicle emissions. (For example, incentivise the disposal of older vehicles at a wrecker).
- Support the Ministry of Transport and city councils to promote and cater for the safety of cyclists through the establishment of cycle lanes in areas where this is practical.