

8<sup>th</sup> March 2010

Mr Bernie Cuttance  
Principal Advisor Procurement Strategy  
New Zealand Transport Agency  
Private Bag 6995  
**Wellington**

Dear Bernie

### **Whangarei District Council's Proposed Maintenance Contractors Panel**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Whangarei District Council proposal to appoint a contractor panel for its maintenance contracts.

In summary, Roothing New Zealand members are mixed in their support of the proposal. Some members support it, some are of two minds and some are uncomfortable.

Those who support the proposal do so because of the following benefits:

- Reduced tender costs for contractors
- Reduced tender evaluation costs for Whangarei District Council
- More flexibility through ECI to get better value for money
- Getting work to the market quicker
- Support local contractors who have made the commitment to the Northland region

Those who are not comfortable with the proposal are concerned because there has been no tender process to select those on the panel.

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If the RFTs for the existing maintenance contracts had included the provision for the successful contractors to roll over into a panel, then there may well have been more bidders. They make the point that they do not have any problems with having "panels" just transparency in how the members of the panels are appointed.

I trust you find this feedback helpful in assessing Whangarei District Council's proposal.

Yours sincerely

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

Chris Olsen  
**Chief Executive**