

18<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Mr David Wilson  
Director Community Lifelines  
Gisborne District Council

**Tena koe David,**

**RE: RURAL ROAD PLANNING**

We are writing this letter with the intent of finding solutions to the ongoing roading issues we face in Tairāwhiti. The forest industry wants to work a lot closer with the GDC in finding these solutions, accurately budgeting for them and in executing them.

The rural road network is of critical importance to our people, our industry and our region. When the network isn't functioning, it puts the livelihoods of our people, our industry and our region in jeopardy.

Benefits from a collaborative approach include;

- forecasting volumes and traffic volumes across the network
- identification of preventative maintenance needs
- inclusion of maintenance contractors
- consideration of projects and scheduled maintenance
- adjusting volumes and routes to facilitate maintenance and projects
- improved communication between contractors
- supporting bids for central government support of rural infrastructure
- allocation and scheduling of forestry contractors during peak pressure periods
- effective allocation of budget
- clear communication amongst our members promoting transparency and appreciation of the work being done by Council.
- Managing risks to other road users

It would also benefit our industry in gaining a greater understanding of some of the related GDC processes. E.g. Transport planning, long term planning, heavy metal programming, roading budget, rates allocation and that would be in everyone's best interest.

We would appreciate an opportunity, as the Eastland Wood Council, to meet with you to discuss this letter further.



Naku noa

Daniel Williams  
Chairperson  
Eastland Wood Council