What does the tolling assessment consider?

The tolling of new roads comes under Section 46 of the Land Transport Management Act 2003 and requires that a Government process called an Order in Council be completed before the road is open. A rigorous three-gate process is followed when assessing whether a road will be tolled.

Waka Kotahi has introduced a three step process to be followed when assessing whether a road will be tolled:

Step one: Legislative requirements and practicality tests

Step two: Tested for value for money and investment rationale, and alignment with policy and project

Step three: Public interest

The road is new or is an existing road undergoing significant upgrade.

There is a feasible free alternative route available for use.

More than 10,000 vehicles are likely to travel the road per day.

Tolling infrastructure can be installed in a manner that is cost-effective to the project and reasonable; and within time periods required by the Land Transport Management Act.

The toll rate is reasonable and does not result in a traffic volume change that unduly impacts the wider network.

Tolling infrastructure costs no more than 20% of anticipated toll revenue.

Estimated tolling revenue will result in a meaningful contribution to the road cost.

Tolling delivers value for money and public good to New Zealanders and Waka Kotahi.

Tolling does not significantly reduce project outcomes.

Tolling aligns with the Government Policy Statement priorities of: inclusive access, economic prosperity, healthy and safe people, environmental sustainability, and resilience and security.

The public have an opportunity to provide feedback on the proposal

Travel choices
- there is a free, safe alternative route

Providing the three steps are met, the proposal goes through the following approvals.

Approval process



Minister of Transport

Cabinet

Governor-General

Timing

1. Waka Kotahi Board

2. Minister of Transport

3. Cabinet

4. Governor-General

Timing

Holds the delegation for recommending a toll road to the Minister of Transport Holds the legislative power to recommend a road for tolling to Cabinet Holds the power to recommend the making of an Order in Council to the Governor-General Holds the legislative power to sign the Order in Council - thereby establishing a toll road The Order in Council needs to be in force no later than the day the road is opened