



# NZUAG

## Utilities in Roads

Update for RCA Forum  
7 March 2008

# What's been happening

- Joint working parties of local authorities, Transit, ONTRACK and Utilities have revised the Code of Practice for Working in the Road
- NZUAG has approved the final draft for release for public submission
- Directors Group coordinated the release through public workshops in six locations throughout the country
- Discussions have been good with workshops well attended and a wide spectrum of interest

# Current Situation

- Final draft document now released and open for review by all parties (see NZUAG website)
- Period for submissions closes 25 March
- Recommended that submissions come from organisations, but recognises that some organisations have multiple interests – need to express all views
- Directors Group has the unenviable task of pulling the submissions together and providing recommendations to NZUAG
- NZUAG will agree on the final document.

# RCA Forum Involvement

- All RCAs /TLAs will be affected and need to decide themselves on the need for a submission
- Submissions of support are as important as submissions for change
- Submissions are essential – silence would not be best as other submissions may change the present balance

# RCA Forum Involvement

Continued

- Forum should consider whether it may want to make its own submission
- Support groups may be beneficial and submissions in groups may also be
- Consider ongoing training of staff and further development of processes that may be useful

# Future Development of Draft Code

- Need to operate code before it becomes mandatory (March 2009 at earliest)
- Try to get any bugs out of it
- Once regulated it will be harder to change
- Still working on future management with MED
- Still considering monitoring and reporting requirements

# Key Issues

- Cost Share reflects government thinking and is different from existing situation
- Administration costs are fully recoverable – already in legislation, important for auditing and stressed at workshops
- Code is not retrospective in effect
- In relation to existing above ground assets there is a process for assessment - best practical option to address safety issues
- Relationships are key – liaison & partnership
- Opportunity for GIS based processes