

A transport sector open data framework for Aotearoa New Zealand

Aligning efforts across New Zealand's transport sector

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Data is growing faster than ever...

- **2010 – 2021: almost 5,000%¹ growth**
 - amount of data created, captured, copied and consumed.
- **2021 – 2030: ?**



¹ <https://www.forbes.com/sites/gilpress/2021/12/30/54-predictions-about-the-state-of-data-in-2021>

..as well as the importance of data access

“More data is available than ever before. Unlocking the value of data and information will enable improved outcomes for all New Zealanders. Data can be used to solve complex problems, generate innovative ideas, and unlock public and private value.

“Data can provide new insights to inform policy decisions and shape the design and delivery of government services. Access to government-held data and information will also enable others across society to generate fresh insights and creates new opportunities for research and innovation.”

Transport Evidence Base Strategy², Ministry of Transport, 2019

² <https://www.transport.govt.nz/area-of-interest/strategy-and-direction/transport-evidence-base-strategy/>



**Open data
enables us all**

Let's talk about open data

- Open data is publicly available.
 - To anyone, anywhere, anytime.
- Open data is human-readable AND machine-readable.
 - PDFs and (some types of) images don't count.
- Open data is primarily government open data³.
- Open data protects privacy and security.

Open data is a great example of the network effect.

³ <https://data.govt.nz/toolkit/open-data/>



Open data is important for Waka Kotahi...

- To help us meet our strategic objectives.
- To help build more innovative products and services.
- To help enable better data sharing and use within the organisation – opening data helps organisations use their own data by breaking down silos.
- To help us interact better with our customers and stakeholders, improving our user focus, collaboration efforts, reputation and social licence.

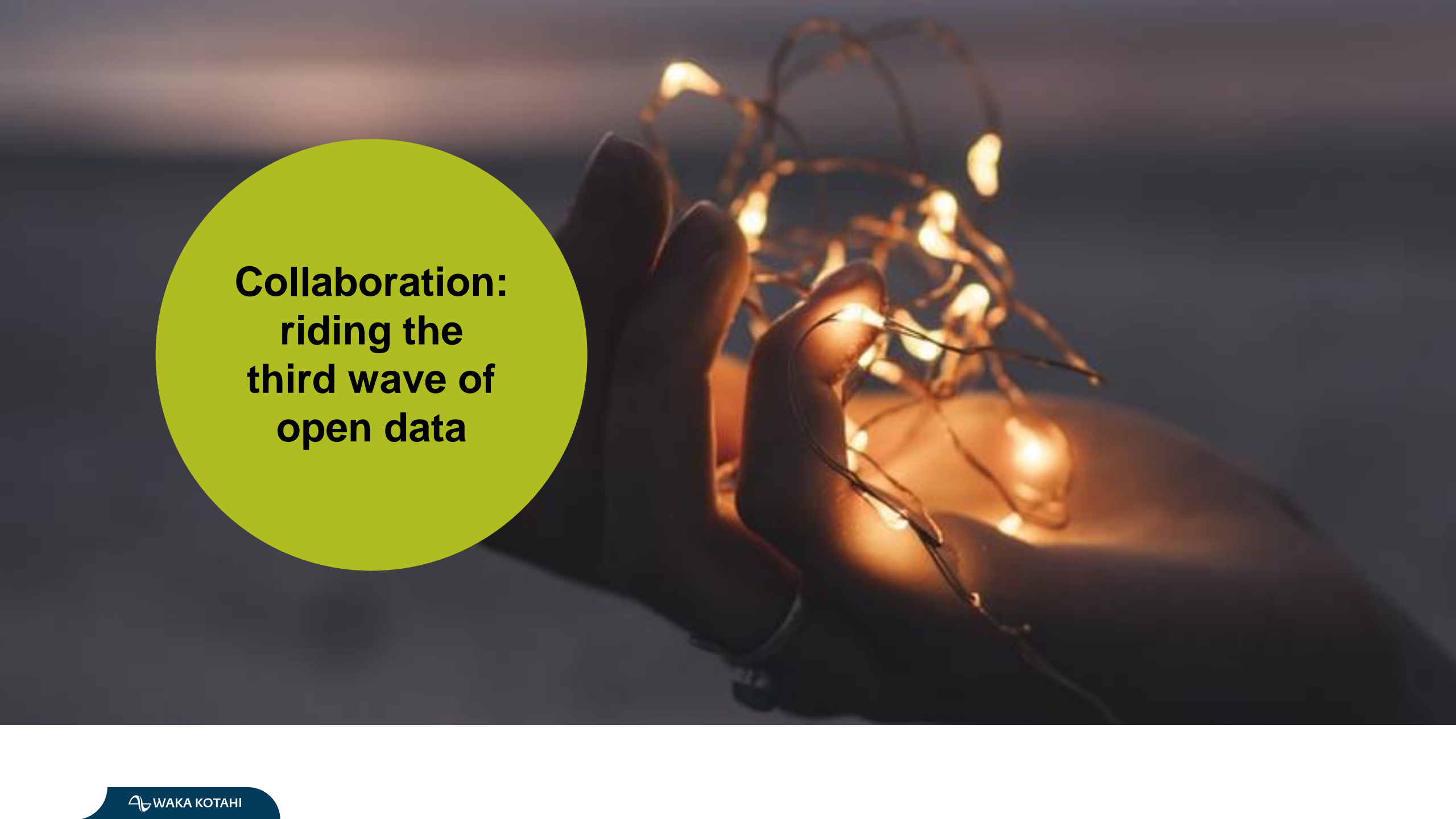


...and for our customers, stakeholders and all New Zealanders

- To help build a safer, more inclusive, more efficient land transport sector in New Zealand.
- To help build data capability and capacity throughout the land transport sector and related stakeholders.
- To help empower New Zealanders in their land transport uses, both as users and as organisations which provide products and services.
- To help improve land transport-related decision-making, in turn leading to improved funding, and more effective use of funding along with a wide range of fundable activities and initiatives.
- To help meet a number of the high-priority initiatives listed in the Transport Evidence Base Strategy.

Examples

- Choosing sites for petrol stations / EV charging points / ridesharing stations using traffic flows.
- Improved or new services designed to enable better use of our transport system, including:
 - rail
 - buses and ferries
 - micromobility.
- Improving planning and use of walking and cycling routes.

A close-up photograph of a hand holding a string of warm white LED lights. The lights are glowing and creating a bokeh effect in the background. The hand is positioned on the right side of the frame, with the fingers gently holding the string. The background is dark and out of focus.

**Collaboration:
riding the
third wave of
open data**

We're starting to ride the third wave of open data⁴

First wave:

- pull-focused – OIAs etc.

Second wave:

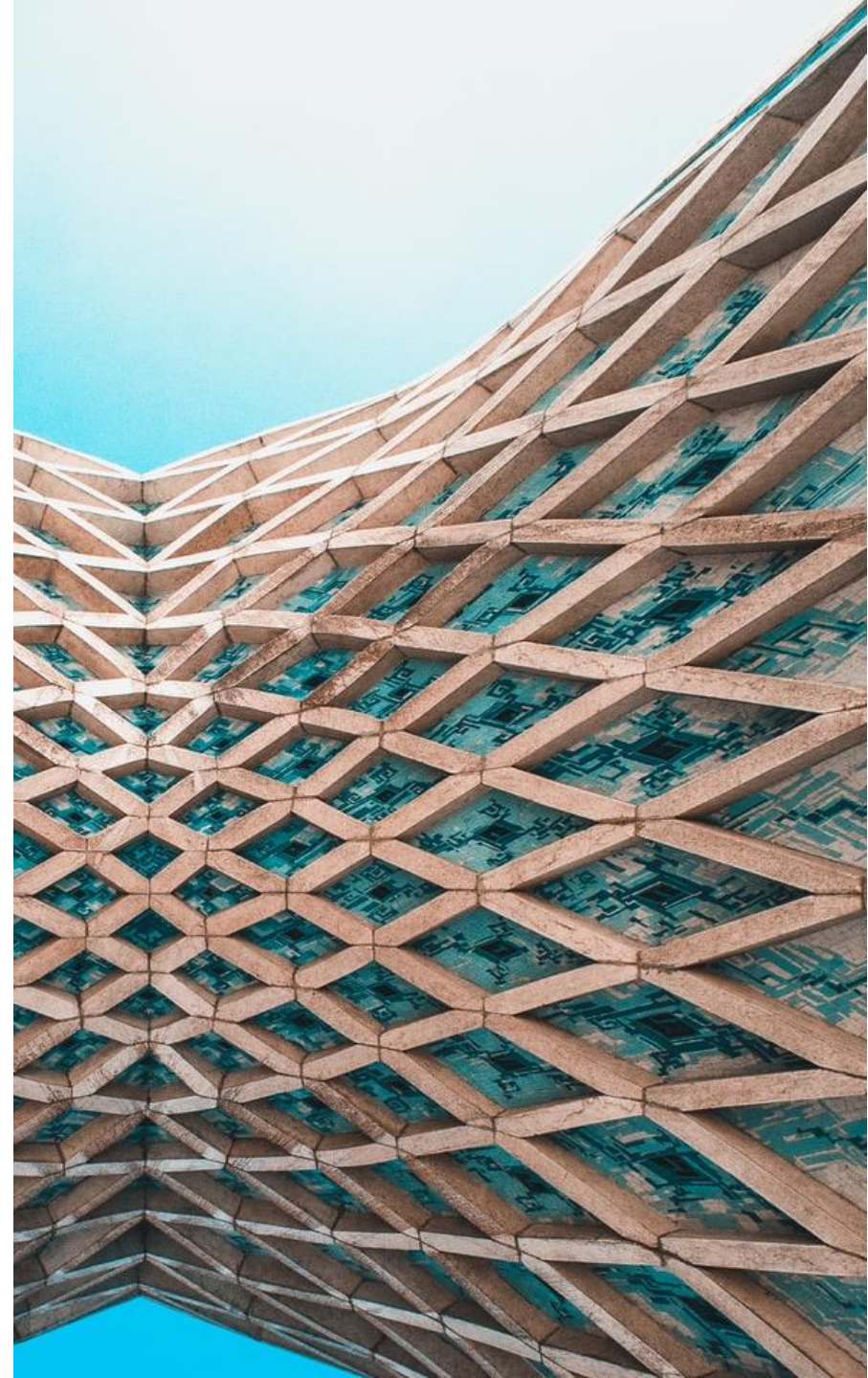
- push-focused – open by default.

Accelerating the re-use of data for public interest purposes while ensuring data rights and community flourishing

Third wave⁴:

- collaborative (public, private and other sectors)
 - publish with purpose
- subnational scales
- prioritise data responsibility and data rights.

⁴ <https://opendatapolicylab.org/third-wave-of-open-data/>



We're starting to ride the third wave of open data⁴ [1/2]

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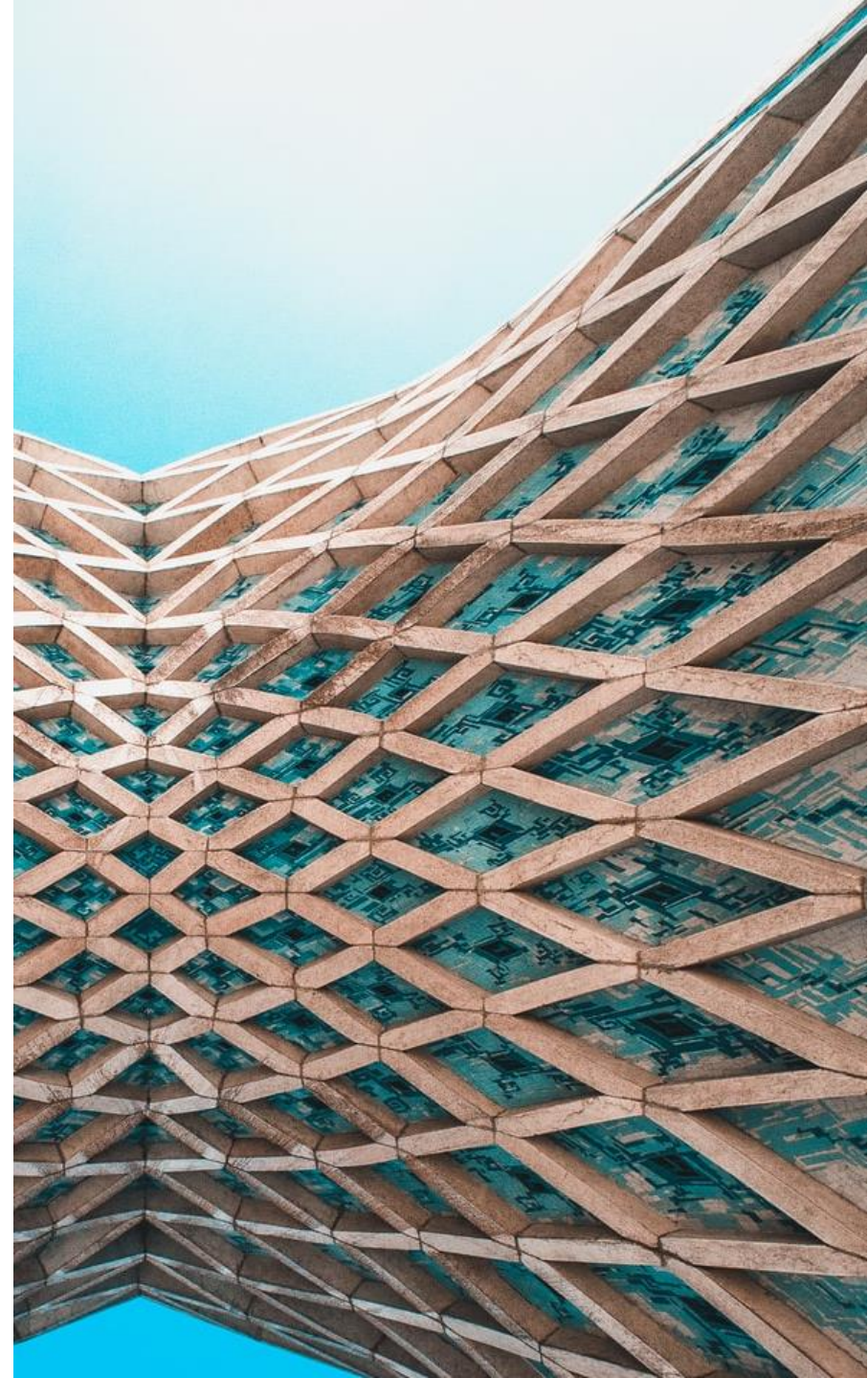
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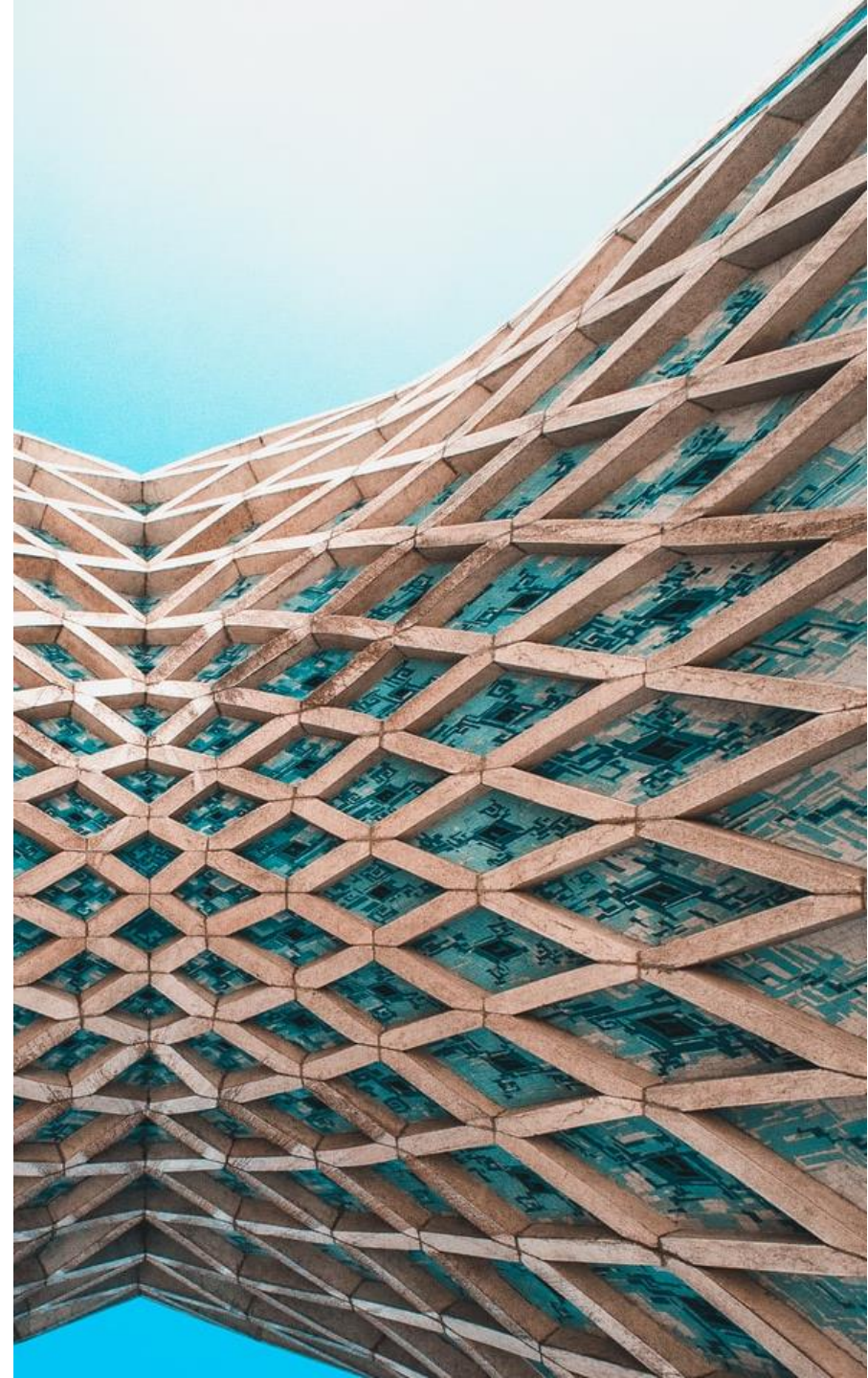
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We're starting to ride the third wave of open data [2/2]

Riding the third wave includes:

- fostering and distributing institutional data capacity
- articulating value and building an impact evidence base
- creating new data intermediaries
- establishing governance frameworks and seeking regulatory clarity
- creating the technical infrastructure for re-use
- fostering public data competence
- tracking, monitoring, and clarifying decision and data provenance
- creating and empowering (chief) data stewards.



User engagement is vital to build a transport sector open data community

- User engagement is a core success factor in effective open data work.
 - Often neglected.
 - We want and must do better.
- Form a cross-sector community for anyone interested in transport open data.
- Continuous, organic kōrero.
- Open – conversations happen in public, so anyone can view and join in.
- Opportunity for us to build real, lasting relationships with users and stakeholders, leveraging their knowledge and innovation as well as ours.
 - Positive feedback loops, and virtuous cycles.



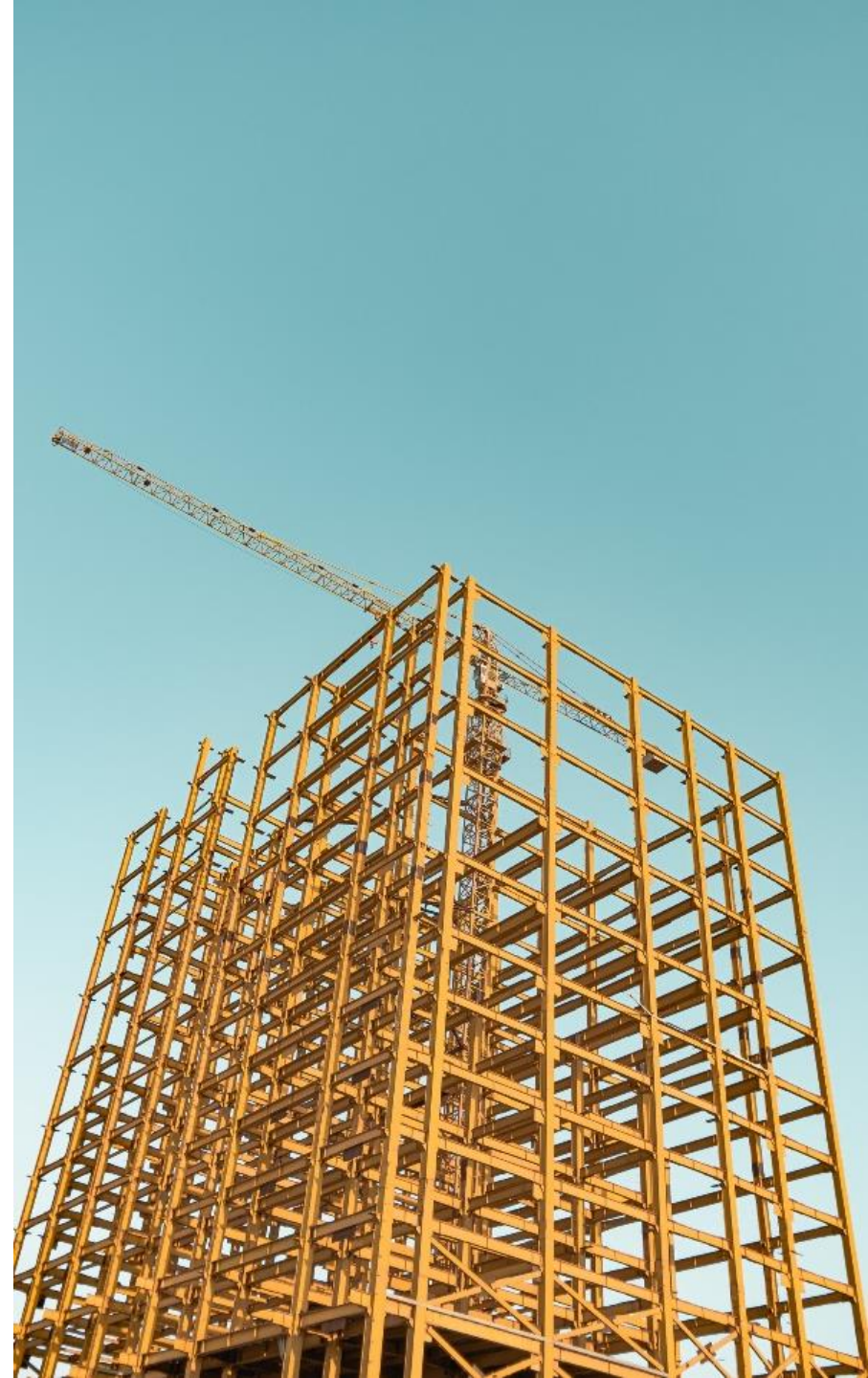
A transport sector-wide open data framework will be a key enabler...

How

- Initial draft by transport sector open data working group.
- Released publicly for comment by anyone interested.
- Voluntary sign-up for any organisation (not just govt!).

Why

- Align efforts and prevent wheel reinvention.
- Enable prioritisation.
- Help embed sound governance and risk-mitigation practices.
- Regularly revised and updated as a living document.



...with high-level principles to align efforts [1/3]

You can go comment! <https://nzta.mysocialpinpoint.com/transport-open-data-framework>

Open by default, published with purpose⁴

- Appropriate release of open data.
- Develop and implement a transport sector open data policy.

Timely and comprehensive

- Efficient open data publication pipeline.
- Respond to public requests for data in a timely manner.



...with high-level principles to align efforts [2/3]

You can go comment! <https://nzta.mysocialpinpoint.com/transport-open-data-framework>

Accessible and usable

- Improve access, reuse and sharing of data.
- Ensure the data is machine-readable, easy to find and understand, and free to use.

Comparable and interoperable

- Adopt common transport data standards, practices and inventories.
- Develop and improve strong data governance processes and practices, including metadata standards, data dictionaries, taxonomies, data models, and plain language documentation.
- Improve data provision, especially temporal and spatial data.



...with high-level principles to align efforts [3/3]

You can go comment! <https://nzta.mysocialpinpoint.com/transport-open-data-framework>

For improved governance and citizen engagement

- Develop and adopt a transport sector open data governance model.
- Respect Te Tiriti o Waitangi, and work with Māori data sovereignty stakeholders.
- Share data and information (appropriately) between agencies to reduce project costs.

For inclusive development and adoption

- Advance cross-government and public-private data-sharing partnerships
- Release open data to support development of innovative services that create social, environmental and economic value.



Brief demo time!

[insert screenshot from <https://nzta.mysocialpinpoint.com/transport-open-data-framework#/> on day / day before, so it's up to date]

A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding a tangled string of warm white LED lights. The hand is positioned palm-up, with fingers slightly spread. The lights are small, round, and emit a warm, yellowish glow. The background is a clear, light blue sky. A large, solid green circle is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing the text "In conclusion".

In conclusion

Openness lets us work *together...*


- De-escalating scarcity as a source of power.
- Collaboration is *powerful*.
- Openness is intrinsically collaborative and drives progress.
- It's about what one *does*, not what one *has*.
- We generate huge value when we share, remix and build on information.
 - For example, civilisation.



...to build a kinder, stronger, more resilient Aotearoa, and a better world

- Open data can help build more open societies.
- More transparent. More free. More informed. More engaged. More *truly* powerful.
- A kinder, stronger, more resilient Aotearoa.
- A more effective NZ Inc.
- We can help build her and in doing so, we can help build a better world.





**Thank you, and please
stay in touch.**

Questions?

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