



COVERSHEET

Minister	Hon Stuart Nash	Portfolio	Economic and Regional Development
Title of Cabinet paper	Proposed Overseas Travel: Hon Stuart Nash: New York and Washington DC, United States of America: 17-24 September 2022	Date to be published	3 November 2022

List of documents that have been proactively released

Date	Title	Author
September 2022	Proposed Overseas Travel: Hon Stuart Nash: New York and Washington DC, United States of America: 17-24 September 2022	Office of the Minister for Economic and Regional Development
19 September 2022	Overseas Travel: Hon Stuart Nash CAB-22-MIN-0398 Minute	Cabinet Office

Information redacted

NO

Any information redacted in this document is redacted in accordance with MBIE's policy on Proactive Release and is labelled with the reason for redaction. This may include information that would be redacted if this information was requested under Official Information Act 1982. Where this is the case, the reasons for withholding information are listed below. Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it.

[In Confidence]

Office of the Minister of Economic and Regional Development, and of Tourism
Chair, Cabinet

**Proposed Overseas Travel: Hon Stuart Nash: New York and Washington DC,
United States of America: 17-24 September 2022**

1. I seek Cabinet approval to travel to New York and Washington DC, the United States, from 17-24 September 2022 for a business, investment and tourism programme.
2. The Prime Minister has approved the travel, and House leave has been approved by the Party Whip.

Purpose of Travel:

3. My visit to New York will provide opportunities to advance New Zealand's trade and economic interests. I will engage in a business, investment and tourism promotion programme which will: provide opportunities to build New Zealand's international profile; advance prospects for high quality trade and investment; and promote our brand and values to a US audience, including through the New Zealand Story.
4. I will provide Government representation in place of the Prime Minister as she attends the state funeral of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II; and I will attend a range of additional trade tourism and investment engagements, including in Washington DC.
5. The objectives of the visit are to:
 - 5.1. Highlight, in support of the government's Trade Recovery Strategy, that we are open for business, trade, and tourism, and New Zealand is reconnecting with the world – including through the commencement of Air New Zealand's direct service between Auckland and New York.
 - 5.2. Secure and reaffirm important relationships with individuals, investors, businesses, trade associations and advisory groups.
 - 5.3. Build New Zealand's international reputation and promote our brand and values to a US audience.

Outline of the visit

6. I will travel to the United States on the inaugural Air New Zealand service from Auckland to New York. This flagship route (the fourth longest in the world) is a significant milestone, expected to boost tourism to New Zealand, and stimulate trade and business connections with the North America market.

7. I will attend and deliver a speech to a gala event hosted by Air New Zealand to mark the commencement of the service. I will also participate in Te Waka Hourua, an in-market immersion programme for New Zealand growth capital investors, organised by New Zealand Trade and Enterprise, to provide a global perspective for the benefit of the New Zealand companies they invest in.
8. On Monday, 19 September 2022, I will undertake a programme of events to promote New Zealand's tourism and investment interests, including an interview with *Travel Weekly* and a session with investors. I will also speak at the launch of the Invest New Zealand campaign "Do Good, Do Well", an event which ties in with the new Active Investor Plus visa which goes live that day.
9. On Tuesday, 20 September 2022, I will travel to Washington DC for a programme to further our trade and business interests, including in the space, security, and defence sectors. I will participate in a roundtable discussion with NZTE Beachhead advisors, meet with National Foreign Trade Council, have engagements with NZTE customers including Oritain, and join a discussion at the Boeing Innovation Centre. I will return to New York on Thursday to connect with the Air New Zealand flight that evening.

Travel

10. I will depart New Zealand on the inaugural Air New Zealand service from Auckland to New York on Saturday, 17 September 2022. I will travel to Washington DC on Tuesday, 20 September 2022 by train, returning to New York by domestic flight on Thursday, 22 September 2022 to connect with a direct Air New Zealand service that returns to New Zealand on the morning of Saturday, 24 September.

Ministerial Party

11. I will be joined on the outward journey by the Prime Minister's Chief of Staff, and Deputy Chief Press Secretary, and officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT).

Travel Costs

12. The estimated costs of the travel:

Airfares:	\$1700.00
Accommodation	\$3850.00
Other expenses (meals, ground transport etc.)	\$2500.00
Contingency (10%)	\$805.00
Total	\$8855.00

- 12.1. Costs associated with the travel of Prime Minister's staff has been approved under CAB-22-MIN-0382.

Acting Ministers

13. In my absence, the following Ministers will be acting in my various portfolios:
 - 13.1. Hon David Parker acting as Minister for Economic and Regional Development
 - 13.2. Hon Poto Williams acting as Minister of Forestry
 - 13.3. Hon Peeni Henare acting as Minister of Tourism
 - 13.4. Hon David Clark acting as Minister for Small Business

Proactive release

14. This Cabinet Paper will be proactively released as per the Cabinet Office Circular CO 18(4). Proactive release is subject to redaction as appropriate under the official Information Act 1982.

Recommendations

15. I recommend that Cabinet:
 - 15.1. **authorise** my absence from New Zealand from 17-24 September 2022 to travel to New York and Washington DC, United States of America;
 - 15.2. **approve** the estimated expenditure of \$8855.00 for the travel expenses of the ministerial party as a charge to Vote Internal Affairs, Members of the Executive – Travel;
 - 15.3. **note** that the costs of the Prime Minister's staff has been approved under CAB-22-MIN-0382.
 - 15.4. **note** that Hon David Parker (Economic and Regional Development), Hon Poto Williams (Forestry), Hon Peeni Henare (Tourism), and Hon David Clark (Small Business) will be Acting Ministers in my absence.

Authorised for lodgement

Hon Stuart Nash
Minister for Economic and Regional Development
Minister of Tourism