

22 February 2013

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Fran Wilde Chair Greater Wellington Regional Council PO Box 11646 142 Wakefiled Street Wellington 6142

Dear Fran

Late last year, you will recall that the Wellington City Council decided to further explore alternative transport solutions around the Basin Reserve in order to satisfy itself that all potential options had been fully explored before NZTA proceeds to the Board of Inquiry. WCC accepted our invitation to meet with the NZTA Board on 1st March 2013 to discuss their conclusions.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to extend an invitation to you, as Chairperson of Wellington's Regional Transport Committee and the Greater Wellington Regional Council to join us in this discussion with the Wellington City Council, at 11.00am on Friday 1st March 2013, at our Chews Lane offices.

The Board is anticipating a discussion on the outcomes of the Council's analysis. Particularly, it is interested in whether the analysis has identified an option that could deliver better network connectivity and efficiency improvements than the proposed bridge solution currently offers, and at an affordable and realistic cost. We would expect the discussion will cover how any alternative option will deliver all the benefits we are seeking, including the effective separation of traffic flows, traffic flow efficiencies, improvements to the effectiveness of walking, cycling, and public transport, improvements to the local road network, and effective integration into built environment.

The project is of regional significance. The Board would appreciate hearing from you about the wider regional strategic context and need for this project, and the Greater Wellington Regional Transport Committee's perspective on this matter, before making its decision on how to proceed.

Following the discussion on March 1st, the Board will re-convene in a couple of weeks to decide on the best way to proceed.

We look forward to seeing you next Friday.

Yours sincerely

Patsy Reddy

Deputy Chair NZ Transport Agency Board

CC: Dave Benham, Chief Executive, Greater Wellington Regional Council

Celia Wade Brown, Mayor of Wellington

Garry Poole, Chief Executive, Welling City Council