



09 DEC 2019

Sir Brian Roche
Chair
New Zealand Transport Agency
[c/o Official.Correspondence@nzta.govt.nz](mailto:c/o.Official.Correspondence@nzta.govt.nz)

Dear Sir Brian

Funding assistance for the Ministry of Transport – Auckland Light Rail

I am writing to request ongoing assistance of \$2 million from Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency to ensure that the Ministry of Transport is able to continue to deliver on the work on the City Centre to Māngere (CC2M) Light Rail project as directed by Cabinet.

The CC2M project remains a key priority in the Government's transport programme and I appreciate the Agency's assistance to date.

I have recently been advised that the Ministry has forecast that it will be able to deliver its recommendation on its Preferred Delivery Partner within this cap, but there would not be any funding available for it to start preparing for the exclusive negotiation phase, should I require this.

In line with my earlier request dated 14 June 2019, I would like to emphasise that I am not giving a direction to the Agency in requesting its assistance. I am mindful of the Agency's independent functions under section 95(2) of the Land Transport Management Act 2003 (LTMA), in particular its role in determining which activities qualify for funding from the NLTF.

While it remains a matter for the Agency to decide, I invite the Agency to consider, on the basis of section 95(1)(h) of the LTMA, whether it would be appropriate for the Agency to provide further assistance to the Ministry through utilising NLTF funds.

In making this request, I am satisfied that the provision of assistance to the Ministry would not compromise the Agency's other functions and duties. As before, it is my view that the Agency has an interest, from a system oversight perspective, in ensuring that large, complex projects that challenge our existing investment models are thoroughly considered so that we can fully understand their possible implications on the whole land transport system.

In making its decision, the Agency must also be satisfied that its functions and duties will not be compromised should it agree to provide assistance to the Ministry. If you agree with this approach, Ministry and Agency officials will work together to amend the existing Memorandum of Understanding to ensure compliance with applicable laws and rules.

To maintain momentum and to provide certainty to the CC2M project team, I would appreciate, if possible, the consideration of my request before Christmas.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'PH', followed by a horizontal line.

Hon Phil Twyford
Minister of Transport

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