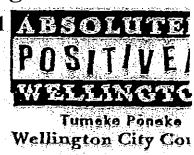


WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL

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File on TP/6/4/1



S. C. Steve Harte

31 July 2001

Martin Gummer  
Chief Executive  
Transfund New Zealand  
PO Box 2331  
WELLINGTON

Dear Martin

**RE: WELLINGTON TRANSPORT TERMINAL FUNDING**

Completion of the Wellington Transport Terminal is now on hold because of an unresolved issue around Transfund funding.

As-you will know this project has been evaluated and funding approved by the Transfund Board on 21 July 2001. However when your officers were approached to release funds they stated that they require the agreement of the Wellington Regional Council to changes to the Wellington Regional Council patronage funding entitlements before releasing funds for this project.

My understanding is that this project was submitted for ATR funding long before the patronage funding scheme was announced. It is a project which enhances the existing transport infrastructure and has been evaluated and approved for funding as a stand-alone project. My Council therefore believes that it is appropriate that Transfund now releases the approved funding without further conditions.

Both the Wellington Regional Council and the Wellington City Council have a strong interest in seeing this project completed. It is a major component of our policy of continued improvements to the City's public transport infrastructure and services. In terms of Transfund funding this project is clearly seen as a Wellington City Council project and its funding should be clearly separated from any issues related to patronage funding.

I believe it is in the interests of all of us to find a prompt and urgent resolution to this funding impasse. The public response to work undertaken so far has been overwhelmingly positive and local expectations for a major enhancement to the existing transport terminal are very high. It is clearly not in any of our interests to see a half finished terminal upgrade at a prominent site in the central city. Nobody will appreciate the project being held up through the subtleties of a complex national funding criteria which are subject to change and interpretation.

I am happy to meet with you to discuss this matter which my Council wishes to see resolved as a matter of urgency.

Yours sincerely,

Garry Poole  
Chief Executive Officer

copy Dave Watson WCC