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Report 01.684

5 September 2001

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Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Wellington Regional Council held in the Wellington Regional Council Chamber, The Regional Council Centre, 142-146 Wakefield Street, Wellington on Wednesday 5 September 2001 at 9.40am

Present

Councillors Macaskill (Chairperson), Allen, Bonner, Buchanan, Gibson, Laidlaw, Long, McDavitt, McQueen, Shaw, Shields and Turver

Officers Present

Messrs Darroch, Forlong, Maguire, Schollum, Stone and Dr Watson

Public Business

Procedural Items

452 **Apologies**

Resolved

(Chairperson/Cr Allen)

That the apology from Councillor Werry be confirmed.

453 **Public Participation**

Councillor Ian Hutchings, Wellington City Council

Councillor Hutchings said he wished to speak to Item 2 on the Policy and Finance Committee Order Paper about Transfund New Zealand Funding Support for the Lambton Bus/Rail Interchange.

Councillor Hutchings said he did not agree with the recommendation in the report for consideration at the Policy and Finance Committee meeting set down for today that the funding offer from Transfund New Zealand be declined. Such a decision will mean delays to the project, commuters will be inconvenienced and local government will be blamed.

In Mr Hutching's view, the Transfund New Zealand offer should be accepted and negotiations with Transfund New Zealand about process for the Interchange and other projects could proceed while the Interchange project continued through to completion.

The Chairperson in thanking Councillor Hutchings for his contribution said the Regional Council recognised the need for an urgent solution to the impasse with Transfund New Zealand. The Chairperson said the Regional Council will give very serious consideration to the views expressed by Councillor Hutchings.

During question time Councillor Hutchings said he realised that the present funding offer by Transfund New Zealand had negative consequences for other transport projects and rating.

Councillor Hutchings also offered to join with the Wellington Regional Council in working with local Government for an overall solution to Passenger Transport funding issues.

The meeting adjourned at 9.45am.

The meeting reconvened at 12.10pm.

Matter for Consideration

454 **Policy and Finance Committee – 5 September 2001**

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Resolved

(Chairperson/Cr Shields)

That the recommendations of the Policy and Finance Committee meeting held on 5 September 2001 be adopted, the public excluded business to remain confidential.

The meeting closed at 12.11pm.

CR SA MACASKILL

Chairperson

Date: