



*caring about you & your environment*

## **Report 01.251**

26 April 2001

File: E/6/19/3

[01251.djw]

Report to the Passenger Transport Committee  
By Dave Watson, Divisional Manager Transport

### **Divisional Manager's Report : May 2001**

#### **1. Purpose**

To bring to the attention of the Committee any matters of interest relating to transport that have occurred since the last meeting and to provide regular reporting on the financial health of the Division together with its performance against its key annual targets.

#### **2. Financial**

The third quarter financial performance of the Division is shown in the attached tables (**attachment 1**). The Division is showing a favourable financial variance of \$369,000 on expenditure to date of \$31.9m.

#### **3. Performance Indicators**

All performance indications will be met with the exception of bus and rail costs which are greater than expected because of the rising diesel costs and the take up of kick start funded projects under the Transfund New Zealand Patronage funding scheme introduced on 1 November 2000.

#### **4. Tranz Rail Contract Post 30 June 2001**

It is clear that there will not be a finalisation of the sale of Tranz Metro Wellington by 30 June 2001. The current contract between the Council and Tranz Rail Limited for the Tranz Metro Wellington services ceases on 30 June 2001. Neither party wishes to end the rail service on that day.

A rollover of the existing contract requires the approval of Transfund New Zealand. This approval has been sought and includes the (kick start) contract variations.

The Transfund New Zealand Board is expected to agree to the rollover at their next meeting.

## 5. **Visits**

Mr Wendall Cox and Mr Rendall O'Toole, two American consultants, passed through New Zealand in early March providing a pro-roading, anti-rapid transit and anti-planning viewpoint based on their analysis of previous trends and future expectations. They demonstrated that two opposing arguments can be founded on the same basic data and that more than ever the direction of future communities should be driven by visionary politicians reflecting community desires rather than planners, transport modellers or other well informed policy advisors.

Ms Jenny Karavolos and Mr Trevor Bate of SAAB systems from Adelaide introduced themselves during a visit to Wellington as part of their investigations needed to bid for the proposed real time information system. IT was interesting to learn that SAAB is a major player in military information and planning systems. Their involvement in intelligent transport systems is a spin off from this military work.

## 6. **LGNZ Transport Forum – 28 March 2001**

The Minister of Transport, Hon Mark Gosche, made a speech at the LGNZ Transport Forum outlining his expectations for legislative change later this year. A copy of the speech was circulated in the Councillors bulletin (Issue No 2001/17). **Attachment 2** is page 5 of that speech which is about Passenger Transport. I look forward to the views expressed there being implemented in the proposed legislation.

## 7. **Staff Changes**

Hayden Vink has returned from his OE to take up a permanent position in the Public Transport Department.

Juliet Reid started at the end of March as the new receptionist/WP operator.

Both being at the lower end of the age range means that the average age of the Division has plummeted to a more appropriate level.

## 8. **Another Transmission Gully Speech**

I was invited by one of the many Waikanae Probus Clubs to speak at their 1 May meeting on the subject – Transmission Gully. Interest remains high to find a transport solution to the growing and regular traffic disruption caused by the existing inadequate facilities.

**9. Recommendation**

*That the report be received.*

Report prepared by:

DAVE WATSON  
Divisional Manager, Transport

**Attachment 1 : Financial Performance Tables**

**Attachment 2 : Page 5 of Hon Mark Gosche speech**