



Cabinet Economic Development Committee

Minute of Decision

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Let's Get Wellington Moving - Transformational Programme: Preferred Option Progress and Mass Rapid Transit Funding Principles

Portfolios Finance / Transport

On 22 June 2022, the Cabinet Economic Development Committee:

- 1 **noted** that significant progress has been made on the Let's Get Wellington Moving programme since 2019, including programme establishment, the City Streets package, the three-year programme, major public consultation, and development of the Transformational Programme Indicative Business Case;
- 2 **noted** that pending additional detailed investigation, Option 1 (South coast light rail plus a new public transport tunnel) is emerging as the preferred Transformational Programme option;
- 3 **noted** that due to uncertainty about achieving urban intensification, it would be prudent to continue to explore bus rapid transit (Option 2 - Bus rapid transit to the South Coast and airport);
- 4 **endorsed** taking Option 1 through to the Detailed Business Case stage, retaining Option 2 for further investigation;
- 5 **noted** that more analysis needs to be completed to test the feasibility of increased urban intensification in Wellington along the mass rapid transit corridor;
- 6 **noted** that without the eventuation of the high land use scenario, all Transformational Programme options will struggle to deliver a sufficient return on investment and carbon emission reductions;
- 7 **noted** that it is expected this project will go through the Treasury-sponsored Gateway process;
- 8 **directed** Treasury, Ministry of Transport, Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, and Waka Kotahi officials to progress work on a national approach to funding mass rapid transit projects, and to report back to the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Housing, the Minister of Local Government, and the Minister of Transport;
- 9 **noted** that as mass rapid transit projects generate broad social, economic, and environmental benefits, there is a strong case for the Crown to make a significant funding contribution, with some local contribution to reflect urban benefits;

- 10 **noted** that once a national approach to funding mass rapid transit projects is agreed, it will inform the agreement of a central-local government split of the mass rapid transit component of Let's Get Wellington Moving in early 2023;
- 11 **noted** that consideration will be given to whether upcoming Auckland Light Rail legislation should be extended to cover national mass rapid transit projects;
- 12 **authorised** the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Transport to make an announcement on mass rapid transit progress alongside Let's Get Wellington Moving partners.

Janine Harvey
Committee Secretary

Present:

Hon Grant Robertson (Chair)
Hon Dr Megan Woods
Hon David Parker
Hon Poto Williams
Hon Damien O'Connor
Hon Stuart Nash
Hon Michael Wood
Hon Meka Whaitiri
Hon Kieran McAnulty
Rino Tirikatene, MP
Dr Deborah Russell, MP

Officials present from:

Office of the Prime Minister
DPMC

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TE MANATŪ WAKA MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT