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8 June 2001

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Dave Watson
Divisional Manager Transport
Wellington Regional Council
PO Box 11 646
WELLINGTON

FILE REF:	
T/10/2/1	
NAME	Int/Date
D. Watson	
TO ACTION:	

Dear Dave,

WESTERN LINK ROAD

Further to our discussion, the situation with the Western Link Road is as follows:

Hearings for the Western Link Road designation were held in 1998 with Commissioners confirming a designation. This was appealed by three parties (one has since withdrawn). All three appeals related to the land between the Waikanae River and Te Moana Road, that is, only affecting the road link between Otaihanga Road and Te Moana Road. In preparation for the appeal hearing, Council has considered alternative routes for this section of the Western Link Road and concluded that while there were two other options that were comparable, when taking everything into account neither offered advantages over the designation route.

In preparation for the Environment Court hearing a mediation sponsored by the Environment Court has been in progress. While this is still underway, Council is optimistic that at least one of the appeals can be resolved before going to a hearing. It is now expected that the hearing will not be heard until at least September 2001.

In terms of Council's planning for the construction of the road, this remains unchanged from what is set out in the Long Term Financial Strategy and funding policy adopted in June 2000. Construction is scheduled to commence in 2004/05 and be completed in 2006/07 for the link from Raumati Road to Te Moana Road. It is planned to construct the links from Te Moana Road to Peka Peka and from Poplar Avenue to Raumati Road commencing 2010/11 with completion in 2012/13.

Following confirmation of the designation Council will be lodging applications for resource consents for bridges, culverts etc and seeking Historic Places Trust approval.

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If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me or Peter Knight, Infrastructure Development Manager.

Yours sincerely,



Iain S McIntosh
MANAGER, OPERATIONAL SERVICES

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