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17 June 2002

Minister of Transport  
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

Dear Sir

### **Progressing Strategic Roading Packages In The Wellington Region**

The Wellington Regional Land Transport Committee is concerned that key initiatives in its Regional Land Transport Strategy may not be given the priority they deserve. Accordingly we seek an opportunity to discuss this issue with you.

Congestion costs this region approximately \$200 million per annum in delays and this is reflected in the regular occurrence of slow moving or standing queues in many parts of the region at peak times and weekends. Congestion of this order costs the region in many ways.

These costs go beyond increased journey times, but include:

- lengthening of peak periods
- reduction in regional productivity
- impedances to tourist and freight flows
- negative impacts on the environment
- negative impacts on local community.



The Government needs to act positively on these issues to reduce the impact on the regional economy, tourism, commercial activities, the physical and social environment.



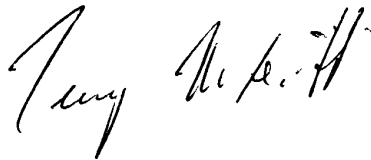
The Regional Land Transport Strategy identifies accessibility as a key objective of the strategy. We believe that providing for access in a congested network aligns our objectives with Government's stated priorities for funding.

You will appreciate that the Wellington Strategic Road Network is subject to severe congestion which is what these key proposals are designed to address. The analysis that underpins the development of the Regional Land Transport Strategy considers the cost

of congestion to the region. In fact this is a key variable that we monitor. This is a very real issue for the Wellington region as is supported by the attached photographs.

I look forward to discussing these issues with you.

Yours sincerely



TERRY McDAVITT  
Chairman, Regional Land Transport Committee

