

14 July 2021

Dr Caralee McLiesh

Secretary to the Treasury
PO Box 3724
Wellington 6140
New Zealand

Dear Dr McLiesh,

Kiwi Rail Board Directors

We note that at present there are vacant positions on the KiwiRail board and that you are currently considering appointments for these critical governance roles.

We write to you as two Public Transport Authorities responsible for the funding and operation of metropolitan passenger rail services in Auckland and Wellington. These services account for 99% of all passenger movements on rail, and 90% of all train movements nationally. This may be little known, but it demonstrates the significant importance of metropolitan passenger rail. At national level, a significant portion of the 'value of rail' is derived from passengers' services.

KiwiRail is a critical and valued strategic and infrastructure partner for both our organisations, staff at all levels of the three organisations working productively together on important regional rail projects. Both Auckland Transport and Greater Wellington also have important roles in planning for and delivering regional economic growth, of which public transport provision is a central driver. We believe that the centrality of metropolitan passenger rail services to delivering the government's objectives for climate change and mode shift would support an argument for a public transport perspective to be brought to the KiwiRail board table. As such, we are writing to you to strongly argue for additional skills and experience to be added to the existing KiwiRail board.

Specifically, we suggest that KiwiRail would benefit from having the following skills and experience available in new Directors appointed:

1. Asset management, maintenance, and infrastructure delivery
2. Rail safety, systems, and operations
3. Metro passenger rail operations / high frequency network operations

We strongly endorse the government's significant and ongoing investment in rail, both operationally and to upgrade infrastructure. Given the level of investment occurring, we believe a strengthened KiwiRail Board will provide greater assurance to government that its outcomes will be achieved.

We look forward to continuing to support the development of passenger rail services in Auckland, Wellington, and elsewhere as the opportunity arises. We would be pleased to discuss any of these matters with you further.

Nga mihi,



Adrienne Young-Cooper
Chair
Auckland Transport



Daran Ponter
Chair
Greater Wellington Regional Council