

Office of Hon Phil Twyford

MP for Te Atatu

Minister of Housing and Urban Development

Minister of Transport



22 NOV 2017

Hon Phil Goff
Mayor
Auckland Council

Dear Phil

We are writing following our meeting on 2 November 2017 about how we progress our collective priorities in Auckland.

The government and Auckland Council value similar outcomes for Auckland. We both want Auckland to develop in a way that delivers opportunities for all Aucklanders and which maximises the city's contribution to all New Zealanders. We believe that working together offers the best opportunity to deliver the outcomes we seek. We would like your agreement to the government and Council partnering in a process that aims to develop a joint strategy for Auckland's growth, consisting of the following two elements.

A joint and agreed urban development strategy

We see value in a co-designed urban development strategy for Auckland's growth. This strategy will build on and connect the work already underway, including the Auckland Plan Refresh, the delivery of KiwiBuild and our renewed infrastructure priorities. Given the large amount of work that has already been done, especially by Council, we consider that a process tightly focused on agreeing the most critical elements of Auckland's development could be completed by mid-2018.

As a next step, we would like to discuss a draft terms of reference for this work with you and relevant Councillors before the end of the year.

Refresh of ATAP recommendations

As we discussed at our meeting, we wish to reconvene ATAP to refresh its recommendations so that greater priority is attached to public transport. We believe public transport plays a critical role in addressing congestion and unlocking housing and urban development opportunities. We see this being a three month process, with a report back in March 2018, to allow sufficient time for the agencies to undertake a robust assessment.

This work can begin immediately but will need to be coordinated with the process to agree an urban development strategy so that transport and land use decisions can be integrated.

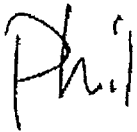
Regional fuel tax

We appreciate that you have to present a balanced budget for the 2018 to 2028 Long Term Plan shortly and have been requesting government support with funding and funding tools to help meet infrastructure and funding challenges. The process outlined above would include work on looking at addressing these challenges.

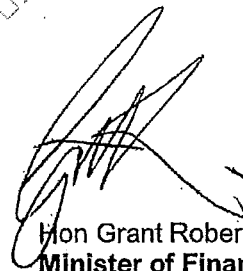
We have tasked officials with ensuring that legislation can be passed as soon as possible to enable Auckland Council to implement a regional fuel tax. The detail of this is subject to final Cabinet decisions, but for your planning purposes you can assume that the Government is developing legislation that would allow Auckland Council to introduce a regional fuel tax in 2018 of up to 10 cents per litre on petrol and diesel purchased for use on roads using the 2008 regional fuel tax legislation as a basis. This will provide an additional source of transport funding for Auckland Council. As Mayor, you will have a role to play in bringing Aucklanders on board with the regional fuel tax.

We look forward to working with you to deliver on our shared priorities for the benefit of Auckland and New Zealand.

Yours sincerely



Hon Phil Twyford
Minister of Transport



Hon Grant Robertson
Minister of Finance

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