

By email

25 July 2024

Denise Hapeta, Chair, Ngā Hapu o Ōtaki, denise.hapeta@twor-otaki.ac.nz

Cherie Seamark, Chair, Atiawa ki Whakarongotai Charitable Trust,
cherie@teatiawakikapiti.co.nz

Callum Katene, Chair, Te Runanga o Toa Rangatira, Callum.katene@ngatitoea.iwi.nz

Te Whatanui Winiata, Chair, Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust,
chair@portnicholson.org.nz

Suni Brown and Violet Edwards-Hina, Co-Chairs, Rangitāne o Wairarapa Inc,
Suni@rangitane.iwi.nz, violete70@yahoo.com

Kristina Perry, Chair, Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa, kbperry@xtra.co.nz

Tēnā koutou

Ko ngā pae tawhiti, whaia kia tata

Ko ngā pae tata, whakamaua kia tina

The potential for tomorrow, depends on what we do today

Funding confirmed – Lower North Island regional trains

This morning, I was delighted to join the Minister of Transport Hon Simeon Brown and the Chair of Horizons Regional Council Cr Rachel Keedwell at Wellington Railway Station, to confirm the Funding Agreement for the Lower North Island Rail Integrated Mobility (LNIRM) programme.

This agreement has been many years in the making and would not have happened without the sustained and deliberate advocacy of all leaders in our regions. I would like to thank you - our mana whenua partners - for your support to get this agreement over the line. There is still a lot of work to do, but we now have the basis for an enormously improved passenger rail services on the Wairarapa and Manawatū Lines.

We expect this to offer many benefits for whānau all over our region, to connect with each other, and to access work, education and healthcare, and other opportunities that may otherwise have been out of reach.

Please see attached the media release and a one-page LNIRM summary for more detail.

Ngā mihi nui, Nā



Daran Ponter
Chair

Copy to: Chief Executives, Mana whenua of the Wellington region

Encl: Media release “Hybrid trains co-funding celebrated, builders short-listed”
LNIRM “Enabling continuation of regional passenger rail for the Lower North Island,
decarbonised”.