



**23 February 2005**

**MEDIA RELEASE**

## **Transit recommends time-out on Penlink project**

Transit's Board at its February meeting concluded that a substantial review of the Penlink project in the context of the Land Transport Management Act (LTMA) 2003 was required. It also needed to be reconsidered in the light of revisions to the Auckland Regional Land Transport Strategy, including the role of ferries and public transport.

Transit's Board considered the draft business case for Penlink as a toll road and concluded that the proposal was not fully sustainable through tolls and would require a significant contribution from the National Land Transport Fund (NLTF), which is already fully committed to other higher priority projects.

"While we acknowledge Rodney District Council's initiative to bring forward the construction of the road through tolling, Transit's view is that there are other higher priority projects that would take precedence for the level of NLTF funds required for this proposal," said Transit chief executive Rick van Barneveld.

"At this stage further work in assisting RDC is not an immediate priority for the Transit Board. It is unfortunate that the board decision reached the public before a full report could be provided to the council.

"Transit and the Rodney District Council have established strong ties and an excellent level of cooperation through the proposal to progress ALPURT B2 as a toll road and to prepare the draft business case for Penlink. We look forward to maintaining this relationship as we continue to progress ALPURT B2 and complete the review of Penlink under the LTMA," said Mr. van Barneveld.

**ENDS**

*For more information, please contact:*

Deborah Willett  
Communications Manager  
Transit New Zealand  
Ph: 04 496 6653  
[Deborah.willett@transit.govt.nz](mailto:Deborah.willett@transit.govt.nz)

**[www.transit.govt.nz](http://www.transit.govt.nz)**