

21 October 2022

Committee Secretariat
Transport and Infrastructure Committee
Parliament Buildings
Wellington

Email: ti@parliament.govt.nz

Kia ora

Inquiry into the future of inter-regional passenger rail in New Zealand

Tourism Industry Aotearoa welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Terms of Reference for the Transport and Infrastructure Committee's *'Inquiry into the future of inter-regional passenger rail in New Zealand'*.

TIA is the peak body for the tourism industry in New Zealand. With over 1200 members, TIA represents a broad group of key tourism businesses across hospitality, accommodation, adventure and other activities, attractions, retail, aviation, land and sea transport, as well as tourism-related services.

TIA is committed to a high quality and sustainable tourism industry as articulated in our industry strategy, *Tourism 2025 & Beyond – A Sustainable Growth Framework*, and in our operational sustainability programme, the *Tourism Sustainability Commitment*.

How people move around our country is important. Having better rail-based transport options, as well as dedicated tourism products, can and should have a bigger role to play in the tourism industry in the future.

As such, TIA supports the key features of the draft Terms of Reference, and we submit that this should include a clear tourism-related reference so that this aspect of the rail system is included in the inquiry.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries about our feedback and we would like to continue to like to be involved in this process.

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B Bassett', is positioned above the printed name.

Bruce Bassett
Strategy and Policy Manager