

## Maritime Union of New Zealand

Auckland Branch

Local 13

P.O. Box 2645 Auckland • Telephone: 0-9-303-4652 • Facsimile: 0-9-309 6851

Michael Lee Chairman Auckland Regional Council Private Bag 92-012 Auckland, 1142

15<sup>th</sup> February 2010

Dear Michael



The Maritime Union of New Zealand, Auckland Branch, Local 13, firmly supports option four as the best long term solution for an international facility catering for Cruise Vessels wishing to call at the City of Sails.

Option four provides a balance between demands to open up Queens Wharf to the public of Auckland whilst maintaining an operating terminal servicing the needs of a growing tourist industry within the grater Auckland area.

The City of Sails offers a smorgasbord of tourist attractions but in order to maintain and grow this industry Auckland has to be in the position to provide a first class International facility that opens Auckland up to the Cruise Vessel season.

Recent years has seen the number and type of Cruise Vessel change dramically. The focus has returned to providing luxury accommodation on larger Cruise Vessels. Passengers are looking for a trip where they are catered for at sea and on land.

It is important that passengers and shipping lines regard Auckland as a must call Port and in order to achieve this we have to be able to process passengers efficiently. Queen's wharf is an opportunity to put in place a Passenger Terminal that will service the tourist industry for years to come.

Financially all of Auckland will benefit through regular ship calls. To waste money on temporary add hock renovations focused on a one off World Rugby Cup would be a lost opportunity.

Option four is a sensible approach that caters for the current and future needs of Auckland while maintaining a balance in the port between commercial interests and public access. What must not be forgotten when looking at the future of the port is the development that is scheduled for the Tank Farm.

The Tank Farm opens up a large area of the Auckland Waterfront to the public and is strategically placed in what has become the non working end of the port. It is essential that Auckland maintains a working port going into the future.

Container volumes are increasing each year as the population of New Zealand increases. As the population in Auckland increases so will the demand for imported goods. The Port of Tauranga and Whangarei will not be in a position to service the demands that Auckland generate and it will require all three major ports in the upper North Island to remain as working ports to ensure the future remains positive.

In summary the proposed options one, two and three for Queen's wharf are not viable alternatives and option four must be the development that the Council pursues.

Yours Sincerely

Garry Parsloe
President
Local 13
Maritime Union of New Zealand

Russell Mayn Secretary/Treasurer Local 13 Maritime Union of New Zealand