Royal Commission to Inquire into and Report upon Trans-harbour Facilities in the Auckland Metropolitan Area and the Approaches thereto

GEORGE THE SIXTH by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, Ireland, and the British Dominions beyond the Seas, King Defender of the Faith:

To Our Trusty and Well-beloved the Honourable Sir Francis Vernon Frazer, of Wellington, Knight Bachelor, M.A., LL.B.; William Richard Beaver, Esquire, B.C.E., A.M.Inst.E. (Aust.), of New South Wales, Engineer; and Roland Harry Packwood, Esquire, O.B.E., A.M.Inst.C.E., District Engineer of the Public Works Department at Auckland: GREETING.

WHEREAS We have deemed it expedient that a Commission should issue to inquire into, examine, and report upon the matters hereafter set forth which relate to trans-harbour facilities in the Auckland Metropolitan Area and the approaches thereto, and report upon proposals that may be made for the provision of further facilities in the public interest:

Now know ye that We, reposing trust and confidence in your knowledge and ability, do hereby nominate, constitute, and appoint you, the said

Francis Vernon Frazer,
William Richard Beaver, and
Roland Harry Packwood

to be a Commission to inquire into and report upon the following matters:

(1) What trans-harbour facilities are necessary in the Auckland Metropolitan Area and the approaches thereto to provide adequately for future traffic requirements of all kinds, both from within and from outside the metropolitan area, including through traffic, having regard to improvements in the railway and roading systems in the area that are contemplated by the Railways Department and the roading authorities respectively;

(2) Should the facilities include means of direct access between the City and the North Shore suburbs in addition to or instead of the existing ferry services;
(3) If so, what should be the nature of this direct access, and where should it be located—
   (a) If by a bridge, what should be the minimum navigational clearances, and
       what should be the provisions for traffic on the bridge and its approaches;
   (b) If by a tunnel or tunnels, what should be the number of such tunnels and
       what provisions for traffic should be made in each;
   (c) In either of cases (a) and (b) above, what will be the approximate cost of
       the proposed access, including the necessary approaches;
   (d) If any other alternatives are investigated, what are they and what would
       be the approximate cost of each;

(4) Upon what basis or bases can such direct access be provided and financed, with special
    reference to construction, maintenance, and operation;

(5) If such direct access is not considered necessary at present, within what period of time
    will the probable growth of population, and the use of motor-vehicles together
    with other forms of transport, render it necessary;

(6) If you consider that the existing ferry services should remain in operation, either
    with or without other means of direct access, what improvements, if any, should be
    made in the services now provided; and

(7) Generally, any other matters arising out of the premises that may come under your
    notice in the course of your inquiries, and which you consider should be investigated
    therewith:

And We do hereby appoint you, the said
Francis Vernon Frazer
to be Chairman of the said Commission:

And for the better enabling you to carry these presents into effect you are hereby authorized
and empowered to make and conduct any inquiries under these presents at such time and place as
you deem expedient, with power to adjourn from time to time and place to place as you think fit,
and so that these presents shall continue in force, and the inquiry may at any time and place be
resumed although not regularly adjourned from time to time or from place to place:

And you are hereby strictly charged and directed that you shall not at any time publish or
otherwise disclose save to His Excellency the Governor-General, in pursuance of these presents, or
by His Excellency’s direction, the contents of any report so made or to be made by you, or any
evidence of information obtained by you in the exercise of the powers hereby conferred upon you
except such evidence or information as is received in the course of a sitting open to the public:

And We do further ordain that, using all due diligence, you report to His Excellency the
Governor-General in writing under your hands and seals not later than the thirty-first day of July,
one thousand nine hundred and forty-six, your findings and opinions of the matters aforesaid,
together with such recommendations as you think fit to make in respect thereof:

And, lastly, it is hereby declared that these presents are issued under the authority of the
Letters Patent of His late Majesty dated the eleventh day of May, one thousand nine hundred and
seventeen, and under the authority of and subject to the provisions of the Commissions of Inquiry
Act, 1908, and with the advice and consent of the Executive Council of the Dominion of New Zealand.

In witness whereof We have caused this Our Commission to be issued and the Seal of
Our Dominion of New Zealand to be hereunto affixed at Wellington, this twenty-second day of March,
one thousand nine hundred and forty-six, in the tenth year of Our Reign.

Witness our Trusty and Well-beloved Sir Cyri Louis Norton Newall, Marshal of Our
Royal Air Force, Knight Grand Cross of Our Most Honourable Order of the
Bath, Member of Our Order of Merit, Knight Grand Cross of Our Most
Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George, Commander of Our Most
Excellent Order of the British Empire, on whom has been conferred Our Albert
Medal of the First Class, Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief in and
over Our Dominion of New Zealand and its Dependencies, acting by and with
the consent of the Executive Council of the said Dominion.

C. L. N. NEWALL, Governor-General.

By His Excellency’s Command—

R. SEMPLE, Minister of Works.

Approved in Council—

W. O. HARVEY,
Acting Clerk of the Executive Council.

(P.W. 34/2734.)