

6 May 2008

To Wellington Combined Taxi operators

I am extremely pleased to hear that the Board of Wellington Combined Taxis is taking steps to reduce its carbon footprint by requiring operators to progressively use more fuel-efficient, less-polluting vehicles.

I strongly support any move to reduce carbon emissions in Wellington city.

Wellington City Council has committed to a vision of a carbon-neutral Wellington – we want to be the world's first 'green' capital city. The benefits of achieving this vision will be huge – from the tourist income we could generate as part of a 'green' positioning, through to the obvious long-term environmental benefits.

We've started by working to get our own house in order and reducing our own carbon footprint, with an aim to make our operations carbon-neutral by 2012.

We will also work with the community on the broader climate change issues that affect everyone. We will encourage individuals, businesses, and organisations to all do their bit.

It's fantastic to see that Wellington Combined Taxis is doing their part by requiring operators to replace vehicles with specific models that have significantly lower carbon emissions. I congratulate you on this initiative.

Yours sincerely



Kerry Prendergast
MAYOR