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**Report 00.786**

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Report to the Regional Land Transport Committee  
By Dr D J Watson, Divisional Manager

## **The Wishbone Study**

### **1. Purpose**

To provide Committee members with a copy of the "Wishbone" study.

### **2. Background**

The Regional Land Transport Committee having produced a robust Regional Land Transport Strategy last year has embarked on the development of various corridor implementation plans as a basis for sequencing land transport projects. However, there continues to be a weak link between these plans and the funding of projects specified in them. The concept of funding following planning has been the subject of various presentations at conferences and workshops over the last several years. The Transport Futures Forums run by the Regional Council have drawn on overseas experience to demonstrate the benefits of a better alignment between funding and planning with the UK Package Funding approach in particular being promoted.

These concerns remain today. The government is considering legislative change early next year. The Committee, through a sub-committee, has responded to some recent Ministry of Transport working papers circulated by Local Government New Zealand. More of these are to come.

Having been immersed in the mysteries of transport legislation and its implementation for many years my Chief Executive Officer, Howard Stone, and I felt it would be worthwhile asking somebody who wasn't, but who had the ability to read legislation and understand its effect, to look in depth at the present situation. The "Wishbone Study" is the result of that exercise. Copies of the "Wishbone" study will be tabled at the Committee meeting. The author is Dr Wayne Hastie, the Council's Manager for

Resource Policy. He worked with three other people over a three month period on and off to produce the document you now have before you.

### 3. **Comment**

The "Wishbone Study" document is a comprehensive resource. It brings together all the legislation related to land transport and through the use of diagrams provides a very explicit view of their inter-relationships.

The document raises a number of fundamental issues and proposes solutions and directions for solving them. By clarifying the problems, it opens the door for further debate of the issues, at a time when government is moving to implement new transport legislation.

### 4. **Communication**

The document deserves to be read by the region's transport stakeholders so that it can help in the understanding of a complex framework which is in need of overhaul and sharper focus.

### 5. **Recommendation**

*That the report be received.*

Report prepared by:

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