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Report to the Passenger Transport Committee By Kevin Grace, Transport Infrastructure Co-ordinator

Petone Railway Station Update

1. **Purpose**

To update the Committee on recent developments on the proposal to upgrade Petone Railway Station Building

2. Background

The RLTS identifies the Petone Railway Station Building as needing 'Refurbishing' by 2004. In November last year the committee was presented with three options for a new building together with bus interchange plans, and was updated regarding extra carparking and SH2 proposals. The working group have now extended the options to five, including possible upgrades of the existing building as well as the two new designs.

3. **Comment**

A public meeting was held in the station on Wednesday evening 11th April and attended by over 40 people. The purpose of the meeting was to inform the public of the options being considered by the working group, and to gather feedback on the options.

- **Option 1** A basic upgrade of the existing building as first proposed in 1996 when Hutt City were considering using it as an information centre. It would involve repiling, replacing rotten materials and fixing leaks etc. This work is estimated to cost \$200,000.
- **Option 2** A basic upgrade plus a modern interior to provide toilets, ticketing and waiting area. Estimated cost \$300,000.

- **Option 3 & 4** The two new schemes from Warren and Mahoney and Design Club shown to the committee in November. Costs to be finalised.
- **Option 5** Restoring the building to its original condition. Estimated cost \$500,000 plus.

The meeting was advised that consideration had been given to moving an old station onto the site from out of town, providing a replica station, and Ian Bowman's idea of leaving the existing building and putting a new ticketing facility by the subway. Only option 3 & 4 allow for a bus interchange facility to be incorporated with a new design. There is no room for this if the old footprint is retained.

The meeting accepted that the old building was past restoring, and there was little support for a replica or a reinstatement of the original George Troup design. The two new designs were considered a little 'modern' by some, and there was a general feeling that a new design should somehow incorporate older features and heritage values. The meeting also expressed its support for a law change that would allow the WRC to own transport infrastructure

Submissions on the options were received that evening, and will be accepted up to the 1st June. The working group will then decide on a recommendation to make to this committee's meeting in August regarding what architect to work with on the final design.

There is \$250,000 Regional Council funding budgeted for this project, but the meeting felt this would not be enough to address all the design issues raised.

4. **Communication**

There have been several articles in local papers about plans for Petone Station. The latest report was a summary of the public meeting provided by Councillor Allen and published in the Hutt News.

5. **Recommendation**

That this report be received for information

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