



Report 08.831
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Committee Council
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and Strategy

Report on the Regional Transport Committee meeting held on 28 October 2008

1. Purpose

To update the Council on the meeting of the Regional Land Transport Committee held on 4 June 2008.

2. Significance of the decision

The matters for decision in this report do not trigger the significance policy of the Council or otherwise trigger section 76(3)(b) of the Local Government Act 2002.

3. Report

3.1 Public Participation

Chris Horne spoke to the Committee about his views on the Draft Ngarauanga-Airport Plan. He asked to Committee to remove the major roading projects from the draft plan.

Alistair Smith (Cycle Aware Wellington) and Allan Brown (Hutt and Wellington Rotary Clubs), supported by Ian Pike and Liz Thomas, made a presentation to the Committee about the Great Harbour Way Project. The presentation highlighted the success of the Hutt River Trail project, and suggested this be used as the model for the Great Harbour Way. They told the Committee that Hutt and Wellington Rotarians are prepared to make this a major combined Rotary project over the next 10 years.

3.2 Terms of Reference for the Regional Transport Committee

The new Terms of Reference for the Committee were presented. The Committee discussed the issue of appointing alternatives for the interest representatives, as they are for the Council representatives. It was agreed to retain the status quo.

A question was raised about the use of the term “cultural interests” in relation to the person representing those interests. Officers confirmed that this was the wording used in the Act. The Committee asked that an explanation be included in the Terms of Reference to clarify that the person is representing Maori cultural interests.

3.3 Ngarauunga- Airport Corridor Plan

The Committee considered the draft Ngarauunga-Airport Corridor Plan, as reported back from the Hearings Subcommittee and the participating agencies (Great Wellington’s Public Transport Committee, Wellington City Council and the NZ Transport Agency). The plan was adopted with a minor changes to clarify the area included in the Golden Mile, to make reference to the Great Harbour Way project and to specify the oil price assumptions.

3.4 Regional Walking Plan

The Draft Regional Walking Plan was reported back to the Committee, following initial consideration of the plan at the previous committee meeting.

Discussion focused around the following areas:

- How the regional plan adds value
- Walking connections between centres – e.g. SH58
- Distance as a key factor to whether people choose walking for their trip
- The transport focus of plan, although recognising the recreation elements of walking
- NZTA’s role in implementing improvements to the network in relation to state highways
- Targets for walking and the need to have a targets around all trip types, consistent with Government Policy Statement and NZ Transport Strategy
- Whether a map of the region’s walking network would be useful to identify the long term vision for connections within and between local authority areas. This was suggested as being helpful to support future local walking facility proposals. It was agreed that a map should be prepared
- What is being done between regional and local authorities to improve safety for pedestrians – particularly in Wellington City CBD, local road safety action plans, speed reductions and the safer routes programme.

The Committee adopted the Plan, with minor amendments.

3.5 Establishment of Hearings Subcommittee – Draft Regional Cycling Plan

The Committee agreed to establish a Hearings Subcommittee to hear, consider and make recommendations on submissions on the Draft Regional Cycling

Plan. The committee will be chaired by Mayor Guppy. Others on the committee are Councillor Glensor, Dr Palmer and Mr Gross.

3.6 Changes Arising from the Land Transport Management Amendment Act

The Committee was given an overview of the changes arising from the Land Transport Management Amendment Act. The Committee discussed the possibility of a regional fuel tax scheme in the region. Officers advised the committee that the need for a scheme would be considered as part of the regional land transport programme process. The Committee is likely to have initial discussions on the need for a scheme at its meeting in December.

The Committee considered two draft significance policies (one relating to the Regional Land Transport Programme and the other the Regional Land Transport Strategy). The Committee is required under the Act to adopt significance policies for variations to the programme and strategy to guide decisions on applying special consultative procedures. The draft policies were developed to reflect guidance issued by the NZ Transport Agency. There was some confusion about some apparent changes to the guidelines, suggested by the NZ Transport Agency Regional Director. The Committee agreed to leave the draft policies lying on the table, while the matter was resolved by officers.

3.7 Greater Wellington's Real Time Information Project

Anke Kole presented a report on Greater Wellington's Real Time Information project. The Committee commended officers on the workshops held with stakeholders and fact that the brief for the project includes accessibility features.

It was recognised by the Committee that collaboration with TAs is important, and officers confirmed this has been happening. The Committee was interested in the cost of the project. At \$10m capital costs plus operating costs the need to manage expectations about the scope of the project was emphasised.

3.8 2007/08 Annual Monitoring Report

The Committee received a presentation on the Annual Monitoring Report, with some emphasis given to the poor safety results. The Committee asked for more information on that issue. The Committee commended the officers on the comprehensiveness of the report.

3.9 Agency Progress Report

The quarterly Agency Progress Report, to update the Committee on progress in the various actions under the Regional Land Transport Strategy and implementation plans, was presented. A number of questions were directed towards the State Highway officials from the NZ Transport Agency.

4. Unconfirmed Minutes

The unconfirmed minutes of the committee meeting are in **Attachment 1**.

5. Recommendations

That the Council:

- 1. **Receives the report.***
- 2. **Notes the content of the report.***

Report prepared by:

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Attachment 1: Unconfirmed Minutes of the Committee meeting