



Report 09.109  
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File TP/01/02/02

Committee Council  
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## Report on the Regional Transport Committee meeting held on 19 February 2009

### 1. Purpose

To inform Council about the meeting of the Regional Transport Committee that took place on 19 February 2009.

### 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

**Paula Warren** spoke to the Committee, suggesting changes to the draft Regional Land Transport Programme the Committee was considering at the meeting. Ms Warren believes that most of the public transport projects should be prioritised above roading projects. Ms Warren told the Committee she believed the Grenada-Gracefield activity should be deleted from the programme and also mentioned that only part of the Western Link Road project is essential to improve connectivity, with rail improvement providing more benefits for Kapiti residents. Ms Warren suggested a renaming of the Basin Reserve Improvement project to “provision of a dedicated public transport corridor through the CBD and Basin Reserve”.

**Tony Randle** spoke to the Committee, criticising the Rail Plan. He questioned many of the figures in the plan, particularly the assumptions on patronage growth. He reiterated the concerns he expressed to the Committee at its December meeting about there being no plan to accommodate increased bus patronage.

**Councillor Paul Bruce** spoke to the Committee about the draft Regional Land Transport Programme and he asked for the upgrade of the Ngauranga-Petone cycle and walking pathway to be included in the programme, outlining international experience with cycling and walking and the need to provide safe roads for cyclists. Councillor Bruce reiterated Ms Warren's comments about raising the public transport activities on the list of priorities, the renaming of the Basin Reserve Improvements project and the removal of the Granada-Gracefield project. Councillor Bruce also suggested the SH2 Rimutaka Hill Road upgrades be removed from the programme, given what he sees as the importance of the rail link for passengers and freight.

### **3.2 Wellington Regional Rail Plan**

The Committee considered the Wellington Regional Rail Plan. Members of the Committee questioned some of the details in the Plan and the assumptions and modelling used to develop the plan. In particular concern was raised about consistency with modelling assumptions used through the development of the Ngauranga-Airport Corridor Plan.

The Committee endorsed the Rail Plan, with Mayor Prendergast voting against the endorsement recommendation.

### **3.3 Regional Land Transport Programme Prioritisation**

The Committee considered a prioritised list of transport activities to be included in the Regional Land Transport Programme, and a policy to support the prioritisation of activities. The list included the major activities to be undertaken over the next 3 years. The Committee made some amendments to the order of priority recommended by officers, before adopting the policy and prioritised list.

The Committee will consider the full draft programme at its meeting on the 5<sup>th</sup> March 2009. Once the programme is approved at that meeting it will go through a special consultative procedure, concurrently with the LTCCP. A final Regional Land Transport Programme will be recommended to Greater Wellington in June for adoption and then submission to the New Zealand Transport Agency.

### **3.4 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. No major issues arose from the discussion.

## **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 Public Minutes**