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Consultation Plan for the Proposed Regional Land Transport Programme 2009 – 2012

1. Purpose

To seek the Committee's approval of a consultation plan for the proposed Regional Land Transport Programme 2009 – 2012.

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. Background

As reported at the 11 December 2008 meeting (Report 08.914), the amended Land Transport Management Act 2003^1 (the Act) requires the Committee to prepare and consult on a RLTP every three years. In accordance with section 16 of the Act, the programme contains all of the land transport activities that will occur within the region over the next ten years. The programme sets out the expected expenditure (some \$5 billion over 10 years) on transport operations, maintenance and developments for 3+3+4 year periods. This is the first time the region has had to undertake such an exercise.

The Committee has to meet the requirements and principles set out in sections 18 and 18A in the Act for consultation on the proposed RLTP. The consultation plan (Attachment 1) has been developed to be undertaken in conjunction with public consultation on the regional council's Long-Term Council Community Plan, as allowed by section 18A(2) of the Act.

The Committee will be asked to approve the proposed RLTP for consultation in a separate report to this meeting.

¹ As amended by the Land Transport Management Amendment Act 2008

4. Comment

4.1 Consultation plan objectives

There are two broad objectives for the consultation plan:

- To engage stakeholders and the community on the proposed RLTP
- To facilitate awareness and understanding of the proposed RLTP so interested parties have the opportunity to make submissions.

The proposed RLTP potentially affects many people from throughout the region and neighbouring regional councils and territorial authorities. Anyone who is interested in being involved will be given the opportunity to do so.

4.2 Key elements of the consultation plan

The key elements of the consultation plan are summarised below and elaborated on in **Attachment 1**:

- Mail out of the proposed Programme to the required parties identified in section 18 of the amended LTMA 2003 and other identified interested parties (approximately 300) from prior Annual Monitoring Report and RLTS implementation plan processes
- Mail out of the proposed RLTP summary document to every household in the region in conjunction with Greater Wellington's LTCCP summary document
- Public notices (call for submissions and hearing notices) to be placed in the Dominion Post and all local community newspapers
- A dedicated webpage
- Media releases
- Opinion pieces may be prepared for the Dominion Post and community papers for publication if deemed necessary
- Article in Greater Wellington's "Our Region" publication in the 'what we're consulting on' section
- The proposed RLTP and summary document to be available from the offices of Greater Wellington, public libraries throughout the region and any other relevant locations
- The offer for senior Greater Wellington officers to make themselves available to talk to any interested parties or Councils.

4.3 Consultation period

Public notices on the consultation period will be published on Saturday 21 March 2009. The consultation period for the proposed RLTP will run from 23 March to 24 April 2009.

4.4 Submissions

Submissions will be evaluated and reported to a subcommittee of the Committee. The subcommittee will also hear any oral submissions. Hearing dates are yet to be determined but are likely to be in late May/early June. Appointment of the Hearing Subcommittee will be addressed in a report to the Committee's 8 April meeting.

5. Communication

Communications described in the attached consultation plan will commence following release of the draft plan for consultation.

6. Recommendations

That the Committee:

- 1. **Receives** the report.
- 2. *Notes* the content of the report.
- 3. Adopts the consultation plan for the proposed Regional Land Transport Programme 2009 – 2012, as set out in Attachment 1 to this report.

Report prepared by:

Report approved by:

Report approved by:

Patrick Farrell Policy Advisor Joe Hewitt Manager Transport Strategy Development Jane Davis Divisional Manager Transport Policy and Strategy

Attachment 1: Consultation Plan for the Proposed Regional Land Transport Programme 2009 – 2012