

Report 09.721
Date 12 November 2009
File TP/03/15/06

Committee Regional Transport
Author Natasha Hayes, Senior Policy Advisor

Programme for review of the Hutt Corridor Plan

1. Purpose

This report sets out the proposed programme for the upcoming review of the Hutt Corridor Plan for the Committee's approval.

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

The Hutt Corridor, for the purpose of our regional transport planning, is defined as:

State Highway 2 and the Wairarapa railway line from Ngauranga in the south through to Te Marua, Upper Hutt in the north. East – west connections between State Highway 2 and State Highway 1, including State Highway 58.

The current Hutt Corridor Plan was adopted in December 2003. It is one of four corridor plans that sets out the issues and needs in each corridor, and identified transport projects to address those needs. The Hutt Corridor Plan was the first plan, alongside the Wairarapa Corridor Plan, to be adopted. It is now due to be reviewed to reflect changes that have occurred in the past 6 years.

The review of the Hutt Corridor Plan will:

- Ensure alignment of the plan with the strategic direction provided by the Regional Land Transport Strategy 2007 – 2016 and its 2009/10 refresh.
- Update the plan to take account of any new trends, information, transport studies and land use policies relevant to this corridor.

4. Comment

4.1 Scope of Review

This corridor forms an important component of our regional transport network, providing regionally significant access for people and freight within and through the Hutt Valley to Wellington City's CBD. East-west connections between this corridor and the Western Corridor and key regional centres are also important considerations.

The Hutt corridor accommodates significant traffic volumes and trip making, and includes key freight routes with associated issues to be addressed. The scope of the review is expected to reflect this.

Several studies currently being carried out by the NZ Transport Agency are expected to provide key technical input to feed into the corridor plan review in early 2010. These include: the Ngauranga Triangle Strategic Study, the SH2 (Upper Hutt to Ngauranga) Strategic Study, the SH58 Strategic Study, and the SH2 Melling Interchange investigations.

The review will also take account of the recently adopted Regional Rail Plan and the upcoming review/development of a Regional Public Transport Plan.

The existing corridor plan identifies a number of planned improvements for the first ten years and the following ten years. The most significant project in the first ten year plan that is now almost fully constructed is the new Dowse Interchange. The review will look at whether other projects identified in the existing plan are still relevant, the timing of these, and whether any other projects or initiatives are required to address recently emerging issues.

Greater Wellington officers will work with a Technical Working Group made up of officers from the affected local councils, the New Zealand Transport Agency and other organisations and interest groups to develop a draft Hutt Corridor Plan for consultation. This work will be conducted in the first half of 2010.

4.2 Consultation

The Committee is not required to follow the special consultative procedure under the Local Government Act (LGA) 2002 in relation to any corridor plan review because they are not statutory documents required by any legislation.

While the development of corridor plans must follow the general principles of consultation set out in Section 82 of the LGA, the Committee has discretion about the scale and scope of consultation.

Region wide communication of the corridor plan review is appropriate, however the focus of the consultation will be on identifying key stakeholders with an interest in this transport corridor and communication methods of most relevance to affected communities and interest groups.

5. Key steps

The key steps and expected time frames for the Hutt Corridor Plan update are shown in the following table.

Key step	RTC Decision	Timing
Process report to RTC (this report)	Agrees to the process	2 December 2009
Background issues report developed		Jan – April 2010
SH2 and SH58 Strategic Studies finalised		Feb/March 2010
NZTA Triangle Study finalised		March/April 2010
Draft Corridor Plan developed (including Technical Working Group meetings as required)		May 2010
Consultation Plan	Adopt consultation plan	16 June 2010
RTC considers the draft corridor plan and releases for consultation	Adopt draft corridor plan for consultation	16 June 2010
Preparation of consultation materials and consultation		July/August 2010
Submission analysis		September 2010
Hear submissions (Hearings Subcommittee if required) and make changes		Sept/October 2010
Approval	Adopt new corridor plan	30 November 2010

6. Communication

Greater Wellington's officers will engage with key stakeholders, primarily through the Technical Working Group, when developing the updated corridor plan.

7. Recommendations

That the Committee:

1. ***Receives the report.***
2. ***Notes the content of the report.***
3. ***Agrees to the process and timeframe set out in sections 4 and 5.***

Report prepared by:

Natasha Hayes
Senior Policy Advisor

Report approved by:

Mike Vincent
Acting Manager, Transport
Strategy Development

Report approved by:

Jane Davis
Divisional Manager