



Report 19.104

20/03/2019

File: CCAB-20-675

Confirmed minutes of the Sustainable Transport Committee meeting held on Wednesday, 20 March 2019, in the Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council, Level 2, 15 Walter Street, Te Aro, Wellington at 9.32am

Present

Councillors Donaldson (Chair), Blakeley, Brash, Gaylor, Kedgley, Laban, Laidlaw, Lamason, McKinnon, Ogden (until 12.24pm), Ponter (until 12.18pm), Staples, and Swain, and Marama Tuuta.

Public Business

A minute of silence was observed as a mark of respect for those killed in, and impacted by, the act of terrorism in Christchurch on Friday, 15 March 2019.

1 Apologies

There were no apologies.

2 Declarations of conflict of interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

3 Public Participation

Mike Mellor spoke to a presentation regarding bus and train performance on the Wellington Region public transport network.

John Cuthbert expressed his concerns about the operation of the bus network, particularly with regard to the cancellation of services and ongoing reliability issues with routes 13 and 22.

Tony Randle raised concerns about the lack of timeframes in the proposed terms of reference for the Metlink Stage 2 post implementation review, and about the need for predictability in the bus network.

A letter from Norman and Linda Wilkins regarding the Airport Flyer bus service was tabled.

4 Confirmation of the minutes of 20 February 2019

Moved

(Cr Gaylor/ Cr Lamason)

That the Committee confirms the minutes of the meeting of 20 February 2019, Report 19.58.

The motion was **CARRIED**.

5 Action items from previous Sustainable Transport Committee meetings

Report 19.69

File ref: CCAB-20-665

Moved

(Cr Blakeley/ Cr Brash)

That the Committee:

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

The motion was **CARRIED**.

6 Operational guidelines – requests for sponsorship or free or subsidised fares for events

Paul Kos, Manager Public Transport Policy, introduced the report.

Report 19.86

File ref: CCAB-20-668

Moved

(Cr Swain/ Cr Kedgley)

That the Committee:

- 1. Receives the report.*
- 2. Notes the content of the report.*
- 3. Agrees with the following assumptions underpinning the current operational approach for assessing requests for free or subsidised fares for events:*
 - a. Metlink generally will not provide free fares as a form of sponsorship or general support for events, as public transport fares are already heavily subsidised by ratepayers and taxpayers.*

- b. *On some occasions, Metlink may agree to provide free or subsidised fares for events, but this will only be considered when there is a demonstrated additional benefit for public transport and/or the wider transport network, for example:*
 - i. *as part of a strategy to reduce traffic congestion and network congestion associated with the event*
 - ii. *to address operational or safety issues related to public transport*
 - iii. *to reduce revenue leakage.*
- 4. *Agrees that decisions on fare subsidies for specific events shall be determined by the Sustainable Transport Committee, or in the case of urgency jointly by the Council Chair and the Chair of the Sustainable Transport Committee (or in each case by their Deputy if the officeholder is unavailable).*
- 5. *Notes that officers will continue to work with the rail operator and event organisers to pursue integrated event ticketing for large events, with pricing negotiated on a bulk purchase basis.*
- 6. *Notes that commercial sponsorship opportunities for public transport (should Metlink wish to pursue them) are best considered within a wider marketing/branding strategy for public transport and should be reported to the Committee for approval.*

Moved as an amendment (to be an additional motion)

Moved

(Cr Ponter/ Cr Gaylor)

- 7. *Authorises the Chief Executive to organise appropriate signage of buses and trains in light of the terrorism event that occurred in Christchurch on Friday, 15 March 2019.*

The amendment was **CARRIED** and became part of the substantive motion.

The substantive motion was put to the vote and was **CARRIED**.

The meeting adjourned from 10.41am to 11.03am.

7 **Public Transport – operational performance**

Jonathon Gear, Business Performance and Insights Manager, introduced the report.

Report 19.72

File ref: CCAB-20-666

Moved

(Cr Staples/ Cr Blakeley)

That the Committee:

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

3. *Notes the operational performance report attached as Attachment 1 to this report.*
4. *Notes that the information contained in Attachment 1 is complemented by the performance metrics currently published on the Metlink website.*
5. *Requests that officers include additional graphical information in the performance metrics on the Metlink website in a way that enables easy comparison with the “Target”, “Needs Improvement” and “Unsatisfactory Performance” levels that have been set.*

The motion was **CARRIED**.

Noted: The Committee requested that:

- Officers provide the Committee with details of the number of non-Metlink commercial public transport services in the Wellington Region, including those that operate on the Golden Mile.
- More comprehensive narrative is included in future versions of the Metlink performance report to support the information included in the tables and graphs and to provide commentary on any significant changes and their potential impacts.
- Officers provide the Committee with information on the patronage of feeder bus services (buses connecting with train services) across the region.

The Council Chair advised that he would formally write to the Mayor of Wellington City requesting that the City Council attach greater urgency to advancing bus priority lanes in Wellington City.

8 **Metlink service activities**

Rhona Hewitt, Manager, Business Network and Infrastructure (Acting), introduced the report.

Report 19.73

File ref: CCAB-20-667

Moved

(Cr Laban / Cr McKinnon)

That the Committee:

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Notes the content of the report.*
3. *Agrees to defer any decision on the addition of late night trips to Strathmore Park until the review of the network design and timetables in Wellington’s eastern suburbs has been completed.*

The motion was **CARRIED**.

Noted: The Committee requested that officers provide the Committee with details of the priority list for placement of additional Real Time Information signs.

Cr Ponter departed the meeting at 12.18pm, during the discussion on the above item. Cr Ogden departed the meeting at 12.24pm, during the debate on the above item.

9 **Draft terms of reference – Post implementation review Metlink bus transformation: Stage two**

Wayne Hastie, General Manager, Strategic Programmes, introduced the report.

Report 19.88

File ref: CCAB-20-669

Moved

(Cr Kedgley/ Cr Swain)

That the Committee:

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Notes the content of the report.*
3. *Approves the terms of reference for stage two of the post implementation review of Metlink bus transformation attached as Attachment 1 to this report.*

The motion was **CARRIED**.

10 **General Managers' report to the Sustainable Transport Committee meeting on 20 March 2019**

Greg Pollock, General Manager, Public Transport, spoke to the report.

Report 19.68

File ref: CCAB-20-663

Moved

(Cr Lamason/ Cr Swain)

That the Committee:

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Notes the content of the report.*
3. *Endorses the actions taken by officers for matters set out in this report.*

The motion was **CARRIED**.

Noted: The Committee requested that officers provide further detail to the next meeting setting out steps taken by NZ Bus to reduce the driver shortage.

The Committee expressed concern about the implications and potential impacts of the amendments to the Employment Relations Act on bus services in the Wellington Region.

The meeting closed at 1.21pm.

Cr B Donaldson
(Chair)

Date: