

Minutes of the second meeting of the eleventh triennium of the Passenger Transport Committee held at 10.00am on Tuesday 19 May 2020, via audio visual link, as a result of a change in legislation due to Covid-19.

PRESENT Via audio visual link: Crs SD Ferguson (Chair), EM Clarke (from 10.15am), FJT Gordon, WM Kirton (from, 10.15am), RJ Keedwell, JM Naylor, NJ Patrick, S Jennings (Horowhenua District Council), G Hadfield (Manawatu District Council), B Barrett (Palmerston North City Council), C Ash (Rangitikei District Council), G Cosford (Ruapehu District Council), R Treder (Tararua District Council), Mr A Tonnon (Whanganui District Council).

IN ATTENDANCE Via audio visual link:
Councillor B Gordon
Manager Transport Services Mrs R Hewitt
Group Manager Regional
Services and Information Mr G Shirley
Committee Secretary Mrs JA Kennedy

ALSO PRESENT At various times during the meeting:
Via audio visual link: Mrs K Curry (Regional Integrated Ticketing System Special Project Manager), Ms L Shirley (Senior Transport Planner), Ms J Anderson (Transport Planner), Mr J Miguel (Transport Planner), Ms C Morrison (Media & Communications Manager), Ms J Snelgrove, (Tranzit Palmerston North), Mr J Timperley (Regional Integrated Ticketing System), Cr H Humphrey, Cr H Gee-Taylor (Manawatu District Council), Mrs B Cameron and Mr M Wasley (members of the public).

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

APOLOGIES

PT 20-6 *Moved* **Ferguson/Jennings**

That apologies be received from Crs Clarke and Kirton for lateness.

CARRIED

PUBLIC FORUMS / DEPUTATIONS / PETITIONS

Mrs B Cameron, and Cr H Humphrey / Cr H Gee-Taylor (Manawatu District Council) had been granted a deputation (via audio visual link) in regard to Item 7, Feilding Bus Service: Mid-Term Review Outcomes and Recommendations.

SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS

Supplementary Item 1, Regional Integrated Ticketing system (Bee Card) Deployment Approach had been distributed to Members via the Hub and email.

MEMBERS' CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

PT 20-7 Moved Tonnon/Naylor

That the Committee:

confirms the minutes of the Passenger Transport Committee meeting held on 18 February 2020 as a correct record, and notes that the recommendations were adopted by the Council on 25 February 2020.

CARRIED

FEILDING BUS SERVICE: MID-TERM REVIEW OUTCOMES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Report No 20-56

This report advised the Committee of the recommended service changes which arose from the Feilding Around Town/Feilding to Palmerston North bus service mid-term review and recommended service changes to Council for approval and implementation.

Crs Kirton and Clarke joined the meeting at 10.15am.

After a summary of the recommendations and associated costs provided by Ms Shirley (Senior Transport Planner), the Chair invited Crs Humphrey and Gee-Taylor (Manawatu District Council) to speak to their deputation in support of the Feilding bus service changes. Mrs Cameron’s deputation, also in support of the Feilding bus service changes, was not completed due to technical difficulties. Members’ provided their views, outlined their suggestions, and concerns were raised around the service design and implementation of the recommended changes.

PT 20-8 Moved Hadfield/Keedwell

That the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. receives the information contained in Report No. 20-56.*
- b. approves the recommended service changes to the Feilding Around Town/Feilding to Palmerston North bus service set out in Section 8.2 of Report No. 20-56;*
- c. approves the additional spend for implementation of the service changes outlined in Report No. 20-56, subject to Horizons Regional Council’s Annual Plan process and New Zealand Transport Agency funding;*
- d. agrees the Feilding Around Town/Feilding to Palmerston North bus service mid-term review is substantively complete and that only some operational matters remain outstanding;*
- e. notes, subject to funding approval, officers will work to implement the service changes in the second half of 2020-21.*

CARRIED

PALMERSTON NORTH BUS SERVICES CONTRACT EXTENSION*Report No 20-57*

This item sought approval to extend the Palmerston North Urban and Massey bus services contract (Contract 2011/42) for 12 months. Mrs Curry (Senior Transport Planner) gave an update on the revised process to the review due to the impacts of Covid-19. A new recommendation c. was included.

PT 20-9 **Moved** **Barrett/Naylor**

That the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. *receives the information contained in Report No. 20-57;*
- b. *approves the Palmerston North Urban and Massey Bus Services Contract (Contract 2011/42) be extended by up to 12 months to 14 November 2023, subject to approval from the New Zealand Transport Agency;*
- c. *includes budget indications for implementation of review outcomes in the Horizons Regional Council Long-term Plan 2021-24.*

CARRIED

VARIATION TO THE REGIONAL PUBLIC TRANSPORT PLAN 2015-25: FREE ACCESS SCHEME POLICY*Report No 20-58*

This item considered a variation to the operative Regional Public Transport Plan 2015-25 (RTP). The variation included a new policy to guide decision making around requests for free access schemes. Ms Shirley (Senior Transport Planner) took Members through the item.

PT 20-10 **Moved** **Keedwell/F Gordon**

That the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. *receives the information contained in Report No. Report No. 20-58.*
- b. *recommends that the Regional Public Transport Plan be varied to include a new Policy 17a in section 6.1, as worded in Report No. 20-58, paragraph 7.3.*

CARRIED

GENERAL PASSENGER TRANSPORT UPDATE*Report No 20-59*

Mrs Hewitt (Manager Transport Services) presented a slide show outlining the response and performance of passenger transport services and total mobility throughout Covid-19, and an update on the Palmerston North Bus Review. Ms Shirley (Senior Transport Planner) gave an overview of the Regional Land Transport Plan development, including the Passenger Transport Committee's involvement, the draft Government Policy Statement 2021, and the draft rail plan.

PT 20-11 **Moved** **Keedwell/Ash**

That the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. *receives the verbal update on general passenger transport activities.*

CARRIED

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER 4.2

PT 20-12 **Moved** **Ferguson/Patrick**

That the Committee suspends Standing Order 4.2 in order that the meeting can continue to sit beyond the two hour limit, without a ten minute break.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 11.56am.

The meeting reconvened at 12.01pm.

REGIONAL INTEGRATED TICKETING SYSTEM (BEE CARD) DEPLOYMENT APPROACH

Report No 20-60

This item approved an alternative approach to deployment of the Regional Integrated Ticketing System (Bee Card) in the Horizons region.

Mrs Curry (Regional Integrated Ticketing System Special Project Manager) guided Members through an alternative model for the introduction of the Bee Card following the Covid-19 alert announcement by the New Zealand government. Recommendation c. had the words ‘and on bus top ups’ added.

PT 20-13 **Moved** **Tonnon/Naylor**

That the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. receives the information contained in Report No. 20-60 and Annex.*
- b. approves the proposed phased approach to implementation of the Bee Card in the rest of the Horizons Region.*
- c. approves a temporary reduction in public transport fares, including the introduction of exact cash fares only and on bus top ups as shown in Annex A, to support the accelerated deployment approach for the Regional Integrated Ticketing System.*
- d. request officers continue discussions with the New Zealand Transport Agency on the potential to enter into a cost sharing arrangement to cover fare revenue reductions created by the use of a temporary simplified fare structure during Phase 1 rollout.*
- e. notes that fare levels will be reviewed by the Passenger Transport Committee by December 2020.*

CARRIED

Members discussed initiatives to reduce the use of on-bus cash fares and suggested the following recommendation.

Moved **Naylor/Clarke**

That the Committee agrees where the exact change for an on-bus fare is not available, the fare will be rounded up to the nearest dollar.

LOST

PROCEDURAL MOTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

PT 20-14 Moved Ferguson/Clarke

THAT the public be excluded from the following part(s) of the proceedings of this meeting. The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution follows.

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 and section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public, as follows:

CARRIED

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
PX1 Confirmation of Public Excluded Meeting held on 18 February 2020	s7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	s48(1)(a) The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
PX2 Council / Committee to consider whether any item in the Public Excluded minutes can be moved into the public domain and define the extent of the release		

The meeting adjourned to the Public Excluded part of the meeting at 12.47pm.

CONFIRMATION OF PUBLIC EXCLUDED MEETING HELD ON 18 FEBRUARY 2020

PX PT 20-4 Moved Naylor/Clarke

That the minutes of the confidential part of the Passenger Transport Committee meeting held on 18 February 2020, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.

CARRIED

PX PT 20-5 Moved Jennings/Barrett

That the Committee moves out of Public Excluded.

CARRIED

The public excluded section of the meeting concluded at 12.49pm.

The meeting closed at 12.50pm.

Confirmed

MANAGER TRANSPORT SERVICES

CHAIR