



Minutes of the twelfth meeting, seventh triennium, of the Passenger Transport Subcommittee of Horizons Regional Council held in the Council Chambers, Palmerston North City Council, 32 The Square, Palmerston North at 1.03pm on Tuesday, 17 August 2010.

PRESENT Crs VJF Chettleburgh QSM ED (Chair), L Bailey, A Main, GP Murfitt MNZM JP, and B Wilson.

IN ATTENDANCE Group Manager Mr G Shirley (from 1.46pm)
Regional Services and Information
Manager Transport Services Ms A Redgrave
Committee Secretary Mrs JA Kennedy

ALSO PRESENT Cr M Guy, Ms K Lowe (Transport Planner), Mr W Wallace (Transport Planner), Ms V Patton (Total Mobility Coordinator), Mr R Malley (Palmerston North City Council).

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cr Anderson, and Mayor Duffy. An apology was noted from Cr Gordon.

PT 10-94 **Moved** **Murfitt/Bailey**

that apologies be received from Cr Anderson, and Mayor Duffy.

CARRIED

LATE ITEMS

The Chairman advised of a late item for consideration in public excluded – Palmerston North Bus Terminal Project Update, Report No. 10-131. Urgent consideration of the report was required in order to initiate the process as soon as possible.

PT 10-95 **Moved** **Wilson/Murfitt**

*that the Council **receives** as a late item under public excluded: Report No. 10-131, Palmerston North Bus Terminal Project Update, for urgent consideration in order to initiate the process as soon as possible*

CARRIED

MEMBERS' CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There were no Conflicts of Interest.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

PT 10-96

Moved

Bailey/Wilson

that the minutes of the Passenger Transport Subcommittee meeting held on 18 May 2010, as circulated, be received and confirmed as a correct record.

CARRIED

REVIEW OF PASSENGER TRANSPORT ACTIVITIES FOR 2009-10

Report No. 10-122

This report informed Members of the performance of subsidised services in 2009-10.

Ms Lowe, Transport Planner (TP) expanded on the report and identified areas of increased patronage. She advised that a month-long package of promotions were being planned in 2010-11 for the commuter services to raise awareness of the services available. Members commented on areas of interest and questions of clarification were asked around timeframes for the start of the proposed new bus service to run between Airport Drive and Railway Road. The TP replied that the Palmerston North City Council would be liaising with affected landowners in the area around the placement of bus stops, and organising for the work to be carried out hopefully around mid to late September 2010.

PT 10-97

Moved

Main/Bailey

that the Subcommittee:

- a. **receives** the year end report on subsidised passenger services in the Region.

CARRIED

REVIEW OF TOTAL MOBILITY AND HEALTH SHUTTLE ACTIVITIES FOR 2009-10

Report No. 10-123

This report informed Members of the performance of subsidised services in 2009-10.

Ms Patton, Total Mobility Coordinator gave an overview of the Total Mobility scheme operations throughout the Region. She reported a general trend of a steady increase in the number of trips taken per passenger but with a decline in overall passenger numbers. Wanganui and Taumarunui were the exception where an increase in passenger numbers for the 2009-2010 year was recorded. Passenger numbers for health shuttle services in the Region continued to increase. Ms Patton advised Members she had been recruited as part of a project team with the Greater Wellington Regional Council to introduce a Smart Card system for Total Mobility in the Wellington area. She was hopeful that a variation of that system would be suitable for use in the Manawatu-Wanganui region. The system could also be modified to suit the requirements of other regions if required.

Members asked questions of clarification on areas of interest.

PT 10-98

Moved

Chettleburgh/Wilson

that the Subcommittee:

- a. **receives** the year end report for Total Mobility and health shuttle services in the Region.

CARRIED

NEW ZEALAND TRANSPORT AGENCY FAREBOX RECOVERY POLICY UPDATE

Report No. 10-124

This report informed Members of the final New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) Farebox Recovery Policy.

Ms Lowe, TP referred Members to the key points of note included in the policy. Discussion ensued around the potential changes to patronage as a result of any future fare increases, and improvements that could be implemented to increase the efficiency and availability of transport services.

PT 10-99

Moved

Main/Wilson

that the Subcommittee:

- a. **receives** Report No. 10-124 on the New Zealand Transport Agency Farebox Recovery Policy; and
- b. **instructs** officers to undertake a region-wide review of fare structures as part of the Regional Public Transport Plan review.

CARRIED

UPDATE ON PASSENGER RAIL DEVELOPMENTS

Report No. 10-125

This report informed Members of the investigation into Horizons' long-term role in passenger rail services should the daily Capital Connection rail service between Palmerston North and Wellington become commercially unviable.

Mr Wallace, TP gave a verbal update on the findings of a report presented at the Rail Passenger Services Subcommittee meeting held on 12 August, 2010. The report was undertaken by Tiffany Gray and supervised by Dr Christine Cheyne. The TP said the report suggested that the economic implications of the service were sufficient for Horizons to progress with further investigation. The report would be considered at the Regional Transport Committee meeting on 7 September 2010.

There was discussion around the importance of working together and promoting the retention of a viable passenger rail service between Palmerston North and Wellington.

PT 10-100

Moved

Wilson/Chettleburgh

that the Subcommittee:

- a. **receives** Report No. 10-125 into the update of passenger rail developments.

CARRIED

UPDATE ON WANGANUI URBAN BUS SERVICES REVIEW

Report No. 10-126

This report provided an update on the review of the Wanganui urban bus services.

Mr Wallace, TP explained that at the May 2010 meeting the Subcommittee approved a maximum 18-month extension of both the urban services and Castlecliff school services contracts. It was now felt that the extension be changed to 12 months to fit in with the timing of other contracts both locally and nationally. Officers have sought and gained approval from Wanganui District Council and Tranzit Coachlines, the current operators of the services, to change the extension period to 12 months.

PT 10-101

Moved

Main/Bailey

that the Subcommittee:

- a. **receives** Report No. 10-126 into the update of the Wanganui passenger transport services review;
- b. **approves** the request to extend the current Wanganui urban bus services contract for 12 months rather than 18 months as originally requested; and
- c. **approves** the request to extend the Castlecliff school contract for 12 months rather than 18 months as originally requested.

CARRIED

MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

The Chairman took the opportunity to thank the staff for their help and contribution over the last three years. He also expressed thanks to the Subcommittee members for their cooperation, achievements, and input over the last three years.

Should the outcome of the Palmerston North to Wellington Passenger Rail Service investigation conclude that Horizons would have a long-term role in providing passenger rail services, Cr Murfitt proposed the introduction of a bus service to operate to, and from, the Palmerston North railway station.

In answer to a question the TP advised that design work was underway, subject to approval, for a bus shelter sign to be placed in the grounds of the International Pacific College.

PT 10-102

Moved

Chettleburgh/Murfitt

that the Subcommittee:

agrees that Mr R Malley (Palmerston North City Council) remain for the public excluded part of the meeting to enable him to participate in discussions around the Palmerston North Bus Terminal Project.

CARRIED

PT 10-103

Moved

Chettleburgh/Murfitt

that the public be excluded from the remainder of the Subcommittee meeting as the general subject 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 is as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution	Grounds under section 48 (1) for passing this resolution
PX1 Minutes of meeting held on 18 May 2010	As disclosure would not be in the public interest because of the greater need to enable Council to carry on without prejudice or disadvantage commercial negotiations.	That the exclusion of the public from that part of the meeting is necessary to prevent the disclosure of information for which good reasons for withholding exist.
PX2 Passenger Transport Update <i>Report No. 10-63</i>	As disclosure would not be in the public interest because of the greater need to enable Council to carry on without prejudice or disadvantage commercial negotiations.	That the exclusion of the public from that part of the meeting is necessary to prevent the disclosure of information for which good reasons for withholding exist.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned to the public excluded part of the meeting at 1.58pm and resumed at 2.10pm.

The meeting closed at 2.11pm

Confirmed

MANAGER TRANSPORT SERVICES

CHAIRMAN