



Minutes of the first meeting, eighth triennium, of the Regional Transport Committee held at 10.09am on Tuesday 7 December 2010, in the Tararua Room, Regional House, 11-15 Victoria Avenue, Palmerston North.

PRESENT

Crs EB Gordon (Chair), VJF Chettleburgh, M Guy, Mayor B Duffy (Horowhenua District Council), Mayor R Ellis (Tararua District Council), Mayor I McKelvie (Manawatu District Council), Mayor C Leary (Rangitikei District Council), Mr R Forgie (Environmental Sustainability), Mr N Fitzpatrick (Public Health), Ms J Chetwynd (New Zealand Transport Agency), Ms J Stevenson (Cultural Interests), Mr R Coles (Access & Mobility), Senior Sergeant K Burbery (Safety and Personal Security), Mr D Hoskin (Economic Development).

IN ATTENDANCE

Manager Transport Services Ms A Redgrave
Committee Secretary Mrs JA Kennedy

ALSO PRESENT

At various times during the meeting:
Crs PW Rieger, G Cox, G McKellar, C Sheldon, J Barrow, Cr H McDouall (Wanganui District Council), Ms K Lowe (Transport Planner), Mr W Wallace (Transport Planner), Mr G Shirley (Group Manager Regional Services), Ms E Shaw (Ministry of Transport), Mr D McGonigal (New Zealand Transport Agency), Mr S McMillan (Road Safety Coordinator Manawatu/Rangitikei), various interested groups, Deputation: Mr F MacDonald, Mr B Meinders, Mr E Brown, and Mrs D Brown.

The Chairman welcomed the gallery of interested parties and members of the public to the meeting. He reminded the Committee of voting rights for committee members and objective representatives.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mayor Morris (Ruapehu District Council), and Cr Anderson (Wanganui District Council).

RT 10-01

Moved

Gordon/Forge

*that the Committee **accepts** the apologies of Mayor Morris and Cr Anderson.*

CARRIED

DEPUTATION

Mr MacDonald had requested and been granted deputation rights. The Chairman welcomed Mr MacDonald who introduced Mr Bert Meinder, Mr Errol Brown, and Mrs Diane Brown. Mr MacDonald thanked the Committee for the opportunity to put a deputation. He briefed Members about his history of involvement in transport issues and his membership of the Otaki

Road Safety Group. He spoke about road safety issues highlighting sites of concern where he believed attention was required, passenger transport issues, and the Capital Connection service.

Mrs Diane Brown said she was working on setting-up a road safety traffic group to cover the Kapiti and Horowhenua area and asked for support from the Committee. The Chairman said arrangements would be made to put here in touch with the road safety coordinator in the area. He thanked Mrs Brown for her time.

LATE ITEMS

There were no Late Items notified.

MEMBERS' CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There were no conflicts of interest noted.

As there were some new Members on the Committee, Members introduced themselves and noted who they were representing.

ROAD SAFETY EDUCATION REPORT

Report No. 10-191

This report informed Members of recent road safety education activities in the Region.

The Transport Planner spoke to the report and noted the five road safety coordinators and the areas they represented. He elaborated on the range of activities undertaken, the prioritisation process for activities and how they were funded.

Members asked questions of clarification on points of interest.

RT 10-02

Moved

Duffy/Chettleburgh

that the Committee recommends that Council:

a. **receives** *Report No. 10-191 on road safety education activities.*

CARRIED

INVESTIGATION INTO FUTURE PASSENGER RAIL SERVICES BETWEEN PALMERSTON NORTH AND WELLINGTON

Report No. 10-192

This report:

- a. informed Members of the results of the first stage of investigations into the future role of passenger rail services in the Region.
- b. recommended to Members to progress onto the second stage of investigations, which would elaborate on future Capital Connection service options and detailed costings.

The Transport Planner outlined the background as to why the report on 'Palmerston North to Wellington Passenger Rail Service Investigation' was undertaken and introduced Tiffany Gray, a Massey University Honours student who completed the report as part of her post-graduate

studies in Resource and Environmental Planning. The investigation was supervised by Dr Christine Cheyne.

Members provided their views about the future of the Capital Connection service and funding options. Discussion ensued and ultimately it was agreed to proceed with Stage Two of the investigation.

RT 10-03

Moved

Duffy/Chettleburgh

that the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. **receives** the report into the Stage One investigation into future passenger rail services between Palmerston North and Wellington;
- b. **endorses** the findings of the report; and
- c. **agrees** to proceed to Stage Two of the investigation into passenger rail services between the lower Horizons region and Wellington.

CARRIED

VEHICLE DIMENSION AND MASS RULE IMPLEMENTATION

Report No. 10-193

This report informed Members of progress in the implementation of the Vehicle Dimensions and Mass Rule amendment.

Members asked for clarity about identifying the routes that would qualify for High Productivity Motor Vehicles (HPMV) and the impact to bridge structures through increased HPMV traffic. The Transport Planner advised that those concerns would be addressed in the final assessment.

RT 10-04

Moved

Duffy/McKelvie

that the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. **receives** the report on the update of the Vehicle Dimensions and Mass Rule amendment implementation; and
- b. **approves** the funding application to be made by Horizons, as a variation to the Regional Land Transport Programme 2009-2012, to undertake a region-wide assessment of the identified High Productivity Motor Vehicles routes.

CARRIED

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REGIONAL LAND TRANSPORT STRATEGY 2009-10

Report No. 10-194

This item presented the Annual Report on the implementation of the Regional Land Transport Strategy (RLTS) for 2009-10.

The Manager Transport Services (MTS) said reporting on the implementation of the RLTS would become three yearly as a result of changes to the Land Transport Management Act. She drew

Members' attention to the key points to be noted from the report. Members considered the contents of the report and commented on points of interest, in particular expressed concern about the high number of fatal road casualties throughout the Region.

RT 10-05

Moved

Chettleburgh/Leary

that the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. **receives** the Annual Report on the implementation of the Regional Land Transport Strategy for 2009-10.

CARRIED

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REGIONAL LAND TRANSPORT PROGRAMME 2009-10

Report No. 10-195

This item presented the Annual Report on the implementation of the Regional Land Transport Programme (RLTP) for 2009-10.

The Transport Planner spoke to the report and expanded on the table showing total anticipated expenditure for the Region by approved organisations in the Regional Land Transport Programme (RLTP) 2009-12, and the approved expenditure in each activity class in the National Land Transport Programme (NLTP) 2009-12. Because of changes in central government direction and subsequent changes in New Zealand Transport agency funding policy, it resulted in less approved expenditure in some activity classes than was expected when developing the RLTP. Ms Chetwynd, New Zealand Transport Agency Regional Director Central, signalled that a report clarifying the status of projects in the NLTP and the funding outlook for these would be presented to the Committee early in 2011.

RT 10-06

Moved

Duffy/Guy

that the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. **receives** the Annual Report on the implementation of the Regional Land Transport Programme for 2009-10.

CARRIED

PALMERSTON NORTH MANAWATU JOINT TRANSPORT STUDY – UPDATE ON IMPLEMENTATION

Report No. 10-196

This report informed Members about progress with implementation of the Palmerston North Manawatu Joint Transport Study (JTS).

The Manager Transport Services (MTS) explained the background, the organisations who participated, and the primary objective which was to develop an evidence-based 30-year strategy for an integrated strategic transport network within the study area. She updated Members on progress with the next stage in the study which was to implement the tasks as set out in the recommendations. She indicated that the technical working group would be providing regular reports to the Committee on progress.

Ms Chetwynd, New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) advised that NZTA would formally sign-off on the study on 21 December, 2010.

Members asked questions of clarification.

RT 10-07

Moved

Chettleburgh/Duffy

that the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. **receives** the report on progress with the implementation of recommendations from the Palmerston North Manawatu Joint Transport Study.

CARRIED

NEW ZEALAND TRANSPORT AGENCY REGIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Report No. 10-197

This report updated Members on New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) regional and national activities.

Ms Chetwynd introduced her report which updated Members on: Key Regional Land Transport Strategy actions progressed by the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA); Implementation update on Manawatu-Wanganui State Highway and Network Activities / Funding Approvals by the NZTA in the National Land Transport Plan; and other NZTA and Ministry of Transport initiatives of regional significance. To streamline the transport planning, programming and funding allocation system, and to improve customer service throughout the region, a Planning and Funding Team was to be established in Palmerston North. Accordingly, the Wanganui Office would be closed. It was intended that staff from the Wanganui office would work out of the new Palmerston North office.

Cr McDouall (Wanganui District Council) expressed extreme disappointment on behalf of his Council about the intended closure of the Wanganui office. He noted the impacts it would have on current staff and their families, and believed the concerns expressed by WDC had not been given due consideration.

Ms Elizabeth Shaw, Ministry of Transport (MoT) provided a presentation to update the Committee on the make-up of, and the range of, activities undertaken by the MoT. Members asked questions of clarification.

The recommendations were altered to include the presentation from MoT.

RT 10-08

Moved

Duffy/Ellis

that the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. **receives** the Regional Director's update report; and
- b. **receives** the presentation from the Ministry of Transport.

CARRIED

SUBMISSION TO ENVIRONMENT WAIKATO'S DRAFT REGIONAL LAND TRANSPORT STRATEGY 2011-2041

Report No. 10-200

This report introduced a draft submission to Environment Waikato's Draft Regional Land Transport Strategy (RLTS) 2011-2041.

The Transport Planner spoke to the item and elaborated on the three key points in the submission.

Members discussed the submission and provided comment on issues of interest.

Mr Furner, Ruapehu District Council (RDC) apologised on behalf of Mayor Morris for her absence and noted the support of RDC for the submission.

RT 10-09

Moved

Chettleburgh/Duffy

that the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. **receives** the draft submission to Environment Waikato's Draft Regional Land Transport Strategy 2011-2011; and*
- b. **approves** the submission subject to any amendments; and*
- c. **instructs** officers to lodge the submission with Environment Waikato.*

CARRIED

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance.

The meeting closed at 12.20pm.

Confirmed.

MANAGER TRANSPORT SERVICES

CHAIRMAN