



Minutes of the ninth meeting, seventh triennium, of the Regional Transport Committee held at 10.04am on Tuesday 1 December 2009, in the Council Chambers, Palmerston North City Council, 32 The Square, Palmerston North.

PRESENT

Crs EB Gordon (Chair), VJF Chettleburgh, GP Murfitt (from 10.15am), Mayor B Duffy (Horowhenua District Council from 10.30am), Mayor M Reynolds (Taranaki District Council), Mayor S Morris (Ruapehu District Council), Cr G Cruden (Palmerston North City Council), Cr M Bell (Manawatu District Council), Cr D Brown (Rangitikei District Council), Cr A Anderson (Wanganui District Council), Mr RW Smith (Access & Mobility), Dr C Cheyne (Environmental Sustainability), Mr R Forgie (Economic Development), Ms J Chetwynd (New Zealand Transport Agency).

IN ATTENDANCE

Group Manager Regional Services Mr GP Shirley (from 10.15am)
and Information
Manager Transport Services Ms A Redgrave
Committee Secretary Mrs JA Kennedy

ALSO PRESENT

Crs P Rieger, M Plowman (from 10.12am), Ms K Lowe (Transport Planner), Mr W Wallace (Transport Planner), Mr R Hayward (KiwiRail), Mr W Furner (Ruapehu District Council), and various other interested groups.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mr N Wynne, Ms L Tamehana, and Mayor B Duffy (late).

LT 09-84

Moved

Forgie/Chettleburgh

*that the Committee **accepts** the apologies of Mr Wynne, Ms Tamehana, and Mayor Duffy (late).*

CARRIED

Apologies were noted as being received from Ms D Elers, Ms E Shaw, and Mr E Christiansen.

PUBLIC SPEAKING RIGHTS

No requests for public speaking rights had been notified.

LATE ITEMS

There were no Late Items notified.

MEMBERS' CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There were no conflicts of interest noted.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

LT 09-85

Moved

Anderson/Smith

that the minutes of the Regional Transport Committee held on 1 September 2009, as circulated, be received and confirmed as a correct record, with the addition of Cr Anderson as present.

CARRIED

There was comment in regard to resolution LT 09-80 (b) around the Committee's frustration at the implications of the change in policy to now consider Regional (R) funds as a priority over N (National) funds. Members were of the view that their time and effort spent in preparing the Regional Land Transport Programme was now of little value. The Chairman noted that a letter had been sent to the New Zealand Transport Agency clearly stating the Committee's position.

ENDORSEMENT AND ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Passenger Transport Subcommittee Meeting – 17 November 2009

LT 09-86

Moved

Chettleburgh/Gordon

that the Minutes of the Passenger Transport Subcommittee meeting held on 17 November 2009, as circulated, be received and confirmed as a correct record.

CARRIED

PRESENTATION: MR ROSS HAYWARD, GENERAL MANAGER PASSENGER SERVICES – KIWIRAIL

Mr Hayward outlined the history of the Capital Connection service between Wellington and Palmerston North. He advised that with electrification of the line from Wellington to Waikanae almost completed, which would result in a significantly improved service to Waikanae, there was a need to review the Capital Connection service. The Capital Connection would continue to operate for the next 12 months. Mr Hayward presented five options for the Committee's consideration: Continue existing service, Reduce existing service, Remove existing service, Replace service using Silver Fern Railcars, and Improve Services. Members considered the presentation and asked questions of clarification. The following recommendation was included to reflect the discussion.

LT 09-87

Moved

Chettleburgh/Duffy

that the Regional Transport Committee enter into negotiations with KiwiRail over the future of the Capital Connection rail service between Palmerston North and Wellington.

CARRIED

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REGIONAL LAND TRANSPORT STRATEGY 2008-09

Report No: 09-177

This report presented the Annual Report on the Implementation of the Regional Land Transport Strategy for 2008-09.

The Transport Planner (TP) spoke to the item and highlighted the key points.

Members considered the report and commented on points of interest.

LT 09-88

Moved

Brown/Smith

that the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. **receives** the Annual Report on the Implementation of the Regional Land Transport Strategy for 2008-09.

CARRIED

NEW ZEALAND TRANSPORT AGENCY (NZTA) – WELLINGTON CORRIDOR STATE HIGHWAY 1 KAPITI COAST OPTIONS AND CONSULTATION PROCESS – JENNY CHETWYND

Ms Chetwynd advised of an invitation to attend a briefing / presentation from NZTA on Monday 21 December 2009 at Porirua, in regard to the timing and progress for the Wellington Corridor State Highway 1 Kapiti Coast options and consultation process.

ROAD SAFETY REPORT

Report No. 09-178

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

The Transport Planner (TP) spoke to the report and updated the latest road safety statistics for the Manawatu-Wanganui Region.

Members commented on the table representing fatalities for each region and suggested improvements around providing road fatality data for each region by population and per kilometres of road in the area, and precise data to clearly identify locations where the accidents occurred.

Mayor Reynolds noted a vote of appreciation in recognition of the tremendous work carried out by the road safety co-ordinators.

LT 09-89

Moved

Duffy/Bell

that the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. **receives** the report on road safety education activities.

CARRIED

SAFER JOURNEYS 2020 SUMMARY OF SUBMISSIONS

Report No: 09-181

This report informed Members of the results of submissions on the Ministry of Transport's discussion document on a new national road safety strategy, *2020 Safer Journeys*.

The Transport Planner (TP) commented on the highlights and key points of the submissions.

LT 09-90

Moved

Duffy/Reynolds

that the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. **receives** the report into the summary of submissions from the "2020 Safer Journey" discussion document on road safety.

CARRIED

LAND TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT ACT AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT ACT REVIEWS

Report No. 09-179

This report informed Members of reviews to the Land Transport Management Act and the Public Transport Management Act.

The Transport Planner (TP) outlined the amendments proposed by the Minister of Transport to the Acts, and the suggested recommendations to regional councils on how to progress.

Ms Chetwynd, on behalf of Elizabeth Shaw, (Ministry of Transport), outlined the objectives and timeframes for the consultation period of the review.

Members considered it important for the Committee to be involved in some way with Local Government New Zealand staff in order to have input into the review. Recommendation (b) was therefore included to reflect the discussion.

LT 09-91

Moved

Murfit/Duffy

that the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. **receives** the report on the reviews of the Land Transport Management Act and the Public Transport Management Act;
- b. **recommends** that the Chairperson of the Regional Transport Committee work with Local Government New Zealand, prior to any Cabinet decisions being made.

CARRIED

REGIONAL LAND TRANSPORT STRATEGY REVIEW

Report No. 09-180

This report was to:

- a. update Members on progress with:
 - i. the review of the Regional Land Transport Strategy (RLTS); and
 - ii. the Palmerston North Manawatu Joint Strategic Study;
- b. decide on the vision and objectives for the RLTS; and
- c. discuss a revision to the timeline for the RLTS review.

The Manager Transport Services spoke to the report and drew Members attention to the revised timeline for the RLTS review, now due for completion in mid Sept 2010

Several Members complimented staff on the clarity and simplicity of the draft Background and Issues Chapters for the RLTS. Members considered the draft and made the following suggestions:

- § 2.4.7 Industry Clusters – correct location of the Bio-Commerce Centre: Fitzherbert Science Centre;
- § Allow more time to consider and address the contents of the vision statement and objectives for the draft RLTS;
- § 3.2.3 Safety and Level of Service Issues on Secondary Strategic Links - safety issues around a lack of passing lanes associated with Saddle Road;
- § 2.2 Population - clarification on the population graphs;
- § Include risk analysis of the transport network.

Mayor Morris and the Asset Manager, Ruapehu District Council updated Members on progress with the Ruapehu Cycleway Project. Members asked questions of clarification.

Recommendation (b) was altered to reflect the discussion.

LT 09-92

Moved

Cruden/Murfitt

that the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. **receives** the report on progress with the RLTS review and the Palmerston North Manawatu Joint Strategic Transport Study Transport issues in the Manawatu Wanganui region;
- b. **notes** and **defers** the vision statement and objectives for the revised Regional Land Transport Strategy to the next Regional Transport Committee meeting;
- c. **agrees** to the revised timeline for the review of the Regional Land Transport Strategy.

CARRIED

NATIONAL LAND TRANSPORT PROGRAMME 2009-12 UPDATE

Report No. 09-182

This report was to further inform Members about the process used to develop the National Land Transport Programme 2009-12.

The Transport Planner (TP) spoke to the report and was available to answer questions of clarification.

There was discussion around the budget reallocations for maintenance and renewals. Mr Leitao, Wanganui District Council and Cr Anderson raised concerns at the funding allocated to WDC, and expressed their opinion that WDC would be unable to achieve the required maintenance of the road infrastructure in its region with the current allocation. Cr Anderson suggested a new recommendation (b) to request that the New Zealand Transport Agency gave consideration to reassessing its decision around the reallocation of maintenance funds for WDC. Several Members indicated it was not the Committee's role and would therefore not support the recommendation. Cr Anderson appealed to the Committee to give consideration to his recommendation.

Ms Chetwynd, NZTA indicated she would be happy to receive such a letter but did not wish to raise any expectations around the reallocation of maintenance. She advised she would abstain from voting on the recommendation.

The Chair suggested that the recommendations be put separately.

LT 09-93

Moved

Duffy/Murfitt

that the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. **receives** the update on the National Land Transport Programme 2009-12;

CARRIED

LT 09-94

Moved

Anderson/Brown

that the Committee recommends that Council:

- b. **requests** that the Regional Transport Committee writes to the New Zealand Transport Agency with a view to reconsider its decision on the reallocation of maintenance funds.

Abstain: Chetwynd, Gordon

For: Anderson, Bell, Brown

Against: ~~Gordon~~, Chettleburgh, Murfitt, Duffy, Reynolds, Morris, Cruden, Smith, Cheyne, Forgie

LOST

STATUS OF THE IDENTIFICATION OF KEY FREIGHT AND TOURISM ROUTES FOR NATIONAL AND TRANSPORT PROGRAMME FUNDING PURPOSES

This item informed the Committee of the approach the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) was likely to take in regard to engagement with the sector for the development of the draft national Freight Plan, inclusive of freight and tourism guidelines.

Ms Chetwynd, Regional Director, Central Region, New Zealand Transport Agency spoke to the item and said that a draft national Freight Plan was being developed and would be released in the new year. A report on the nature of freight transport within the Central Region (Taranaki, Manawatu, Hawkes Bay and Gisborne), had been commissioned and would be available by end of 2009.

Ms Chetwynd answered Members questions of clarification.

LT 09-95

Moved

Duffy/Murfitt

that the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. **receives** the report entitled "Status on the identification of Key Freight and Tourism Routes for National Land Transport Programme Funding Purposes".

CARRIED

ENDORSEMENT AND ADOPTION OF THE PASSENGER TRANSPORT SUBCOMMITTEE RESOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF 17 NOVEMBER 2009

The Chair advised that at the Passenger Transport Subcommittee minutes of 17 November 2009 could be endorsed in the public part of the meeting.

Ms Redgrave, Manager Transport Services was pleased to inform the Committee that Horizons Regional Council had been successful in being funded for some bus service improvements in Palmerston North which would give a significant increase in frequency at peak times. It was hoped that the improved frequency would be in place for the start of the 2010 academic year.

Cr Chettleburgh expressed his thanks to Transport staff for their efforts to gain the funding.

LT 09-96

Moved

Duffy/Chettleburgh

that the minutes of the confidential part of the meeting held on 17 November 2009 be confirmed as a correct record, and be moved into the public part of the meeting.

CARRIED

The Chairman took the opportunity to acknowledge his appreciation to staff for their efforts in putting the agenda together, and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

The meeting closed at 12.30pm.

Confirmed.

MANAGER TRANSPORT SERVICES

CHAIRMAN