



*caring about you & your environment*

## **Report 01.622**

21 August 2001

File: TP/1/4/1

[01622.djw.doc]

Report to the Regional Land Transport Committee  
By Dr D J Watson, Division Manager Transport

### **Some Other Transport Issues**

#### **1. Purpose**

To give the Committee information on some other outstanding transport issues as this is the last meeting of the Committee this triennium.

#### **2. Current**

##### **(a) *Transport Legislation***

About now was the expected date for the release of proposed new draft transport legislation. This is legislation that this and previous governments have been promising for several years now. It is understood that a series of Cabinet papers were being processed through the Government systems during June, July and August. It now appears that the Prime Minister has sought a rethink and that these papers are now sidelined. When they will now surface is unknown.

This proposed legislation was expected to deal with the role of a national transport strategy, the status of regional strategies, roading clusters and public transport infrastructure ownership and funding. Their enactment could have had major implications for this Committee.

##### **(b) *Review of the current RLTS***

The Committee has been using the development of corridor studies as a way to maintain relevance of the RLTS. The Western corridor study became a part of the adopted strategy, as the other corridor studies are completed they are expected also to lead to additions to the strategy. Eventually, there will be a need to review the complete strategy.

The interlinkages between land use and transport requires the RLTS to be constructed with an intimate knowledge of future land uses. The current strategy relied upon forecasts of population and employment change commissioned specially for it.

Territorial local authorities are beginning to realise that knowledge of trends in land use change across the districts and the region is a fundamental requirement for them to adequately consider the future direction of their areas. There is a growing need to reach consensus on these trends so that all authorities are working within a common framework.

The Auckland region went down this track with their growth strategy. This was developed by the region's councils working as one. The outcome has been a land use strategy which each of the parties is using as the overriding framework for their own plans. The Auckland Regional Council's RLTC using it as a direct input into their RLTS development.

The councils of the Wellington region need to combine together to work through a similar process. This work will not come under the direction of the Transport or Resource Management Acts but the Local Government Act. It should involve, in the first instance, officers from across the region with an interest in forward planning. The intention is to bring together all those who could contribute to development of a Wellington "growth strategy" to agree a process by which such a strategy might be developed.

The success of the Auckland initiative is obvious, they all identify with their growth strategy and in the long run all of them will benefit. Wellington could achieve the same success. A formal review of the RLTS would then be a natural spin off from the "Growth Strategy". Some of the preparatory work on the RLTS could be run in parallel with the "Growth Strategy" process. It may take the whole of the next triennium to complete both these strategies.

(c) ***Tranz Metro Wellington***

This item is listed here because a meeting of all the region's councils is being held in Porirua on Wednesday 29 August 2001. There may be some information from that meeting that the Committee may find of interest.

### **3. Last Meeting**

The last three years, as always, have been interesting. Progress on implementing the RLTS has been patchy with some things happening earlier than expected and others being held up by outside processes. New issues have arisen and some of these will take time to resolve. Legislative change is still awaited. It has been overall a frustrating three years.

I wish to thank all members of the Committee for their wise contributions. The staff appreciate your efforts and look forward to working with many of you in the coming years. Clearly some will be leaving their parent organisations either willingly, through choice or retirement, others may have to leave due to decisions made for

them by electors. Whatever the reason, to those that do not return, all the best in your future endeavours.

#### **4. Recommendation**

*That the report be received.*

Report prepared by:

DAVE WATSON  
Divisional Manager, Transport