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Agency Progress Report on Implementing the Regional Land Transport Strategy

1. Purpose

To update the Committee on progress in implementing the Regional Land Transport Strategy (RLTS).

2. Significance of the decision

The matters for decision in this report do not trigger the significance policy of the Council or otherwise trigger section 76(3)(b) of the Local Government Act 2002.

3. Background

The Committee is required by the Land Transport Act 1998 to provide an annual report on implementing the RLTS. The Annual Report documents implementation progress as well as some 90 indicators to gauge progress toward achieving the objectives of the strategy. This quarterly report focuses on agency progress towards implementing the projects and activities set out in the draft Regional Transport Programme, over the next 10 years, as reported by the lead agency.

The methodology for reporting progress on projects and activities has been reviewed. A comprehensive reporting method has been developed to update the Committee on the overall progress of all regional projects and activities (attachment 1).

The results of this first reporting methodology are found in Attachment 2.

Work is continuing to develop a similar progress reporting methodology for the action plans of the RLTS sub strategies (pedestrian, cycling, road safety and travel demand management). This will be reported to the Committee in September.

4. Progress

4.1 Roading Projects

Transit New Zealand is the lead agency for most of the strategic roading projects identified in the RLTS. Roading projects led by Transit New Zealand nearing completion include:

- MacKays Overbridge (Western Corridor)
- Kaitoke to Te Marua Realignment (Hutt Corridor)
- Inner City Bypass (Wellington CBD Corridor).

Progress on many other roading projects cannot be reported until the release of the Transit New Zealand 10-year State Highway Forecast expected late June 2006.

Kapiti Coast District Council – Western Link Road Stages 1-3 are progressing. Designations have been obtained and project development is continuing.

Wellington City Council – progress on the Waterloo Quay Rail grade separation is relying on evidence of sufficient rail activity. The project requires a business case from CentrePort before commencing.

4.2 Passenger Transport Activities

Greater Wellington is the lead agency for all passenger transport activities. Highlights this quarter are:

• New rail carriages for the Wairarapa service are currently being manufactured with delivery expected in March 2007.

The following services are provided on a continuous basis and therefore progress status is reported at 90% for the current financial year:

- Rail Operating Contract
- Network Design and Promotion
- Bus and Ferry Operations
- Total Mobility Scheme.

Total Mobility in the Wellington region meets all the recommendations made by Land Transport New Zealand under Stage 1 of the Total Mobility Scheme Improvements. The recommended improvements to the Total Mobility Scheme are an outcome of the Ministry of Transport 2005 Total Mobility review. Work has commenced on implementing Stage 2 improvements.

Bus services in Newlands, Otaki, Whitby and Tawa have benefited from changes to route coverage and increased frequency of service.

5. Communication

There is nothing further to communicate.

6. Recommendations

That the Committee:

- 1. **Receives** the report.
- 2. *Notes* the content of the report.

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Attachment 1: Proposed Regional Transport Programme Status Report - Methodology **Attachment 2:** Proposed Regional Transport Programme Status Report (May 2006)