



Report 08.341
Date 21 May 2008
File E/06/11/06

Committee Regional Land Transport
Author Tim Henwood Policy Analyst

Land Transport Management Amendment Bill: Regional Transport Committees

1. Purpose

To inform the committee of the proposed changes to regional land transport committees arising from Select Committee consideration of the Land Transport Management Bill and outline a process for the establishment of a new regional transport committee.

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

In October last year, the Land Transport Management Amendment Bill (the Bill) was introduced to address issues raised by a number of reviews into the land transport sector, particularly the Next Steps review of the New Zealand land transport sector, led by the State Services Commission.

The Transport and Industrial Relations Committee reported back to Parliament on 16 May 2008 with its findings, shortly followed by the second reading of the Bill on 20 May 2008.

It is expected that the Bill will be passed into law by the end of June 2008 and will likely include a number of changes to the current arrangements for regional land transport committees.

4. Proposed regional transport committees

The Bill, as reported back by the Select Committee, provides that the first regional transport committee for each region must be established before 1 October 2008 (unless another date before 31 December 2008 is agreed upon by

the Minister) and that the existing regional land transport committee in each region continues until the new committee is established.

The Select Committee has recommended that the new committees be known as Regional Transport Committees to remove the implied exclusive focus on land transport.

The Select Committee has not recommended any changes to the Bill in terms of committee membership and voting rights, which are outlined below:

- Two persons to represent the Regional Council
- One person from each territorial authority in the region to represent that territorial authority
- One person to represent the New Zealand Transport Agency
- One person to represent each of the following (with full speaking rights, but no voting entitlement on matters relating to regional land transport programmes and regional fuel tax schemes):
 - the objective of economic development
 - the objective of safety and personal security
 - the objective of public health
 - the objective of access and mobility
 - the objective of sustainability
 - cultural interests.

The Select Committee has recommended that the committee chair should not have a casting vote.

5. Appointment Process for a Regional Transport Committee

In anticipation of the Bill being enacted by 30 June 2008, Greater Wellington will shortly be commencing the process for seeking nominations for appointments to the new committee.

Nominations for the representatives of the territorial authorities and of the New Zealand Transport Agency will be sought from those organisations.

The appointments of the six remaining representatives will follow Greater Wellington's policy on the appointment of non-elected members to Council committees and subcommittees. This will involve public notices inviting nominations. Local authorities and relevant organisations will also be invited to submit nominations.

The Bill provides that the appointees must be from the wider regional community. In accordance with the Greater Wellington standard procedures, nominations will be considered by a evaluation group comprising of the Chair and Deputy Chair of the current Regional Land Transport Committee (Councillors Wilde and Glensor) and supported by Greater Wellington's Divisional Manager of Transport Policy and Strategy.

A report recommending the establishment of the new Regional Transport Committee, and the appointment of people to the committee, will be considered at the Council meeting on 29 September 2008. The first meeting of the new Regional Transport Committee is scheduled for 28 October 2008.

6. Continuing the membership of the current RLTC

While the Bill provides that the current RLTC will remain in place until the new Regional Transport Committee is established, the Council resolved on 29 November 2007 that the terms of the objective and interests members on the RLTC would expire no later than 1 July 2008. This date was set on the basis that the new legislation would be enacted and in force at that time. Given the three month transition period provided for the establishment of a new Regional Transport Committee, officers will be reporting to Council on 10 June 2008 recommending the terms of the current members be extended through to the date that the new Regional Transport Committee is established.

7. Communication

Public communication and correspondence with territorial authorities and relevant organisations will take place following Council's approval of this report.

8. Recommendations

That the Committee recommends that the Council:

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

Report prepared by:

Report approved by:

Tim Henwood
Policy Analyst

Jane Davis
Divisional Manager, Transport
Policy and Strategy