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Committee Regional Land Transport  
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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 projects, activities and action programmes of the Regional Transport Programme in the Regional Land Transport Strategy (RLTS 2007 – 2016).

### 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 Monitoring Report documents implementation progress as well as some 100 indicators to gauge progress towards achieving the objectives of the strategy. This **quarterly report** focuses on agency progress towards implementing the projects, activities and action programmes set out in the RLTS 2007 – 2016 Regional Transport Programme, as reported by the lead agencies. Progress is reported for the quarter to **30 June 2008**.

A comprehensive reporting methodology has been developed to update the Committee on the overall progress of all regional projects, activities and implementation plan action programmes (**Attachment 1**). Detailed progress including commencement and completion dates is given. Descriptions of all Passenger Transport Programme projects and activities, Strategic Roading Programme projects and implementation plan action programmes (Travel Demand Management, Cycling, Pedestrian and Road Safety) are included in the associated attachments.

This report relies on information provided by a number of agencies and can only be as good as the updated feedback received from those agencies. The

Transport Policy & Strategy Division would like to acknowledge the contributions made by the numerous agencies that are required to regularly provide updated material for this report.

A separate report to the Committee on the Transmission Gully Motorway Project is prepared by Transit New Zealand.

## **4. Progress**

The following provides a brief summary of the highlights during the fourth quarter of the 2007/08 financial year.

### **4.1 Ngauranga to Airport Strategic Transport Study**

The core study project team comprises officers from Transit New Zealand, Wellington City Council and Greater Wellington, assisted by consultants OPUS. A draft corridor plan was approved by the Committee for consultation in June/July 2008.

### **4.2 Regional Rail Plan**

The economic results of various rail development scenarios and sensitivities are now well understood. The Technical Working Group is now compiling service components into appropriate packages of improvements for inclusion and expansion in the business case. Drafting has begun on the body of the business case element of the document.

It is likely that emergent structures within the rail industry as a consequence of the formation of KiwiRail, and the merging of Transit New Zealand and Land Transport New Zealand will delay the finalisation of the implementation and funding paper elements of the Regional Rail Plan. The Greater Wellington Transport and Access Committee will consider the key findings by October 2008.

### **4.3 Passenger Transport Projects**

Greater Wellington is the lead agency for all passenger transport projects. See **Attachment 2** for detailed progress. Highlights this quarter are:

#### **4.3.1 Matangi rolling stock – new Electric Multiple Units (EMU) procurement**

On 1 May 2008 Greater Wellington exercised its option to buy an additional 20 new electric commuter train units in addition to the 70 that it has already ordered from Rotem/Mitsui.

Delivery is expected to commence in early 2010. The project is currently in the mobilisation phase where Rotem/Mitsui is submitting various project plans and system designs for review.

#### 4.3.2 Additional capacity trains

Work on the locomotive hauled carriages is in progress. Body works of the six carriages will be completed and ready for bogie installation by early September 2008. The three electric locomotives for hauling the carriages are now in Toll's Hutt workshops undergoing refurbishment works. The locomotives will be ready for the on-site testing and commissioning of the carriages prior to the complete train entering passenger service in December 2008.

Re-commissioning works for the two English Electric EMU trains are in progress. The Ferrymead EMU is anticipated to go into passenger service in August 2008, followed by the Phoenix EMU in October 2008.

#### 4.3.3 Kapiti railway stations

Following workshops with representatives from Greater Wellington, ONTRACK, Transit New Zealand, and Kapiti Coast District Council draft concept designs have been prepared for Waikanae, Lindale and Paraparaumu stations. The drafts will be reviewed by the key stakeholders before being finalised and incorporated in the Concept Design Report. Progression to the detailed design stage may be delayed by land purchase negotiations; however the concept designs will be finalised in August 2008.

#### 4.3.4 MacKay's to Waikanae double tracking (and electrification to Waikanae)

ONTRACK is continuing to prepare for preliminary earthworks at various sites by progressing detailed design, consents and consultation with affected parties. The various services crossing the corridor have been located and proposed routes for relocation have been identified. The redesign of various bridges is being progressed. ONTRACK held a Project Risk Workshop during the quarter which included representatives from KiwiRail, Greater Wellington and Kapiti Coast District Council.

#### 4.3.5 Johnsonville tunnels upgrades

Site surveys have been completed for Johnsonville Station, Ngaio loop, Khandallah loop and the area for a temporary access bridge. The design has been completed for the Wadestown loop retaining wall and a building consent has been lodged. Physical works on the tunnels is anticipated to begin in August and will run through until January 2009. Work on lowering the tracks will commence during a major 'block of line' over the Christmas break, during which time buses will replace the normal train services.

#### 4.3.6 Real time information

A system design consultant for the Real Time Information project has been appointed and started working in May 2008. The consultant, Maunsell Ltd, is supporting Greater Wellington with system design, tender preparation and tender evaluation. Currently, the main focus is on user requirements which involves close collaboration with the main project stakeholders.

#### 4.3.7 Integrated ticketing

Greater Wellington's formal policy position on its integrated ticketing aspirations remains that the Council will initially continue to work towards the introduction of electronic ticketing on rail, with the expectation that capability would be retained for extension to bus at a later stage. However, the development of this project is taking place in a changing environment. There are two main influencing factors as follows:

- The extended evaluation process for the Auckland Regional Transport Authority (ARTA) integrated fares and ticketing scheme. A clear outcome from this process is awaited.
- The introduction of the NZ Bus 'Snapper' proprietary electronic ticketing and payments scheme in Wellington.

Greater Wellington will therefore continue to investigate the introduction of electronic ticketing on rail, but does not expect to be able to formulate a conclusive position for further policy development until clarity is gained from the ARTA outcome, and direction can be drawn from experience with the local Snapper deployment.

#### 4.3.8 Bus stop and shelter maintenance

New bus shelters have been installed at nine locations throughout the region. In addition, one shelter for Lower Hutt and three shelters for Wellington are in storage and will be installed once consents are approved.

### 4.4 Passenger Transport Activities

Greater Wellington is also the lead agency for all passenger transport activities (these are listed in **Attachment 3**). Relevant points to note for the quarter:

#### 4.4.1 Trolley bus services

##### **Trolley bus replacement programme**

Two new generation prototype trolley buses with improved accessibility were launched in December 2007. As at the end of June 2008 there are eight new generation trolley buses on the road.

There has been a delay in the delivery of the new trolley buses due to production issues and relocation of factory facilities. NZ Bus Ltd is working with Designline to ensure that delivery of the new fleet will still be completed by the originally planned date of November 2009.

##### **Overhead trolley bus wires**

Consultants SKM have been engaged by Greater Wellington to assess the current condition of the overhead trolley bus wires and the level of upgrade work that is required. This will be carried out in July 2008.

#### 4.4.2 Review of Kapiti bus/train connections

An integrated ticketing scheme involving free transfer between bus and train in Paraparaumu has been developed and will be trialled from 1 September 2008. This scheme is aimed primarily at relieving pressure on the park and ride facility at Paraparaumu.

#### 4.5 ONTRACK update

No report received this quarter.

#### 4.6 Roothing Projects

**Transit New Zealand** is the lead agency for most of the strategic roading projects identified in the RLTS. See **Attachment 4** for detailed progress. Progress to note on roading projects led by Transit New Zealand includes:

##### 4.6.1 Dowse to Petone Grade Separation (Hutt Corridor)

Construction work is progressing to programme.

##### 4.6.2 Moonshine Hill Road Intersections (Hutt Corridor)

This safety project has been delayed. The upgrade of Whakatiki Street/Moonshine Road and east of Moonshine Hill Road is to be completed by mid August 2008. The remainder of the intersections (Moonshine Hill Road west) are suspended due to weather with construction to be resumed in October/November 2008.

##### 4.6.3 Safety Investigations (Western Corridor)

###### **MacKay's to Centennial Highway safety improvements**

This investigation is 50% complete.

###### **Otaihanga to Waikanae safety improvements**

Funding has been approved for this investigation but no work has started.

###### **Moonshine Hill Road to Silverstream safety improvements**

This investigation is 80% complete.

##### 4.6.4 Western Link Road (Western Corridor)

**Kapiti Coast District Council** is the lead agency on the Western Link Road project (Western Corridor).

Western Link Road Stages 1 – 3 are progressing with the Stage 1 investigation almost complete. A review of the design scope is complete and a final decision is pending which will allow design work to continue as it has been on hold. Designations have been obtained and work on Stage 1 resource consents is

continuing with three of four consents approved. Property purchase is proceeding as Land Transport New Zealand has approved a funding application for advanced land purchase. (see **Attachment 4**).

#### **4.7 Travel Demand Management (TDM) Plan Activities**

Greater Wellington oversees the implementation of TDM Plan Activities which are detailed in **Attachment 5**. The status of some TDM actions is given below:

##### **4.7.1 Community initiatives**

An individualised community travel behaviour change project was facilitated in partnership with Wellington City Council, the Sustainability Trust and the Ministry for the Environment's Sustainable Management Fund. "Getting Around Wellington" involved 725 households.

##### **4.7.2 Other initiatives**

An investigation of carpool software and programme support options for possible regional implementation was completed this quarter. This project aims to facilitate commuter carpooling through regional businesses and high employment industrial centres.

An investigation has commenced into the development of a web-based cycling and walking journey planner aimed to provide information to facilitate and encourage walking and cycling for commutes and short trips.

##### **4.7.3 Greater Wellington's Travel Plan Programme**

###### **School Travel Plans**

The school travel plan programme is well on the way to achieving the three year target of 16 participating schools by 2008/09. Thirteen schools supported by Greater Wellington and six Territorial Authorities throughout the region are now participating, involving over 5,500 primary and secondary students. An additional six schools and Territorial Authorities are keen to develop travel plans through the programme in 2008/09.

Some of the initiatives that schools have undertaken as part of their travel plans include:

- Walking and cycling clubs
- Walk once a week challenge with a golden boot prize for the class with the highest percentage of walkers
- Students graphing weekly results of Wednesday walkers
- Active transport days
- Rewards for secondary students getting to school sustainably
- Over 60 schools participating in Feet First Walk to School event
- Working with police to measure speed around schools
- Walking buddies – senior kids leading walking school buses
- Push Play days

- Trees trimmed for easier use of walkways.

### **Workplace Travel Plans**

A total of 12 organisations are taking part in the Workplace Travel Plan Programme resulting in the three year target (to 2008/09) already being met. Almost 12,000 staff and 20,000 tertiary students are involved in the travel plans.

Some of the initiatives already implemented by workplaces include:

- Provision of additional lockers and expansion of cycle storage facilities
- Bike wise challenge, bike maintenance and bike safety classes
- Provision of pool bikes
- Provision of umbrellas and rain ponchos for business trips
- Conversion of car parks to carpool parks
- \$30 per month public transport subsidy for staff
- \$200 bike purchase subsidy for staff who cycle to work
- Sale of a fleet car and purchase of a scooter as a pool vehicle alternative
- Guaranteed ride home policies
- Greater Wellington's Travel Plan Programme Smart Travel Discount Card
- Carpooling schemes.

## **4.8 Cycling Plan Activities**

Greater Wellington oversees the implementation of Cycling Plan activities which are detailed in **Attachment 6**. Activity progress to note is:

### **4.8.1 Regional Cycling Plan review**

A Draft Regional Cycling Plan has been developed and approval for consultation will be sought from the Committee in August 2008. This plan identifies actions to implement the RLTS 2007 – 2016 and will influence investment decisions and transport planning in relation to cycling over the next 10 years.

### **4.8.2 Cyclist Skills Training**

An appropriate delivery model for cyclist skills training in the region is being investigated with Land Transport New Zealand. A programme pilot with schools involved with the Travel Plan Programme is anticipated.

### **4.8.3 Regional Cycle Map**

The Wellington City and CBD Cycle Map has been enhanced and updated to include the Inner City Bypass.

## 4.9 Pedestrian Plan Activities

Greater Wellington oversees the implementation of Pedestrian Plan activities which are detailed in **Attachment 7**. Activity progress during the quarter includes:

### 4.9.1 Regional Walking (Pedestrian) Plan review

The Draft Regional Walking Plan was approved by the Committee for public consultation in April 2008 and submissions closed at the end of May 2008. A final plan will be recommended to the Committee in August 2008.

This plan identifies actions to implement the RLTS 2007 – 2016 and will influence investment decisions and transport planning in relation to walking over the next 10 years.

## 4.10 Road Safety Plan Activities

Greater Wellington oversees the implementation of Road Safety Plan activities which are detailed in **Attachment 8**.

There is nothing to report this quarter.

## 5. Communication

Communications regarding the projects mentioned in this report are the responsibility of the implementing agency.

## 6. Recommendations

*It is recommended that the Committee:*

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

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- Attachment 1: Reporting Methodology
- Attachment 2: Passenger Transport Project Status
- Attachment 3: Passenger Transport Activity Status
- Attachment 4: Roading Project Status
- Attachment 5: TDM Plan Action Status
- Attachment 6: Cycling Plan Action Status
- Attachment 7: Pedestrian Plan Action Status
- Attachment 8: Road Safety Plan Action Status