



Report 08.613
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Committee Council
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Report of the Regional Land Transport Committee Meeting held on 13 August 2008

1. Purpose

To inform Council about the meeting of the Regional Land Transport Committee that took place on 13 August 2008.

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. Report

3.1 Public Participation

The committee heard from three public participants.

Alastair Smith (Cycle Aware Wellington) spoke to committee about:

- Great Harbour Way
- Improvement of the Petone to Wellington City cycleway
- Wider benefits of cycling projects (health, recreation, tourism).

Paula Warren spoke about the Regional Rail Plan. She said she felt there was a lack of information about the plan and that it was taking an operational rather than strategic approach. She also spoke about integrated ticketing, and questioned why the emphasis appeared to now be on this, rather than electronic ticketing. She gave the day pass as an example.

Fred MacDonald spoke about safety issues relating to land use development and not limiting access to State Highways. He presented to the committee an alternative public transport option which was the use of converted rail cars on the line between Otaki and Waikanae/Paraparaumu instead of electrification.

He also talked about the lack of public transport between Otaki and Palmerston North for trips to hospitals/health facilities.

3.2 Presentation from Ministry of Transport and the New Zealand Transport Agency (the Agency)

John Allard from the Ministry of Transport gave a presentation to the committee about the newly released Government Policy Statement (GPS) and the updated New Zealand Land Transport Strategy. He told the committee that the targets in the GPS will be “regionalised” in consultation with the region. The targets will need to be taken into account when the region prepares its Regional Land Transport Programme, and when funding decisions are made by the Agency.

Geoff Dangerfield, Chief Executive of the Agency, then made a presentation on the new organisation and talked about the partnership model he will be promoting between the agency and regions.

3.3 Draft Regional Walking Plan

The committee heard from three submitters to the Draft Regional Walking Plan: Andrew Wilks (Victoria University), Paula Warren and Celia Wade-Brown (Living Streets Aotearoa).

The committee debated the draft plan, including whether the 15% mode share target was ambitious enough. Some Mayors questioned the implementation costs, which it was recognised will fall mainly on territorial authorities.

The committee asked that officers consider issues raised by committee members and bring the plan back to next meeting for further consideration.

3.4 Draft Regional Cycling Plan

The committee approved for consultation an update to the Regional Cycling Plan. The draft plan was developed through consultation with a number of individuals and groups representing cycling interests.

3.5 Agency Report

The committee considered the quarterly agency report (to 1 June 2008). This report outlines the progress of the various transport agencies in the region on projects that are specified in the Regional Land Transport Strategy.

3.6 Transmission Gully Motorway

Graham Taylor, Regional Manager of Transit, presented an update on the Transmission Gully Motorway project. Funding has been approved for the preparation of resource consents. Transit (now the NZ Transport Agency) is currently consulting with affected landowners and with the public generally on the revised alignment.

3.7 Regional Carpool Programme

Ping Sim, Greater Wellington's sustainable transport planner, gave a presentation to the committee on carpooling software that has been purchased. The software will enable people to find carpool "buddies" and therefore assist in the reduction of single-occupancy vehicles. This is one of the targets in the new Government Policy Statement.

4. Recommendations

That the Council:

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

Report prepared by:

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Committee