



Report 08.76
Date 15 February 2008
File TP/01/06/02

Committee Council
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Draft Submission on Sustainable Transport, Update of the New Zealand Transport Strategy Discussion Paper

1. Purpose

To seek the Council's agreement on a submission to the Ministry of Transport (MoT) on the *Sustainable Transport, Update of the New Zealand Transport Strategy* discussion paper. Both the Regional Land Transport and Transport and Access Committees have considered the draft submission and are recommending it is approved by the Council. The draft submission recommended by the Committees is attached for your information in **Attachment 1**.

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

This year the Government intends to publish an Update of the New Zealand Transport Strategy (UNZTS). According to MoT officials, this update is intended to:

- *“provide direction for the transport sector until 2040 in the context of the government's sustainability agenda and other government strategies in the areas of energy and energy efficiency;*
- *translate that direction into high-level targets for the transport sector and intermediate targets for sub-sectors (air, sea, road, vehicle fleet, rail, freight, public transport, walking and cycling) to help achieve the high-level targets;*

- *provide clearer guidelines for decisions about funding allocations; and*
- *contain an action plan, including accountabilities for actions, reflecting how it is intended to reach the transport targets.”*

The MoT has released a discussion document, Sustainable Transport, which it says is “*an important first step towards updating the New Zealand Transport Strategy (NZTS). Its purpose is to set out the issues and propose a series of transport specific targets already decided by the government in the areas of sustainability, energy and climate change*”. The discussion paper is available for download from: <http://www.mot.govt.nz/update-of-the-new-zealand-transport-strategy-2/>.

The MoT has signalled that this may be the only significant opportunity that stakeholders will have to submit on this important update. The closing date for submissions is 29 February 2008.

4. Comment

Greater Wellington’s draft submission has been considered by both the Regional Land Transport and Transport and Access Committees at their February meetings (held on the 11th and 13th of February 2008, respectively) (see reports 08.24 and 08.22, respectively). The attached draft submission has been modified to take into account the feedback made at those meetings.

5. Communication

Upon endorsement by the Council, the submission will be sent to the Ministry of Transport and copied to the members of the Regional Land Transport Committee.

6. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Council:

1. *Receives the report;*
2. *Notes the content of the report;*
3. *Approves the submission set out in Attachment 1; and*
4. *Authorises the Council Chair to sign the submission on behalf of the Council.*

Report prepared by:

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Attachment 1: Draft submission on "Sustainable Transport: Update of the New Zealand Transport Strategy Discussion Paper"