

Report 09.235

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Committee Transport & Access Committee
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# Service review update - April 2009

## 1. Purpose

To update the Committee on the status of current service reviews.

## 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. Kapiti bus service review

Greater Wellington consulted the public on proposed bus service changes for the Raumati, Paraparaumu and Waikanae areas in October and November last year. The service changes have now been finalised and incorporate a number of changes to the original proposals that reflect the public input received.

The original service change proposals were reported to the Committee in October 2008. Key aspects of these were:

- A simplified network with reduced travel times
- A new direct bus link between Paraparaumu Station and Paraparaumu Beach
- The matching of off-peak frequencies to demand.

The finalised service changes are largely as originally proposed, but with the following major changes (and some minor ones) that reflect the consultation:

• Raumati South (Route 74) will be served by a route that combines aspects of the two options that the public were consulted on. The new route will be mainly based on Option B; however it will loop in an anticlockwise rather than clockwise direction, use the peak/off-peak feature of Option A

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at the southern end of the route (Poplar Ave southwards), and travel via Rosetta Rd rather than Renown Rd in the west.

- Paraparaumu East, which is not currently served by public transport, will receive bus service through the alteration of existing routes. This outcome will address a key concern of Kapiti Coast District Council and many members of the public.
- Evening services will be provided to most areas, addressing a key weakness of the current bus service. It is intended that buses will now depart Paraparaumu Station until 9pm from Sunday to Thursday, and 11pm on Friday and Saturday, allowing those travelling by train from Wellington to depart much later in the evening than they currently can. This outcome will address a key public concern, and should make public transport more attractive as an alternative to car and relieve pressure on park and ride at Paraparaumu Station.

Waikanae bus services will be reviewed again prior to the completion of the extension of rail electrification there late next year. It is expected that bus services in this area will be reorganised to provide better coverage and a more effective rail feeder service at that time.

Over 30 new bus stops will be required to support the current route changes. The bus stop consultation process is now underway and will determine the implementation date, which is now likely to be late June.

The finalised service changes will cover the cost of the KapitiPlus integrated ticket and be cost neutral.

### 4. Porirua bus service review

Consultation closed on 27 April 2009, with approximately 530 submissions received. Officers are currently reviewing submissions and will provide a brief verbal update on these to the Committee.

## 5. Wellington public transport review

A Project Plan and draft Terms of Reference are now under preparation. These envisage the first stage 'Issues and Needs' consultation commencing in late June and running through to mid-July. Details of the expected project timelines and the consultation document will be available at the June Committee meeting.

### 6. Minor reviews

### 6.1 Otaihanga and Paekakariki shopper services

Since the last meeting of this Committee, a proposal to replace the current service has been discussed with the local community boards, the bus operator, and all users of the service.

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The proposal is to:

- Retain service levels for Otaihanga (two days a week)
- Reduce the level of service in Paekakariki (three days a week instead of five)
- Pick up and drop passengers at their door
- Increase the fares by \$1 per trip to reflect the door-to-door aspect of the proposed service.

The response to the proposed service has been positive. The details are still to be finalised and it is hoped to commence the new service in June, at the same time as the wider service changes in Kapiti.

## 6.2 Central area bus operational review

The Committee was informed of this project at the March meeting. Officers are now working with Wellington City Council and the consultants carrying out this work, and expect to have the review completed by the end of June.

#### 6.3 Johnsonville Town Centre review

Bus operations through Johnsonville Town Centre and the Johnsonville Hub are currently being reviewed to identify operational improvements that can be made at this location. The focus is on improvements that can be delivered in the short term, including potential enhancements or alternatives to shelter at the Johnsonville hub.

The review will also consider the longer term role of buses in the town centre. This will inform planning for improvements that could be delivered as part of the Johnsonville Town Centre Plan, which was adopted by Wellington City Council in November 2008. The Johnsonville Town Centre Plan identifies new funding of \$150,000 for enhancement of bus stops in years 5-10.

### 6.4 Wainuiomata bus services

This is covered by Report 09.236 on the agenda.

## 6.5 Other service changes

Changes to Route 120 (Stokes Valley), which the Committee was last updated on in February, will be implemented on Monday 15 June.

The minor changes to northern suburbs services referred to in the March Divisional Manager's Report, which address issues identified after the earlier changes, will also be implemented on Monday 15 June.

### 7. Communication

Extensive communication of the various changes will be undertaken.

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# 8. Recommendations

*That the Committee:* 

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

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