

Report 16.117  
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Committee Council  
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## Report on the Regional Transport Committee meeting, 22 March 2016

### 1. Purpose

To inform the Council of the Regional Transport Committee (the Committee) meeting of 22 March 2016.

### 2. Reports

#### 2.1 Proposed variation to the Wellington RLTP 2015: SH2 Carterton to Masterton Safety Improvements

The Committee was presented with a proposed variation of the Wellington Regional Land Transport Plan 2015 (the Plan).

The proposed variation is to add a new, previously unidentified, activity to the six year RLTP programme, providing for a range of safety interventions along State Highway 2 between Carterton and Masterton.

The Committee was advised that the variation to the Plan was being requested in order to progress the subject activity to the detailed business case phase in parallel to the development of the SH2 programme business case, to allow these safety improvements to proceed as soon as possible.

The Committee agreed to recommend to Council that it accept the variation request.

#### 2.2 Regional Public Transport Plan 2014 – Reviews

The Committee was informed of recent decisions by Greater Wellington Regional Council on the Regional Public Transport Plan 2014 (PT Plan). These include a compliance review with the Regional Land Transport Plan and a variation to the PT Plan for PTOM procurement.

The Committee noted that the information provided in the report advising of the recent decisions fulfilled section 121 of the Land Transport Management Act requiring Greater Wellington Regional Council to notify the Regional Transport Committee of any variation to the Regional Public Transport Plan.

### **2.3 N2A programme update**

Jim Bentley, N2A Programme Manager, updated the Committee on the N2A Programme. On 5 April 2016 a new N2A website is being launched with a suite of engagement tools including engagement on urban design and transport principles. A new transport model to assist with the evaluation of scenarios is scheduled to be operative in September 2016; this should enable an assessment of scenarios to be undertaken by the end of 2016, with a preferred scenario or scenarios identified in early 2017.

### **2.4 Update on State Highway Projects**

The Committee was updated on State Highway Projects in the Wellington Region. The MacKays to Peka Peka expressway project is on track to open in December 2016. The Wellington smart motorway is due to open on 23 May. Physical work on the Mount Victoria tunnel is due to be completed by the end of May 2016. The SH2 Melling project is aiming to develop a shortlist of options that provides for an integrated approach with flood protection and proposals for Hutt City Centre improvements, with a business case to be lodged in 2017. Earthworks are underway at the Haywards interchange with completion expected in 2017. Work on the consenting process for the Petone to Grenada Link Road is underway. The procurement process for the Peka Peka to Otaki expressway is underway with a contractor due to be selected by October 2016.

NZTA has appointed a full-time cycling coordinator, part of whose role will be to setup a working group to ensure integrated planning for cycleways from Wellington to Hutt. For the Petone to Melling section of the cycleway NZTA expects to commence consultation with stakeholders next month, with construction expected to start in late 2016 or early 2017. The consenting phase has commenced for the Ngauranga to Petone section of the cycleway, with NZTA exploring the feasibility of bringing some of the work forward as part of the smart motorway project.

The Committee noted the significant congestion currently being experienced in parts of the region. NZTA advised that to manage congestion on SH1 the work programme for the Raumati Straight has been reduced from 20 months to seven months and it is reviewing all proposed works to avoid unnecessary delays. Data is not yet clear whether the current congestion being experienced is a short-term impact resulting from roadworks and additional traffic in March or a longer-term trend.

The Committee asked officers to report to its next meeting on international developments in autonomous vehicles.

### **2.5 Update on public transport projects**

The Committee was updated on Public Transport projects in the Wellington Region. It noted the recent signing of the rail contract with Transdev, and that the tender process for bus units would likely commence in about a month, with the tender process for ferries to follow.

## **2.6 GWRC Sustainable Transport Annual Report**

The Committee received an update on GWRC's sustainable transport activities. It noted increases in active travel trips in the region, and the establishment of carpool carparks at three railway station park and ride facilities. The Committee also noted that GWRC is looking to move to an app based carpool matching services in conjunction with Auckland Council.

## **3. The decision-making process and significance**

No decision is being sought in this report.

### **3.1 Engagement**

Engagement on this matter is unnecessary.

## **4. Recommendations**

*That the Council:*

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

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