



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE REGIONAL TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Date: Wednesday 18 November

Time: 10.15 am

Venue: Council Chamber
Hawke's Bay Regional Council
159 Dalton Street
NAPIER

Present RTC: Cr A Dick – Chairman – Hawke's Bay Regional Council
Cr T Gilbertson – Hawke's Bay Regional Council
Cr N Speers – Hastings District Council
Cr K Furlong – Napier City Council
Cr T Kingston – Central Hawke's Bay District Council
Mayor L Probert – Wairoa District Council
J Chetwynd – New Zealand Transport Agency
C Wallace – Public Safety
T McMillan – Public Health
D Murray – Access and Mobility
A Bramley – Environmental Sustainability
M Douglas – Economic Development
M Mohi – Cultural

Present TAG: H Codlin - HBRC
D Elers - NZTA
M Kinvig - NZTA
R Bramley - NZTA
J Pannu - HDC
S McKinley - CHBDC
B Lewis - WDC
J Schwass - NCC
S Chandler – Minute Taker

Advisory J Emmerson – NZ Transport Association - Roading
C Bain – Port of Napier – Coastal
E Shaw – Ministry of Transport

1. WELCOME

Chairman Dick welcomed everyone to the meeting including guest speaker Brian Pritchard, GM Forestry and Logistics, Pan Pac and Chair of New Zealand Forest Owners Association.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Carol Gilbertson.

**Speers/Wallace
CARRIED**

3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

4. SHORT TERM REPLACEMENTS ON COMMITTEE

There were no short term replacements on Committee.

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 2009

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 24 September 2009 copies having been circulated prior to the meeting, were taken as read and confirmed.

**Probert/Mohi
CARRIED**

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 2009

There were no matters arising.

7. ACTION ITEMS FROM COUNCIL MEETINGS

(a) Road Transport Forum – John Emmerson has been in contact with Tony Friedlander Chief Executive of RTF and it is hoped he will be able to attend the February meeting.

(c) DHB statistics re health issues reported relating to SH 38 – Ms McMillan advised the Committee that the DHB had not received any complaints relating to drinking water.

Mark Kinvig, NZTA reported that they will be sealing in front of four properties by approximately 150 metres.

Mayor Probert advised the WDC is still finalising their submission to be forwarded to the Minister Tourism and Minister of Transport. This item will remain on the action item list for updates.

(d) Evaluate RLT Strategy – TAG to look at this as part of the work programme early next year.

(e) Coastal Study – This is not yet available but will be provided to this Committee when finished.

**Kingston/Chetwynd
CARRIED**

8. CONSIDERATION OF GENERAL BUSINESS ITEMS

(a) Dr Susan Krumdieck presentation re Sustainable Transport

9. PROPOSED CHANGES TO HEAVY VEHICLE MASS AND DIMENSION LIMITS PRESENTATION FROM BRIAN PRITCHARD

Mr Pritchard provided the committee with a PowerPoint presentation. The focus of the presentation was on a trial carried out in 2008 and conducted by Pan Pac. Mr Pritchard reported that the results were better than expected.

This presentation has also recently been given to Minister of Transport Stephen Joyce, members of the Gisborne District Council and Eastland Infrastructure. There was a very positive response.

Mr Pritchard suggested the establishment of a working group to work through the issues now so when the law changes early next year they are ready, this could be made up of Local Rounding Authorities and NZTA.

Questions and comments were received from the Committee. Some key points included:

- Prebensen Drive was the preferred route for the heavy vehicle trial to limit the impact on the public.
- This trial was not long enough to show any effects on pavement wear.
- Road User charges are calculated to cover pavement wear.
- NZTA reiterated that implementing the rule change next year right across the country will require a lot of work. NZTA are putting together a plan to work through all the implications and will be working with members of the RTC. Priorities will be set for rolling it out. Initially in limited parts of the country.
- In Hawke's Bay the following routes have been identified, for forestry besides the route from Pan Pac to the Port, - from Guavas Forest, Esk Forest, Kaweka Forest and Mohaka Forest to the Pan Pac site.
- NZTA did not know if the private sector could put up the funds to fast track a bridge strengthening project.
- The public was not notified of the trial taking place. It was between the transport industry and government authorities.
- No safety issues were highlighted during the trial.

The Chairman thanked Mr Pritchard for attending today and asked him to stay while the Committee finished discussing this agenda item.

Mrs Codlin presented the key points from the paper. She noted that as a region we need to understand the implications and be ready for the implementation of the rule change.

The Committee continued to discuss this item the following key points:

- It was noted that the changes are due in April next year and it was suggested that TAG consider our options and report back to RTC at the next meeting, including reviewing Appendix 1 with industry and NZTA and identification of route priorities.

Resolution:

1. That the Committee:
 - 1.1. Receives the report on the Proposed Changes to the Heavy Vehicle Mass and Dimension Limits, in conjunction with the presentation by Mr Brian Pritchard.

- 1.2. Considers its position in light of the current status of the Proposed Rule Amendment and the presentation from the New Zealand Forest Owner Association.
- 1.3. To instruct the TAG to work with relevant industry groups together with advisory representatives on likely routes, implications for roading infrastructure and potential route priorities and bring recommendations on how this may be implemented back to the RTC in February.

**Gilbertson/Douglas
CARRIED**

10. STATUS ON IDENTIFICATION OF KEY FREIGHT AND TOURISM ROUTES FOR NLTP FUNDING PURPOSES

Jenny Chetwynd updated the Committee on this paper. Key points included:

- NZTA will be coming to regions to talk about identifying freight routes nationally as part of the Freight Strategy project.
- Understanding freight movements in and out of this region and across the whole central region (Taranaki, Manawatu, Hawkes Bay and Gisborne). A consultant has been commissioned to look at freight movement through these areas. This is due for completion prior to Christmas and will be reported back to this Committee in 2010.
- Chris Bain commented that this study appeared to overlap some aspects of the Coastal Study. As NZTA are funding both studies it's suggested that relevant information from the Coastal Study be linked and not have processes repeated. Mrs Chetwynd agreed.

Resolution:

1. That the Committee:
 - 1.1. Agrees that the decisions to be made are not significant under the criteria contained in Council's adopted policy on significance and that Council can exercise its discretion under Sections 79(1) (a) and 82(3) of the Local Government Act 2002 and make decisions on this issue without conferring directly with the community and persons likely to be affected by or to have an interest in the decision due to the nature and significance of the issue to be considered and decided.
 - 1.2. Receives the report entitled "Status on Identification of Key Freight and Tourism Routes for NLTP Funding Purposes".

**Speers/Probert
CARRIED**

11. SUBMISSION TO NZTA ON THE IDENTIFICATION OF KEY FREIGHT AND TOURISM ROUTES

Mrs Codlin advised the Committee the purpose of this paper is to present both the draft of the RTC submission for the identification of key freight and tourism routes and in Appendix 2 the Port of Napier submission. If the RTC is happy with the submission, it will be forwarded to NZTA.

The Committee were asked for questions and comments on the RTC submission.

The following were asked to be included in the submission:

- Include the “*social and environmental impacts*”, summary should include “*Tourism*” not just freight,

Mr Bain noted that the current national freight route framework is out of date. It is hard to measure and judge the merits of one route over another. Mr Bain advised their submission went to NZTA, Members of Parliament, Minister of Transport and Assistant Minister of Transport.

The RTC submission will go to NZTA, Minister of Transport and local MPs and to ensure it also goes to Mr John Hayes.

Resolution:

1. That the Committee:
 - 1.1. Endorse the submission subject to any amendments noted by the Committee, for submission to the NZTA in its consideration of the Draft Freight Plan.

**Kingston/Furlong
CARRIED**

12. WALKING AND CYCLING INITIATIVES

Mrs Codlin outlined this paper for the Committee.

HBRC are putting together a bid for funding from the New Zealand Cycleway Fund. This proposal went to the Strategic Planning & Finance Committee of HBRC on Tuesday 17 November.

A map as part of this bid was attached to this briefing paper.

Alan Dick provided the Committee with an update from the previous day’s meeting and the Council led bid. HBRC also agreed to provide funding up to \$1.5 million from its Open Spaces fund as the local share contribution. The Committee applauded the HBRC on this decision.

It was suggested Graeme Hansen Group Manager Operations HBRC present this proposal at the next RTC meeting if the proposal meets the first step in the process.

The Committee recognised the linkages the proposed cycleways provided building on existing networks.

While CHB and Wairoa are not part of the current cycleway options, it was hoped that long term they would be.

It was requested that elected members be kept up to date on the bid process and recommended routes.

Resolution:

1. That the Committee:
 - 1.1. Endorse the proposed Concept Plan as being consistent with the Regional Land Transport Strategy and relevant Councils cycling strategies, and
 - 1.2. Provide a letter of support to accompany any funding bid for the proposed Concept Plan.
 - 1.3. Recommend State Highway Managers and Local Roothing Managers be kept informed and consulted on the process.

**Speers/Furlong
CARRIED**

13. PROGRESS REPORT ON REGIONAL/JOINT PROJECTS

This standard agenda item brings the Committee up to date on progress. Mrs Codlin advised the Heretaunga Plains Transportation Study – Tender process needs to be completed by end of November and work is almost complete for this.

Resolution:

1. That the Committee:
 - 1.1. Receives the Progress Report on Regional/Jointly Funded Projects.

**Gilbertson/Probert
CARRIED**

16. MEETING DATES FOR 2010

The proposed meeting dates for 2010 were presented to the Committee for discussion. RTC meetings scheduled for approximately every 2 months.

Mrs Codlin noted that the 18 November 2010 scheduled meeting will be just after the local body elections. This will require the RTC to be re-established so this date will probably move out to 9 December.

Once dates are confirmed from NZTA they will be sent out to all members for their calendars.

Resolution:

1. That the Committee:
 - 1.1. Approves the number of meetings and the proposed dates for 2010 subject to any amendments required to avoid critical meeting conflicts with NZTA.

**Douglas/Kingston
CARRIED**

14. NZTA REGIONAL DIRECTORS REPORT

Mrs Chetwynd advised the Committee that she would like this regular slot to cover off NZTA big picture stuff and this will kick off next year.

A PowerPoint presentation showed some of the recent regional events that NZTA have been involved in, the Matahorua Gorge sod turning and Southern Motorway Extension.

Mark Kinvig provided highlights on current projects:

- HB Southern Motorway extension on track and due for completion mid 2011.
- Matahorua Gorge started on 16 November 2009 and due for completion mid 2011.
- Glengarry Stock Effluent contract should be awarded before Christmas
- Waipukurau Overbridge due to be completed mid 2010.
- Dillons Hill due to be completed mid 2010.
- Mohaka Bridge seismic retrofit completed. A report on the deck due mid 2010.
- HB Expressway study Kennedy Road to Ngaruroro completed.
- Prebensen/Hyderabad intersection working on alternative intersection design.

Resolution:

1. That the Committee:
 - 1.1. Receives the Verbal Update Report from NZTA.

**Kingston/Speers
CARRIED**

15. OBJECTIVE AND ADVISORY REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

The Objective and Advisory representatives provided the Committee with verbal update reports.

Highlights included:

- Bad 4 months of accidents in the Bay all alcohol related.
- Economy picking up, but HB not improving as fast as the country as a whole
- Building consents going up with a rise in the population
- New inner Harbour berth opened
- Predicted growth from forestry occurring earlier than anticipated.

Resolution:

1. That the Committee receives the verbal update reports.

**Gilbertson/Mohi
CARRIED**

17. GENERAL BUSINESS

- (a) Dr Susan Krumdieck presented to a workshop and also the HBRC speaker breakfast. Mrs Codlin advised that you can see a video of a past presentation she has done via google. This is very similar to the presentation she provided here.

She covered off issues including transport, sustainability and land use efficiencies.

Mrs Codlin advised the Committee that as part of the consultation process for the Heretaunga Plains Urban Development Strategy, Dr Krumdiecks presentation was very timely in this process.

A copy of her presentation will be forwarded with these minutes.

Her fuel use slide on Supply & Demand was of particular interest and it would be interesting to validate this with other research.

Elizabeth Shaw from MoT reported that they were doing research on this issue and would report back to this Committee when complete.

Closure:

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 12.45 pm.

Signed as a true and correct record.

DATE:

CHAIRMAN: