



Unconfirmed

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE REGIONAL TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

- Date:** Thursday, 8 July 2010
- Time:** 10.15am
- Venue:** Council Chamber
Hawke's Bay Regional Council
159 Dalton Street
NAPIER
- Present:** Cr A Dick – Chairman – Hawke's Bay Regional Council
Cr T Gilbertson – Hawke's Bay Regional Council
Cr K Furlong – Napier City Council
J Schwass – Napier City Council
Cr T Kingston – Central Hawke's Bay District Council
Mayor L Probert – Wairoa District Council
J Chetwynd – New Zealand Transport Agency
D Murray – Access and Mobility
M Douglas – Economic Development
A Bramley – Environmental Sustainability
M Mohi – HBRC Maori Committee
J Emmerson Road Advisory
K Santer – Advisory - Kiwi Rail
C Bain – Coastal Advisory - PONL
- In Attendance:** H Codlin – HBRC
E Bate – HBRC
C Gilbertson – HBRC
M Kinvig – NZTA
M Clews – Hastings District Council
D Elers – NZTA
W Lewis – Wairoa District Council
S McKinley – CHBDC
J Pannu – Hastings District Council
L Anderson – Road Safe Co-ordinator HB
L Hooper – Minute Secretary

Chairman Dick welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. WELCOME/NOTICES

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Chris Wallace and Elizabeth Shaw.

**Furlong/Probert
CARRIED**

3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS

There were no conflict of interest declarations.

4. SHORT TERM REPLACEMENTS ON COMMITTEE

There were no short term replacements on the Committee for this meeting.

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY, 23 APRIL 2010

Minutes of the meeting held on Friday 23 April 2010, a copy having been tabled at the meeting, were taken as read and confirmed.

**Douglas/Kingston
CARRIED**

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON FRIDAY, 23 APRIL 2010

Napier Coastal Study – Port of Napier. The study is not ready for public release yet, however KiwiRail has given the Port of Napier a commitment to provide information to allow completion of the Rail component and completion of the study.

Composition of the Freight Transport Working Group. A member of the public has queried why there is no representative of Rail on the group's membership list. It was thought that the Chartered Institutes of Logistics and Transport included rail but it was clarified that a Rail representative will be included.

Napier-Gisborne rail service. Chairman Dick reported that a meeting was held (Mayors, Council Chairs, Chamber of Commerce, Port of Napier, Gisborne Port and KiwiRail representatives) in Gisborne and a briefing report on the background to the issue has been commissioned for completion by the end of this month. The terms of reference for that report include: summarise current and potential freight levels into and out of Gisborne and the current modal splits between road, rail and coastal shipping; assessment of the Napier-Gisborne rail infrastructure; assessment of road route security between Napier and Gisborne; assessment of distances and time by road to Tauranga Port; assessment of coastal shipping option; and assessment of the complementarity and/or competition between the ports in Gisborne, Napier and Tauranga and the road/rail interfaces with those ports. Another meeting will be held in Napier in August, to continue discussions on the future of the Napier-Gisborne rail line.

7. ACTION ITEMS

The Committee discussed the action items from previous meetings.

Review of Concessionary Bus Fares – at 28 April Regional Council meeting it was resolved that Council:

1. Replaces the concessionary fare category for beneficiaries and disabled persons with a concessionary fare for passengers who would be required to produce a Community Services card;

2. Notes that the tertiary or high school student ID card can still be presented for a concessionary fare;
3. Notes that the SuperGold Card scheme still operates between the hours of 9am to 3pm off-peak and during the weekend period.

National Infrastructure Plan – Ms Codlin has drafted a letter to the National Infrastructure Unit to advise them of data inaccuracies.

Passenger transport Update – Bikes on Buses. Ms Gilbertson sought feedback from GoBus in relation to fitting buses with bike racks. GoBus is totally opposed to 'Bikes on Buses' due to issues with insurance and damage costs. As a way forward, this may be included as part of consultation on the Public Transport Plan. Seen as a Strategic issue.

Passing bays on SH 2 – programme is progressing and information has been provided to Mayor Probert.

NZ cycle trail project – 'Landscapes Trail' funding confirmation has been received and a media release has been circulated. The 'Waters' trail funding is still subject to agreement of outstanding access issues.

Regional Land Transport Strategy – MoT has granted extension to August 2012 deadline.

SH 38 sealing – WDC went to Wellington last week to meet with the Minister, to put their case forward. Differences in cost estimates in WDC study and NZTA proposals to be resolved before further progress can be made. It was noted that HBRC had received submissions on their 2010-11 Annual Plan relating to this issue.

Resolution:

1. That Committee receives the report "Action Items from Regional Transport Committee Meetings and Workshops".

**Gilbertson/Kingston
CARRIED**

8. CALL FOR GENERAL BUSINESS

There were no items of General Business.

The date of Thursday 23 September 2010 was confirmed for the next Regional Transport Committee meeting.

9. FREIGHT TRANSPORT WORKING GROUP AND VEHICLE DIMENSION AND MASS RULE

Ms Bate updated the Committee on the activities of the Freight Transport Working Group.

Mr McKinley spoke about the Group's progress on implementation of the Vehicle Dimension and Mass rule (VDM) which came into effect on 1 May. To date, 19 High Productivity Route applications have been received and are being investigated to enable cost-benefit analyses to be undertaken. The routes will then be prioritised based on the cost-benefit analysis and 'flow to the economy' before one regional application for funding is lodged.

Resolution:

1. That the Committee receives the report.

**Gilbertson/Kingston
CARRIED**

10. VARIATION TO REGIONAL LAND TRANSPORT PROGRAMME – MATAHORUA GORGE REALIGNMENT

Ms Bate and Mr Kinvig explained to the Committee, the request to approve a variation to the scope of the Matahorua Gorge Realignment project and subsequent variation to the Regional Land Transport Programme. The variation is to include 2 sections at either end of the Matahorua Gorge project to prevent 'crash migration' impacts of the realignment and is subject to the NZTA value assurance process. Because the project costs are now significantly lower than anticipated, the costs of this construction are still provided for within the original estimate of 24M.

It is noted that Mayor Probert took no part in the discussion as an affected land owner.

Resolution:

That the Committee:

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.
2. Agrees that the proposed variation is not significant under the criteria contained in section 5.3 of the Regional Land Transport Programme 2009-2012 *(RLTP) that sets out the Council's policy to determine the significance of a proposed variation to the RLTP.
3. Agrees to apply for a variation to the Regional Land Transport Programme 2009 to extend the scope of the Matahorua Gorge Realignment project to include further realignment of SH2 at each end of the current Matahorua Gorge realignment works subject to satisfactory approval of NZ Transport Agency's Regional Management Team and Value Assurance Committee.

That the Committee recommends Council:

4. Upon NZ Transport Agency's Regional Management Team and Value Assurance Committee sign-off, approves the variation to the Regional Land Transport Programme with respect to the Matahorua Gorge Realignment extension.

Gilbertson/Kingston
Probert abstained
CARRIED

11. URBAN TRANSPORTATION STUDY PRESENTATION BY HDC

Matthew Knobloch from the Hastings District Council provided the committee with an overview of the project and a demonstration of the fully multi modal transportation model (includes cycling networks and pedestrian interactions) that will be used as a tool for development of other strategies. The HDC model will sit 'beneath' the regional model.

Resolution:

1. That the Committee receives the verbal presentation on the Urban Transportation Study presented by representatives of Hastings District Council.

12. MODEL WALKING & CYCLING COMMUNITY PRESENTATION BY HDC

Mr Knobloch presented an overview of the HDC Model Community project approved by NZTA. NZTA evaluated bids from communities that were willing to invest significantly in walking and cycling toward making those modes of transport the 'modes of choice'. The Committee congratulated Hastings District Council on its success.

Resolution:

1. That the Committee receives the verbal presentation on the Model Walking and Cycling project presented by representatives of Hastings District Council.

**Furlong/Douglas
CARRIED**

Mr Mohi was excused from the meeting at 11:45am.

13. OBJECTIVE AND ADVISORY REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Mr Douglas advised that, 2 or 3 months ago, the HB Chamber of Commerce made a submission to the Reserve Bank Governor relating to different regional economies' reactions to changes in market conditions. As a result, economists visited Hawke's Bay to investigate what 'exists' in different regions and how that is reflected in the local economy.

Mr Bramley encouraged the committee to consider the environment and focus on 'what's best for the community' throughout the pending review of the Regional Transport Strategy.

Mr Murray advised the Committee that the Blue Spaces adopted in Northland were proving very successful, and that the AA Driver Education Foundation is evaluating a 'Car Fit' programme from the U.S. for use with older motorists. Inflatable seats that are claimed to provide 5x the protection of a normal seatbelt, have been developed.

Mr Emmerson advised that they were experiencing some frustration with the amount of time involved with processing applications under the new VDM rule.

Mr Santer expressed that KiwiRail is always looking for opportunities to improve the efficient movement of freight into and out of the Bay.

Mr Bain advised that the 'suitability of rail for transport' did need to be considered.

Resolution:

1. That the Committee receives the Objective and Advisory Representative reports.

**Kingston/Probert
CARRIED**

Mr Douglas and Mrs Furlong were excused from the meeting at 12:00pm.

14. PROGRESS REPORT ON REGIONAL/JOINT PROJECTS

Ms Codlin advised that Phase 1 of the 2-year Heretaunga Plains Transportation Study was nearing completion and Phase 2 just getting underway.

A draft Terms of Reference for the Rural Transport Study has been completed and is awaiting NZTA's funding review before submitting it for approval.

The Public Transport Plan review will commence in July.

Resolution:

1. That the Committee receives the Progress Report on Regional/Jointly Funded Projects.

**Bramley/Murray
CARRIED**

15. NZTA CENTRAL REGION REGIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms Chetwynd presented a brief overview of her report before passing it over to Mr Kinvig and Ms Elers to provide further detail and respond to queries in relation to their respective areas of responsibility.

NZTA is looking at a Classification System project to provide a classification framework for state highways across the whole of the network, to drive the levels of investment

and levels of service on those networks. Criteria will be used to determine what the main forward function of that road is, and include:

- Its value in terms of freight value, freight volume and freight frequency
- Importance of the network in terms of lifeline capacity
- Accessing potential and existing tourism areas.

Consultation on the criteria will begin in about a month's time. There was a question here about how this fitted in with the key freight routes etc and Ms Chetwynd was going to look into that.

The NZTA regions have been restructured and the new 'central' region now includes Wellington, Nelson Marlborough, Tasman, Gisborne, Hawke's Bay, Manawatu and Taranaki.

Resolution:

1. That the Committee receives NZTA Central Region Regional Director's report dated 8 July 2010.

**Gilbertson/Probert
CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned for lunch at 12:30pm and Mr Schwass, Mr Probert, Mr Santer and Ms Gilbertson were excused from the meeting.

The meeting reconvened at 1:10pm.

9. REVIEW OF THE REGIONAL LAND TRANSPORT STRATEGY

Ms Bate introduced the item, advising that the 2008 RLTS is due to be reviewed and that the LTMAA framework that guides the development of regional land transport strategies has changed; the most significant changes being:

- the change of the planning horizon from 10 to at least 30 years
- the need to take into account new government policy direction set via the New Zealand Transport Strategy 2008 and the Government Policy Statement on Land Transport Funding May 2009
- the need for regional land transport strategies to be reviewed at least every 6 years.

Ms Codlin sought input from the committee as to the context from which to undertake this review (i.e. objectives and goals still relevant?). Committee members made the following comments:

- the objectives:
 - only require a tweak rather than re-write as 2008 Strategy quite sound
 - should include 'resilient' in the wording as this becomes more important with the longer timeframe
 - amend so that the objective refers to an environment that is valued, as opposed to appreciated
- notes that there is no mention of sustainability of the transport modes themselves
- emphasise multi modal = road, rail, coastal shipping, walking & cycling, public transport
- inter-regional links and connectivity needs more emphasis
- should the goals/objectives be more specific to HB? i.e. Horizons "to be an active freight hub"

- needs aspirational and achievable goals and objectives
- a public survey is recommended
- remove the word Land – so becomes the Regional Transport Strategy rather than the Regional Land Transport Strategy
- Include ‘protect the rail corridor’ ... protection of the actual corridor itself in case it needs to be used for some other purpose
- consider the future of public transport and the size of its role in HB
- should discuss the relativities between modes of transport

Mr Pannu was excused from the meeting at 1:40pm.

- Resilience for risk management
- Links between walking/cycling and public transport, i.e. riding or walking ‘to’ public transport

Resolution:

1. That the Committee, following discussion on the current vision and strategic objectives of the RLTS and following amendment, endorses them for consideration in the development of the draft RLTS document.

**Kingston/Chetwynd
CARRIED**

Closure:

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 1:45 pm.

Signed as a true and correct record.

DATE:

CHAIRMAN: