
Minutes of a meeting of the Regional Transport Committee

Held in the Council Chamber, Civic House, 110 Trafalgar Street,
Nelson

On Wednesday 25 February 2015, commencing at 9.01am

Present: Councillor E Davy (Chairperson), Her Worship the Mayor R Reese, Councillors R Copeland (Deputy Chairperson) and B McGurk, and R Bleakley (NZTA)

In Attendance: Planning and Investment Manager NZTA (P Hookam), Group Manager Infrastructure (A Louverdis), Senior Asset Engineer – Transport and Roading (R Palmer), Engineering Adviser (S McAuley), Asset Engineer – Transport (C Pawson), and Administration Adviser (S McLean)

1. Apologies

No apologies were received.

2. Confirmation of Order of Business

The Chairperson advised that the Regional Transport Committee minutes from 10 February 2015 (Item 4) would not be confirmed at the meeting.

3. Interests

There were no updates to the Interests Register, and no interests with items on the agenda were declared.

4. Chairperson's Report

Document number A1313561, agenda page 9 refers.

Resolved

THAT the Chairperson's Report (A1313561) be received and the contents noted;

AND THAT the offer of professional support from Lindsay Wood (Submission 23 to the draft Regional Land Transport Plan) be declined.

Davy/McGurk

Carried

5. Analysis of Submissions on the Regional Land Transport Plan 2015-2021

Document number A1312774, agenda pages 10-52 refer.

5.1 Update on Further Information Requested

The Chairperson advised that the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) was planning to review intersections and speed limits on Atawhai Drive within the next three years.

It was agreed that a copy of the Transport Asset Management Plan would be provided to Committee members.

In response to a question, it was advised that the Regional Land Transport Strategy would be expiring and would not be renewed.

With regards to the Liveable Arterial project, there was support for this to be brought back to the Committee in future, along with indicative budget detail.

In response to questions, Senior Asset Engineer – Transport and Roading, Rhys Palmer, said that it was often the case that levels of service for side roads were affected by arterial routes. Some concern was raised about this potential compromise for residential areas.

Her Worship the Mayor asked Council officers to provide detail on the classification of the Market Road/Boundary Road and Ridgeway/Waimea Road intersections.

The Committee agreed that further detail on Waimea Road was required at a future Committee meeting.

Mr Palmer pointed out that the population statistics referred to in 4.1.9 of the officer report would be impacted by recent information received from Statistics New Zealand. He said this information would be sent to councillors in due course.

5.2 Individual Submissions

Submission 1 – Feliana McKenzie

The Committee agreed with the recommendations in the officer report.

Submission 2 – National Council of Women

The Committee agreed with the recommendations in the officer report.

Submission 3 – Steve Hawke

The Committee agreed with the recommendation in the officer report. It was agreed the submitter's comments would be referred to the Nelson Airport and that the response to the submitter would note this.

There was discussion on a review of the bus service. Mr Palmer advised that the last review was carried out in late 2013 and would not be done again for a number of years.

Submission 4 – Atawhai Safety Group

The Committee agreed with the recommendation in the officer report.

Submission 5 – Vikki Scott

The Committee agreed with the first and second recommendations in the officer report. It was noted that the response to the submitter should state that the matters had been referred to NZTA for consideration.

It was agreed that the third request about using chip seal, would be accepted in part and referred to NZTA for a response.

There was discussion on road treatments and how the type of treatment used was determined based on its estimated life. The Committee asked that NZTA provide further details on the analysis used to establish the life of roading treatments.

Submission 6 – Federated Farmers

The Committee agreed with the recommendations in the officer report.

Submission 7 – Warwick Rogers

The Committee agreed with the recommendations in the officer report. It was agreed that detail on timing of the Quarantine Road roundabout project would be included in the response to the submitter.

Submission 8 – Keith Morrison

The Committee agreed with the recommendations in the officer report. It was agreed that the response to the submitter would explain that increasing the number of bus routes had replaced the need to increase the frequency of the service.

Mr Palmer advised that the number of bus shelters were expected to increase in future years. It was agreed that the response to the submitter should include detail on the budget for bus shelters and the process for assessing the need for additional shelters.

Submission 9 – Charmian Koed

The Committee agreed with the recommendation in the officer report.

Submission 10 – Sara Cooper

The Committee agreed that the request regarding expenditure on public transport should be accepted in full.

Submission 11 – Tasman District Council

The Committee noted the update for Submission 11 provided in the officer report.

Submission 12 – Cycle Trails Trust

The Committee agreed that the request about cycling infrastructure would be considered later in the meeting as part of the decision on the Rocks Road Walking and Cycling Package.

Submission 13 – Ali (Surname not provided)

The Committee agreed with the recommendations in the officer report.

Submission 14 – Nelsust

The Committee agreed with recommendations for decisions 1-4, 6-8, and 10 in the officer report.

It was agreed that the request to add a Travel Demand Management Project would be rejected.

It was agreed that the request to improve the NBus service would be accepted in part.

It was agreed that the request to place more emphasis in the Regional Land Transport Plan (RLTP) on reducing pollution would be accepted in part and it would be indicated that a number of initiatives were to take place in this area.

Submission 15 – Waimea Road Business and Residents Association

It was agreed that the request to remove references to increasing the capacity of Waimea Road, would be accepted in full.

It was agreed that the response to the submitter would include details on the constant review and monitoring of traffic numbers on Waimea Road. It was also suggested that the submitter response include details on how to submit to the Long Term Plan regarding a living arterial project.

There was discussion on Waimea Road. It was agreed that officers would provide further information on Waimea Road at a future meeting so that the Committee could investigate competing needs and pressures.

It was agreed to accept in part the request to include a new project in the RLTP to enhance Waimea Road.

The Committee agreed with the remaining recommendations in the officer report.

Submission 16 – Ken Beckett

The Committee agreed with the recommendations in the officer report.

Submission 17 – Tony Small

The Committee agreed with the recommendation in the officer report.

Submission 18 – Bicycle Nelson Bays

It was agreed that the first request about Rocks Road would be considered later in the meeting as part of the decision on the Rocks Road Walking and Cycling Package.

The Committee agreed with the remaining recommendations in the officer report.

In response to a question, Mr Palmer agreed that climate change would be on the agenda at a future joint Regional Transport Committee meeting.

Submission 19 – NZ Motel Association

The Committee agreed with the recommendations in the officer report.

Submission 20 – Tahunanui Business Association

The Committee agreed with the recommendations in the officer report.

Submission 21 – New Zealand Transport Agency

The Committee agreed with the recommendations in the officer report.

Submission 22 – Bus and Coach Association New Zealand

The Committee agreed with the recommendations in the officer report.

Submission 23 – Lindsay Wood

The Committee agreed with the recommendations in the officer report.

In response to questions about climate change, it was suggested that page 30 of the RLTP could be updated to align with the information provided in Attachment 1 of the officer report. It was also suggested that climate change be referenced in the RLTP, instead of only references to adverse weather conditions.

Submission 24 – New Zealand Automobile Association

The Committee agreed with the recommendations in the officer report.

Attendance: The meeting adjourned from 10.57am to 10.58am, and then from 10.59am to 12.06pm.

5.3 Significant Committee Decisions

Decision 1 – Rocks Road Walking and Cycling Package

It was agreed that work on the Rocks Road Walking and Cycling Package would not be delayed until after the Southern Link had been investigated. The Committee noted that the two projects were complementary and that any timing impacts could be dealt with as variations to the RLTP if necessary.

Decision 2 – Rai Saddle Second Curve Realignment

It was agreed that the Rai Saddle Second Curve realignment project would be retained as priority two in the list of Agreed Top of the South Significant Activities.

Decision 3 – Timeframe for R Funding

It was agreed that there was no reason to seek an extension to R funding timeframes at this stage.

Decision 4 – Walk Cycle Schools Package

It was agreed that the Walk Cycle Schools Package remain as priority four in the list of Agreed Top of the South Significant Activities.

Decision 5 – Bus Fares

It was agreed the focus would remain on increasing the number of bus routes, and no change would be made to bus fares. Mr Palmer provided detail on modelling of various bus fare scenarios. It was agreed that the Committee would look into bus fares within the next 12 months, and that this would be signalled in the RLTP.

Mr Palmer advised that a review of bus fares could be undertaken, but any changes to NZTA contributions could not be requested until 2018 when the RLTP was next reviewed. He added that the draft RLTP was already asking NZTA for an additional \$170,000 towards extending bus service routes.

It was suggested that Council could front fund a reduction in fares during the 2015-18 period and recover a subsidy from NZTA if the business case showed this was warranted.

The Committee agreed the current focus of the bus system was to improve service coverage without increasing the cost to the community.

Decision 6 – Rocks Road

It was agreed no change would be made to the budget for the Rocks Road redevelopment project.

Resolved

THAT the report Analysis of Submissions on the Regional Land Transport Plan (A1312774) and its attachments (A1316962 and A1317051) be received;

AND THAT the Nelson Regional Land Transport Plan 2015-2021 be amended to reflect the Committee's decisions on submissions.

Davy/Bleakley

Carried

Recommendation to Council

THAT the Draft Nelson Regional Land Transport Plan 2015-2021, as amended to reflect the Regional Transport Committee's decision on submissions, be adopted.

Davy/McGurk

Carried

There being no further business the meeting ended at 12.40pm.

Confirmed as a correct record of proceedings:

_____ Chairperson _____ Date