

CANTERBURY REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE 46th MEETING OF THE CANTERBURY REGIONAL TRANSPORT COMMITTEE HELD AT THE COMMODORE AIRPORT HOTEL, CHRISTCHURCH ON THURSDAY, 6 SEPTEMBER 2018, COMMENCING AT 4.00PM

1. Apologies
2. Conflicts of Interest
3. Minutes of Previous Meeting – 24 May 2018
4. Matters Arising
5. Strategic Items
 - 5.1 Monitoring progress towards regional transport outcomes
 - Summary of progress against regional transport outcomes
 - Regional Transport Scorecard
 - 5.2 Regional Transport Committee work programme update
6. Consultation on Draft Regional Public Transport Plan 2018-2028
7. Implementation of the Government Policy Statement on Land Transport 2018 in Canterbury
 - Submission on the Land Transport Management (Regional Fuel Tax) Amendment Bill
 - Submission on the draft Government Policy Statement on Land Transport 2018
8. NZ Transport Agency update
9. Regional Road Safety Working Group Report
10. Transport Officers Group Report
11. Variation to Canterbury Regional Land Transport Plan – KiwiRail Level Crossing Improvements
12. Next Meeting – Thursday, 29 November 2018

Present

Cr Steve Lowndes (Chair, Environment Canterbury); Mayors Donna Favel (Ashburton), Graham Smith (Mackenzie), Winton Dalley (Hurunui), David Ayers (Waimakariri), Craig Rowley (Waimate); Councillors Mark Alexander (Selwyn), Peter Scott (Environment Canterbury), Mike Davidson (Christchurch City), David Jack (Timaru); and Jim Harland (NZTA)

In Attendance

Bill Bayfield (Chief Executive, Environment Canterbury), Stewart Gibbon (Senior Manager Public Transport, Environment Canterbury), Len Fleete (Senior Strategy Advisor - Public Transport, Environment Canterbury), Steve Higgs (Planning and Investments Manager NZTA), Andrew Dixon (Land Transport Manager, Timaru District Council), Andrew Mazey (Asset Manager Transportation, Selwyn District Council), Lynette Ellis (Manager Planning & Delivery – Transport, Christchurch City Council),

Regional Transport Committee support:

Lorraine Johns (Principal Strategy Advisor), Darren Fidler (Principal Strategy Advisor) and Vivo Ong (Committee Advisor)

Welcome

The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting

1. Apologies

Mayors Donna Favel and Craig Rowley (for lateness)

2. Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

3. Minutes of Meeting – 24 May 2018

Resolved

That the Canterbury Regional Transport Committee:

- 1. Confirms the minutes of the meeting held on 24 May 2018 as a true and accurate record**

Cr Alexander / Mayor Smith
CARRIED

Resolved

That the Canterbury Regional Transport Committee:

- 1. Confirms the Public Excluded minutes of the meeting held on 24 May 2018 as a true and accurate record**

Mayor Dalley / Cr Scott
CARRIED

4. Matters Arising

Minute 8.0 – Transport Agency Investment Proposal

Further to the Woodend Bypass and safety considerations, Steve Higgs advised NZ Transport Agency (NZTA) there was a business case for the bypass and NZTA was meeting and working closely with Waimakariri Council staff who were going through a planning exercise as part of their district plan review. Mayor Ayers reiterated safety and access concerns and advised the Woodend Bypass was seen as a community severance issue.

Steve said funds were allocated for the investigation of the bypass which was part of the broader planning for Greater Christchurch and it should not be recognised as just a roading project, but a community development project.

Minute 9.0 – Regional Road Safety Working Group

There was a request for Terms of Reference (ToR) for Regional Road Safety Working Group (RRSWG). The current ToR was provided in the briefing to incoming Regional Transport Committee members last year but needed updating. Environment Canterbury will be working with RRSWG to update the ToR over the next few months.

Mayor Rowley joined the meeting at 4.05pm

5. Strategic Items

5.1 Monitoring progress towards regional transport outcomes (Refer page 7 of the agenda)

Mayor Favel joined the meeting at 4.08pm

Darren Fidler gave an overview of the key points regarding scorecard on regional transport outcomes. Apart from economic metrics, high level trends were going in the wrong direction, ie: deaths and serious injuries continued to increase, CO₂ emissions were also beginning to increase (after a decline in 2016/2017).

Members discussed air quality monitoring sites and the good results being received from the airsheds; however, whilst it was difficult to establish what the contribution was from road traffic, it was known that domestic home heating air quality was improving, so this signalled the percentage contributed by transport must be increasing. Will continue to review and refine data sources as it was useful to compare data and look at information collectively.

Resolved

That the Canterbury Regional Transport Committee:

- 1. Receives the report on Monitoring Progress Towards Regional Transport Outcomes**
- 2. Notes the Regional Transport Scorecard.**

Jim Harland / Mayor Ayers
CARRIED

5.2 Regional Transport Committee work programme update (Refer page 15 of the agenda)

Freight Mode Shift

Darren Fidler reported industry stakeholder engagement with the work on optimising freight mode shift was positive. Next step was to focus on identifying case studies for specific short and long-term opportunities that would have tangible results; these would be spread geographically across the South Island.

Transport Resilience

Discussion centered on being prepared and better able to improve transport resilience by pre-empting issues to large scale hazard events like big snows, floods, strong winds, alpine fault and severe earthquakes. Each severe hazard scenario required different responses and plans to ensure satisfactory resilience to engineering, modes and alternative routes.

NZ Transport Agency intended to expand transport resilience stocktake on State Highways to cover local roads.

Resolved

That the Regional Transport Committee:

- 1. Receives the update on work to implement the Transport Workstream of the Canterbury Regional Economic Development Strategy.**

2. **Notes that a separate paper has been already been provided on monitoring progress toward regional transport outcomes**

Mayor Ayers / Mayor Smith
CARRIED

6. Consultation on Draft Regional Public Transport Plan

(Refer page 19 of the agenda)

Stewart Gibbon updated members on the new draft Canterbury Regional Public Transport Plan (draft RPTP) that was going out for public consultation 17 September – 12 October 2018. Formal and informal public engagement will be used to gain the widest possible community feedback.

Population growth of 150,000 was projected in the next 30 years. It would be necessary to deliver a step change in service to align with travel demand.

The draft RPTP was about making public transport more accessible, attractive and affordable, improving the environment by reducing emissions through mode shift from single occupancy vehicles to public transport with zero emissions. Services would be improved using innovation, technology, convenience, competitiveness, service flexibility and increased timetable frequency.

Most of the draft RPTP had a Greater Christchurch focus and there were several sections of the plan that dealt with broader regional issues, including contracting of services, Total Mobility, community vehicle trusts and Timaru district urban bus provision.

It was proposed to improve public transport convenience in Timaru by providing a more flexible service model that was engaging and more relevant to the community. It was proposed a demand responsive service that used variable routes taking passengers to 'drop off points' (facilities with high demands, eg: medical centres, sports grounds). If the model was successful it could be rolled out nationally to other small communities.

The public hearing process involved using two hearing panels:

1. Greater Christchurch panel with responsibilities for the Greater Christchurch elements of the draft RPTP.
2. An Environment Canterbury panel that would consider submissions relating to elements of the draft RPTP with a more regional focus (including Timaru).

Resolved

That the Regional Transport Committee:

1. **Receives the report Consultation on Draft Regional Public Transport Plan.**

Cr Alexander / Cr Davidson
CARRIED

7. Implementation of the Government Policy Statement on Land Transport 2018 in Canterbury

(Refer page 25 of the agenda)

Lorraine Johns outlined the key changes between the draft and final Government Policy Statement (GPS) which was released on 28 June 2018. There were no significant changes

to GPS; however, there were some minor changes to priorities and reference to 'time travel reliability' in the reporting measures.

Discussion centered around the new funding opportunities, using the Provincial Growth Fund, Financial Assistance Rates (FARs) and Targeted Enhanced FARs. Whilst there were no plans for introducing a Regional Fuel Tax for Canterbury, there was awareness that there was some public perception that thought otherwise.

Resolved

That the Regional Transport Committee:

- 1. Notes there are no substantial changes between the draft and final Government Policy Statement on Land Transport, and that the Government's two core priorities remain safety and access.**
- 2. Agrees that members councils will support Environment Canterbury to report back to the Regional Transport Committee at the November meeting, on how councils are implementing GPS 2018 through their transport programmes, including any projects which will be funded at the Targeted Enhanced Funding Assistance Rate or through the Provincial Growth Fund.**
- 3. Agrees that the Chair of the Regional Transport Committee will seek formal clarification from the NZ Transport Agency regarding the application of Targeted Enhanced Funding Assistance Rates, if the need arises.**
- 4. Receives the submission on the Land Transport Management (Regional Fuel Tax) Amendment Bill that was made to the Finance and Expenditure Committee on 19 April 2018.**
- 5. Receives the submission on the draft Government Policy Statement on Land Transport 2018 that was made to Ministry of Transport on 2 May 2018.**

Mayor Rowley / Mayor Smith
CARRIED

Resolved

That the Regional Transport Committee:

- 1. Notes there were no current plans to consider a Regional Fuel Tax for Canterbury**

Mayor Dalley / Cr Alexander
CARRIED

8. NZ Transport Agency Update

(Refer page 61 of the agenda)

Jim Harland provided an update from the NZ Transport Agency (NZTA) and advised Targeted Enhanced FARs would apply to the 2018-21 National Land Transport Programme (NLTP) and must have a high or very high assessment against Investment Assessment Framework.

Projects not approved for NLTP funding may be eligible for the funding from the Provincial Growth Fund.

Need to get more people out of cars and using more realistic alternative modes of transport, such as public transport, walking, cycling. This could be achieved by travel demand management, education and support.

There needed to be a focus on ongoing refinements for regional Long-Term Plans, national priority programmes, state highway project re-evaluations. It was recognised that a lot of work needed to be completed in a short space of time. A letter from NZTA will be sent to members shortly which would explain further detail on next steps.

Resolved

That the Regional Transport Committee:

- 1. Receives the NZ Transport Agency Update.**

Jim Harland / Mayor Favel
CARRIED

9. Regional Road Safety Working Group

(Refer page 65 of the agenda)

Lorraine Johns presented this report which was taken as read.

Resolved

That the Canterbury Regional Committee:

- 1. Receives the Regional Road Safety Working Group Report.**

Mayor Ayers / Mayor Smith
CARRIED

10. Transport Officers Group Report

(Refer page 71 of the agenda)

Lorraine Johns presented this report which was taken as read.

Resolved

That the Canterbury Regional Committee:

- 1. Receives the Transport Officers Group Report.**

Mayor Dalley / Mayor Ayers
CARRIED

11. Variation to Canterbury Regional Land Transport Plan – KiwiRail Level Crossing Improvements

Steve Higgs presented this report which was taken as read.

Resolved

That the Canterbury Regional Committee:

1. Notes that the following level crossing improvement activities are proposed as a variation to the Regional Land Transport Plan:
 - a. Selwyn District Council: McMillan Street
 - b. Christchurch City Council: Sawyers Arms Road
2. Determines that the requested variation is not significant.
3. Agrees to vary the Regional Land Transport Plan by adding the proposed activities to Appendix A 'Activities included in the Canterbury Land Transport Programme'.
4. Recommends this variation to Environment Canterbury.

Cr Alexander / Mayor Favel
CARRIED

12. General Business

There was no general business.

13. Next Meeting

4.00pm – 6.00pm, November 2018 (date to be confirmed)
Commodore Airport Hotel
449 Memorial Avenue, Christchurch

Closure

The meeting closed at 5.44 pm.

Confirmed

Date: 31.1.19

Chairperson: *SW Lowndes*