

Environment Canterbury Regional Council

Selwyn District Council Submission on the draft Canterbury Regional Land Transport Plan 2024-34

1. Selwyn District Council (Council) welcomes the opportunity to provide a submission on the draft Canterbury Regional Land Transport Plan 2024-34 (RLTP 2024-34).
2. Council, as a member of the Canterbury Regional Transport Committee (RTC) has been involved in the collaborative process to develop the RLTP 2024-34 and as such is broadly supportive of the draft RLTP 2024.
3. Council supports the thirty-year vision and strategic objectives to deliver the vision. Furthermore, Council supports priorities for investment and the prioritised regional programme of transport activities. This includes a number of key Council projects including those needing wider partner collaboration to deliver.
4. Council supports the regional transport project prioritisation process that has occurred to develop the RLTP 2024-34 and would be concerned if this was substantially altered by the submission process without good justification as it may relate to the fair and equitable benefit of the wider regions transport needs.
5. Council supports the increase in investment over and above the previous RLTP and considers this as necessary for supporting the intergenerational wellbeing of people in the Selwyn District and across Waitaha | Canterbury. Considerable investment in our transport systems in the future will be needed to provide efficient, sustainable, safe, fair and resilient transport. We support any endeavours by the RTC to achieve this, including lobbying Central Government for providing further national transport funding to an additional level commensurate with the size of the Canterbury region and its transport needs as demonstrated by the RLTP 2024-34.
6. Council is also a member of the Greater Christchurch Partnership, a voluntary coalition of local government, mana whenua and government agencies working collaboratively to address strategic challenges and opportunities for Greater Christchurch. With an estimated 82% of Canterbury's population living within Greater Christchurch and strong growth projections for the future; Greater Christchurch has a strong case for significant investment as it provided for in the RLTP 2024-34.
7. Council understands that this RLTP 2024-34 has been prepared on the basis of the Government Policy Statement (GPS) for Land Transport 2021 and the draft GPS 2024 consulted on in September 2023. Council acknowledges that the RLTP 2024-34 must be consistent with the current operative GPS 2021 or anticipated successor-. However, Council is aware that there has

been a commitment from the present Government to replace and update the current operative GPS with a new updated GPS. The arrival of this draft GPS is imminent which will require it to be reviewed against its own transport programmes. On this basis Council expects that this forthcoming GPS may likely initiate an update to the RLTP 2024-34 ahead of the statutory six financial year review period with section 14(a)(ii) of the Land Transport Management Act 2003 framing that review.

8. It has recently come to the forefront that Council is able to investigate and facilitate wider district or regional public transport services beyond current and planned future provision by Environment Canterbury. The request for Council to be proactive in public transport, particularly for areas outside of Greater Christchurch has emerged strongly as a theme during our pre-engagement on our Long Term-Plan 2024-34. Council would request that this opportunity be formally acknowledged and made explicit in both the RLTP and the upcoming Canterbury Regional Public Transport Plan. This would provide much needed confirmation that Council is able to pursue an investigation into these services on behalf of our communities.

For any clarification or discussion on points within this submission please contact Selwyn District Council's Strategy Planner –Ryan Mayes

Ngā mihi nui

Robert Love

Acting Executive Director - Development and Growth