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Report to the Regional Land Transport Committee
By Dr Dave Watson, Divisional Manager Transport

The Draft Regional Land Transport Strategy

1. Purpose

To approve a draft Regional Land Transport Strategy for public consultation.

2. Background

At the last meeting of the Committee, after a presentation of a preferred Regional Land Transport Strategy, it was resolved:

- (1) *That the presentation on the preferred draft Regional Land Transport Strategy be noted.*
- (2) *That the other stakeholders in the Regional Land Transport Strategy, namely the organisations represented by members of the Committee, and any other interest groups be offered a presentation on the preferred draft strategy.*
- (3) *That a subgroup of the Committee be established to edit the first drafts of the Regional Land Transport Strategy.*
- (4) *That the subgroup consist of:*
 - *The Chairperson of the Committee*
 - *Two other Regional Councillors*
 - *A representative of Territorial Local Authorities*
 - *A representative of transport agencies*
 - *A representative of transport users*

(5) *That the programme leading up to the final adoption of a new Regional Land Transport Strategy be:*

- *April* *Regional Land Transport Committee formally adopts a draft Regional Land Transport Strategy*
- *Late June* *Submissions heard on draft Regional Land Transport Strategy*
- *July** *Regional Land Transport Committee adopts a final Regional Land Transport Strategy*
- *August** *Regional Council formally adopts Regional Land Transport Strategy*

Note: These last two dates may change depending on the result of the submissions process.

Since then, the preferred strategy has been formally presented to the following groups:

24 February	IPENZ Wellington Branch
25 February	Kapiti Coast District Council
9 March	Tranz Rail Ltd
10 March	Government departments Hutt City Council
15 March	Wellington Chamber of Commerce Automobile Association
17 March	Public Transport Users/Cycleaware
19 March	Bus Operators
22 March	Transport 2000
23 March	Porirua City Council
25 March	Upper Hutt City Council
31 March	Wellington City Council
13 April	Wellington Central Rotary Club
14 April	Chartered Institute of Transport Central Section
20 April	Transit New Zealand (Managers) Paremata Residents Association
28 April	MOT

There is also a presentation to be made to the Road Transport Forum (Wellington section).

... Over the same time period the editorial sub-group, established by the Committee, has been writing a proposed draft Regional Land Transport Strategy document. They have held six meetings and the product of their efforts is the proposed draft strategy document which has already been circulated to Committee members. Feedback from the stakeholder presentations has been incorporated into the document.

3. **Comment**

The key issues coming from the stakeholder feedback and hence the key issues accommodated in the document are:

- Inclusion of a modest level of road pricing and long stay carparking levies to help fund additional transport infrastructure.
- Inclusion of the Transmission Gully road at the expense of an upgrade of Mana Esplanade.
- Inclusion of all the projects that were set out in the previous presentation to the Committee as part of the enhanced strategy though some of them being expressed as ‘investigate’ rather than ‘construct’.
- Priority given to rail enhancements over the first five year period.
- Priority given to downstream road improvements before upstream improvements.

The editorial working group have made one specific and therefore major change to the previous work of the Committee. They propose adding the word “Balanced” to the Vision. So that the Vision for the strategy would now read:

“A balanced and sustainable land transport system that meets the needs of the Regional Community.”

The reason for this change results from the many stakeholder presentations. Throughout these presentations it became clear that a key part of the strategy was the concepts of balance between competing modes and of a balance in capacity within the network.

The next stage of the process is to adopt a draft Regional Land Transport Strategy for public consultation. This will then be followed by public submissions and hearings. After changes are made to the draft as a consequence of those submissions it will be finally adopted as the Regional Land Transport Strategy for the Wellington Region.

4. **Recommendation**

- (1) *That the draft Regional Land Transport Strategy as amended by the Committee be approved for public consultation.*
- (2) *That the Chairperson of the Committee and the Divisional Manager, Transport be authorised to approve any minor editorial changes.*
- (3) *That the final date for submission on the draft Regional Land Transport Strategy be 30 June 1999.*

Report prepared by:

DAVE WATSON
Divisional Manager, Transport