



Report 06.119
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Committee Regional Land Transport
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Transport Policy and Strategy Division - Work in Progress

1. Purpose

To update the Committee about the work of the Transport Policy and Strategy team.

2. Significance of the decision

The matters in this report do not trigger the significance policy of the Council or otherwise trigger section 76(3)(b) of the Local Government Act 2002.

3. Comment

3.1 Regional Land Transport Strategy (RLTS) Review

3.1.1 Western Corridor

The Western Corridor subcommittee presented their findings to the Regional Land Transport Committee (RLTC) on 13 March 2006. Further consideration of these findings and recommendations on a new Western Corridor Plan to Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) will take place at the 11th April RLTC meeting.

3.1.2 Ngauranga to Airport Strategic Transport Study (formerly CBD Corridor Study)

The contract for the Ngauranga to Airport Strategic Transport Study was awarded to Opus International Consultants Ltd. The Steering Group met on 17 January 2006 to confirm the goals for this study while a project inception meeting took place on 7 February 2006.

The consultants have prepared a Consultation Plan with Phase 1 beginning in early April. Phase 1 will seek views on what the Ngauranga to Airport

Transport Strategic Study should consider and what solutions should be explored. It is expected that the closing date for written comments will be 8 April 2006.

A media release will accompany the release of a brochure seeking comments. The consultants will also be communicating directly with key stakeholders.

3.1.3 Demand Management Strategy

The Regional Travel Demand Management (TDM) Strategy was adopted by the RLTC on 8 December 2005. The strategy forms an addition to the current Regional Land Transport Strategy and will be incorporated as part of the revised RLTS following the review process.

As part of the strategy action plan, a Travel Behaviour Change Programme consisting of workplace, school and community travel plan initiatives has been developed. A 10 year business case and 3 year funding proposal has been submitted to Land Transport New Zealand for funding consideration.

3.1.4 Travel Plans

A workplace Travel Plan will be presented to the Capital and Coast District Health Board (C&CDHB) Executive Team on 18 April 2006. The C&CDHB Travel Plan project is a significant step forward in the development of travel plans for the Wellington region. C&CDHB will be leading the way as the largest employer in New Zealand so far to prepare a travel plan, and is the country's first District Health Board to do so.

3.1.5 Regional Cycling Strategy

- Bike the Bays was held on 11 December 2005 with 690 cycle participants.
- Bike the Trail held on 26 February 2006 brought out 1,040 participants. This represented a 45% increase over 2005.
- Don't Burst their Bubble driver awareness campaign February 2006.

Upcoming events:

- Cyclist visibility campaign – April/May 2006

3.1.6 Regional Pedestrian Strategy

In accordance with the regional pedestrian strategy's action plan, a pedestrian accessibility report has been completed in relation to 30 public transport nodes throughout the greater Wellington region. Greater Wellington will be working with territorial authorities and network operators through the Quality Partnership Agreements (QPA) process to address implementation of improvements identified in this report.

An additional 20 public transport nodes will be audited and reported on during the 06/07 financial year.

3.1.7 Road Safety Week

A regional road safety campaign in 2006 is due to commence in mid April and will run through the Easter break and school holidays. The theme for the campaign is 'Drive to the conditions', coinciding with ACC's current road safety advertising. The campaign will include emphasis on preparation for holiday travel and the consequences of sleep deprivation while driving.

3.1.8 Air Quality Monitoring

The second of the mobile air quality monitoring stations is awaiting installation (pending connection to mains power) at the Melling interchange adjacent to State Highway 2. The mobile stations have been commissioned by the Environment Division on behalf of Transport Policy & Strategy.

3.1.9 Vehicle Emissions Testing

A combined campaign between Be The Difference, Environment and Transport Policy & Strategy Divisions and the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA) commenced on 18 March 2006 with an open day held at the Westpac Stadium carpark. This provided an opportunity for Be The Difference members and the general public to drive their car through the emissions testing equipment. Overall feedback was very supportive with over 280 vehicles tested.

On-road and bus emissions testing have been delayed considerably due to the continual wet weather in March. The emissions testing will continue until 7 April 2006, allowing baseline emissions data for the region's vehicle fleet to be gathered. Owners of vehicles emitting a high level of pollutants will receive a letter of encouragement to keep their car well tuned.

4. Communications

There is nothing to communicate.

5. Recommendation

That the Committee:

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Notes the content of the report.*

Report prepared by:

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