



Report 09.250
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Committee Regional Land Transport Programme 2009 - 2012
Hearing Subcommittee
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Process for considering submissions on the proposed Regional Land Transport Programme 2009-2012

1. Purpose

To outline the process for handling submissions, both at this meeting and following the consideration of submissions.

2. Significance of the decision

The matters for decision 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.

2.1 Public Consultation

This meeting completes the public consultation phase on the proposed Regional Land Transport Programme 2009-2012 (proposed Programme).

The Regional Land Transport Programme 2009-2012 Hearing Subcommittee must consider both the oral and written submissions it receives at this meeting, and must decide if it wishes to recommend that the Regional Transport Committee make consequent changes to the proposed Programme.

2.2 Principles of consultation

Six principles of consultation are set out in the Local Government Act 2002 (the Act). One of these principles is that views presented to a local authority should be accepted with an open mind, and should be given due consideration by the local authority, in making a decision.

It is consistent with best practice that members hearing submissions must be present for the duration of the hearing of the oral submissions.

3. Submissions received

Greater Wellington has received 579 submissions on the proposed Programme.

3.1 Distribution of submissions

A copy of the submissions has been distributed to members of the Subcommittee.

4. Comment

4.1 Draft Plan submission process

4.1.1 Oral presentations

The purpose of this meeting is to hear oral presentations in support of written submissions. At the time of writing, 63 submitters have requested that they be heard on the proposed Programme.

Ten minutes have been allocated to each submitter. This allows approximately five minutes for the submitter to present their key points and five minutes for Subcommittee members to ask questions of clarification. Please note that the hearings timetable is, at the time of writing, being confirmed. The final timetable will be provided at the meeting on 26 May 2009.

4.1.2 Written submissions

The Subcommittee must consider all written submissions, regardless of whether or not an oral submission has been made. It is suggested that written submissions are taken as read by the Subcommittee, and that members only discuss those submissions on which they want to make a particular comment or seek officers' response.

4.1.3 Consideration of issues raised in submissions

The principles of consultation, set out in section 82 of the Local Government Act 2002, apply to the submission process. It is important that committee members retain an open mind in the consideration of submissions. Members must be present for the hearings and deliberations in order to participate in the decision making of the committee. There will be an opportunity to discuss the issues raised in both written and oral submissions once all submissions have been heard.

4.2 Process after consideration of submissions

The Subcommittee's recommendations on the proposed Programme will be considered by the Regional Transport Committee at its meeting on 23 June before being sent to the Council for approval on 30 June 2009.

It is proposed that formal responses be sent to submitters following the final decision on the draft Programme. These responses should originate from the Regional Transport Committee Chairperson. Under the Local Government Act

2002, reasons must be given for decisions made, including a decision not to take any action.

5. Recommendations

That the Subcommittee:

1. ***Receives the report;***
2. ***Hears the oral submissions;***
3. ***Agrees to consider all written and oral submissions in the manner set out in section 4 of this report.***

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