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Report to the Regional Land Transport Committee

By Tony Brennand, Manager Transport Policy

Regional Road Safety Initiatives - New Zealand Road Safety Programme

1. Purpose

To advise the Committee of a proposal for the Regional Council to manage and implement community road safety initiatives funded under the New Zealand Road Safety Programme. This programme is administered by the Land Transport Safety Authority.

2. Background

The Regional Land Transport Strategy was adopted by Council in October 1999. Since that time it has emerged that there are a number of region wide community road safety issues that directly relate to the policies of the Regional Land Transport Strategy.

3. Comment

There are a number of region wide community road safety issues that have been identified in the Wellington Region. These include accidents involving:

- pedestrians and cyclists
- excessive speed for the conditions
- young drivers

A region wide campaign on these issues is considered to be an effective and efficient approach to these issues. However, a region wide approach will not negate more specific campaigns at a district level but rather will be complementary.

The Regional Land Transport Strategy identifies the following policies:

Theme 4.1 – Improve the safe operation of the transport network

Policy 4.1.3 – Develop a safety culture with respect to travel by more effective co-ordination of the planning and implementation of road safety programmes

Policy 4.1.4 – Encourage greater use of cycling and walking for local trips

Policy 5.1.2 – Make cycling and walking more attractive

It is apparent that community road safety initiatives have a role in achieving the outcomes envisaged by the above policies.

Such initiatives have synergies with the wider transportation work of the Regional Council that is programmed for this and the next financial years. During these years the Regional Council has programmed:

- the development of a pedestrian strategy and proposals
- the Hutt Corridor Plan
- the Wellington Central Corridor Plan

Community road safety initiatives based on the region wide road safety initiatives identified above will complement the above three wider transportation studies.

Community road safety funding is available from the Land Transport Safety Authority. Three project applications have been put forward to the Land Transport Safety Authority. These are:

- (1) Development and Communication of a Wellington Regional Strategy to Protect Vulnerable Road Users which requires Land Transport Safety Authority funding of \$95,468.
- (2) Wellington Regional Speed Campaign which requires Land Transport Safety Authority funding of \$36,434.
- (3) Wellington Regional Young Driver Campaign which requires Land Transport Safety Authority funding of \$17,600.

4. Recommendation

That this report be received.

Report prepared by:

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