

File No: TP/01/05/01
5 February 2008

LTP Submission
Transit New Zealand
PO Box 5084
Wellington 6145

P O Box 11646
142 Wakefield Street
Wellington
New Zealand
T 04 384 5708
F 04 385 6960
W www.gw.govt.nz

Greater Wellington is the promotional
name of the Wellington Regional Council

Dear Sir/Madam

Greater Wellington's Submission on Transit's Draft 2008/09 Land Transport Programme

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft Land Transport Programme (draft LTP). This submission is based on policies of Wellington's Regional Land Transport Committee (the Committee), primarily as set out in the Wellington Regional Land Transport Strategy 2007 – 2016.

We do not wish to be heard in support of our submission.

1. Large Projects

Specific comments relating to each significant item are set out below.

1.1 Rimutaka Corner Easing (Muldoon's Corner)

The following table shows the Committee's expectation compared with the current draft LTP:

RTP Expectation	2008/09 draft LTP	Comment
Design 2006/07 Construction from 2007/08	Design underway Construction beyond 2010/11	Construction has been delayed for no apparent reason. The project should proceed as soon as possible.

We are pleased that the design of this project is underway but remain disappointed that the Committee's recommendation, over many years, to give this project high priority has still not enabled construction of this project to be included in the programme. The Committee has previously agreed that this project be advanced using R funding. We seek inclusion of the construction of this project in Transit's programme as soon as possible.

Preferably it should be added to Table 2 (the list of State Highway activities for 2008/09).

1.2 Melling Interchange

The following table shows the Committee's expectation compared with the current draft LTP:

RTP Expectation	2008/09 draft LTP	Comment
Investigation not identified Design not identified Construction <u>beyond</u> 2016	Investigation 2008/09 Design not shown Construction not shown but understood to be from 2011/12	Advancing this project risks allocating scarce funding from a project with higher priority in the regional programme. Therefore, no investigation work should be undertaken on this major project until its priority has been reviewed by the Committee later this year as part of the preparation of a new Regional Land Transport Programme.

While we support the investigation of this project, we believe this should commence after completion of the Dowse-Petone upgrade which will not be complete until 2010/11 and therefore should be removed from Table 2 (the list of State Highway activities for 2008/09).

1.3 Basin Reserve Improvements

The following table shows the Committee's expectation compared with the current draft LTP:

RTP Expectation	2008/09 draft LTP	Comment
Investigation not shown Design not shown Construction from 2013/14	Investigation 2008/09 Design not shown Construction not shown but is understood to be from 2013/14	The timing of this project is consistent with the regional programme. However, it is subject to the outcome of the current Ngauranga to Airport Corridor Study. Therefore, no investigation work should be undertaken until its priority has been reviewed by the Committee later this year as part of the preparation of a new Regional Land Transport Programme.

We are pleased to see the Basin Reserve improvements project included in the forecast but it must only proceed if confirmed by the outcome of the Ngauranga to Airport Corridor Study. Therefore, it should be to from Table 2A (the list of State Highway activities that may be undertaken 2008/09).

1.4 SH2/SH58 Grade Separation

The following table shows the Committee's expectation compared with the current draft LTP:

RTP Expectation	2008/09 draft LTP	Comment
Investigation not identified Design from 2007/08 Construction from 2010/11	Investigation complete Design 2008/09 Construction not shown but understood to be from 2011/12	This is not significantly different to the regional programme.

We are pleased to see the SH2/SH58 project included in the forecast.

1.5 Transmission Gully Preparation

The following table shows the Committee's expectation compared with the current draft LTP:

RTP Expectation	2008/09 draft LTP	Comment
Investigation not identified Design from 2006/07 Construction from 2011/12	Investigation complete Design continues Construction not shown but subject to funding being confirmed	This is consistent with the regional programme.

We support the continuation of design work for Transmission Gully Motorway.

1.6 Ngauranga to Aotea capacity

The following table shows the Committee's expectation compared with the current draft LTP:

RTP Expectation	2008/09 draft LTP	Comment
Investigation not shown Design not shown Construction from 2008/09	Investigation not shown Design not shown Construction not shown	With no timing shown this project is later than the regional programme. However, it is subject to the outcome of the current Ngauranga to Airport Corridor Study. Therefore, no investigation work should be undertaken until its priority has been reviewed by the Committee later this year as part of the preparation of a new Regional Land Transport Programme.

We note that this project is not identified for any action over the next three years and request that an allowance be made in the programme to progress design work should it be confirmed by the outcome of the Ngauranga to Airport Corridor Study. Therefore, it should be added to from Table 2A (the list of State Highway activities that may be undertaken 2008/09).

1.7 Terrace Tunnel Tidal Flow

The following table shows the Committee's expectation compared with the current draft LTP:

RTP Expectation	2008/09 draft LTP	Comment
Investigation not shown Design not shown Construction from 2008/09	Investigation not shown Design not shown Construction not shown	With no timing shown this project is later than the regional programme. However, it is subject to the outcome of the current Ngauranga to Airport Corridor Study. Therefore, no investigation work should be undertaken until its priority has been reviewed by the Committee later this year as part of the preparation of a new Regional Land Transport Programme.

We note that this project is not identified for any action over the next three years and request that an allowance be made in the programme to progress design work should it be confirmed by the outcome of the Ngauranga to Airport Corridor Study. Therefore, it should be added to Table 2A (the list of State Highway activities that may be undertaken 2008/09).

2. Small/Medium Projects (block programme)

We note that Transit has identified a number of relatively low cost safety and efficiency improvement works. However, due to the limited time we had available to review the draft programme we have not reviewed these projects this year.

3. Strategic Studies

We are pleased to note a number of proposals for strategic studies and seek that the regional Technical Work Group is fully involved in all of these studies.

We are particularly pleased that Transit plans to further progress the Grenada to Gracefield Strategic Study in cooperation with both Wellington and Hutt City Councils.

4. Walking and cycling projects

Last year we supported the three walking and cycling projects shown below, noting that one had been added to the two proposals identified the previous year:

- SH1 Teihana Road Pedestrian Facilities (Pukerua Bay)
- SH2 Petone – Horokiwi Cycle
- SH1 Paraparaumu Rail overbridge clip on cycle lane (new and committed).

It is disappointing that none of these proposals has yet proceeded to the construction phase. Of particular concern is the SH2 Petone to Horokiwi cycle lane that is to be reviewed again as part of the Grenada to Gracefield study. We request that more resources are invested in progressing these projects much sooner.

It is also noted that these proposals remain well short of addressing the deficiencies and priorities identified in Bullen Consultant's report 'Strategic Cycle Network Priorities' (April 2004). We remain disappointed that Transit has not adequately responded to our 2005, 2006 and 2007 submissions by adding the following identified Wellington Region State Highway cycling improvements to its priority list.

- | | Regional Priority |
|---|-------------------|
| • SH2/SH53 Wairarapa Bridges (3) minor works | 1= |
| • Wellington region state highway minor works | 1= |

- SH1 Avoiding Mana Esplanade 1=
- SH2 Ngauranga to Petone, northbound 4
- SH2 Opaki Bridge 5=
- SH1 Pukerua Bay 7=
- SH1 Ngauranga Gorge, southbound 7=
- SH1 Peka Peka to Pukehou 10=
- SH1 Otaki River Bridge 11
- SH2 Petone to Ngauranga (two way) 12=
- SH1 Waitohu Bridge 15

We again note that increased funding of \$30M has been included in the \$225M 'C' funding announced on 27 January 2005 for transport demand management (traffic systems, travel plans, cycling) which should allow for meaningful progress to be made on these projects. The Committee's recommendation to Land Transport NZ in 2007 was that \$5M of C1 funding over ten years should be invested in walking and cycling improvements. Therefore, we cannot see why faster progress cannot be made on addressing identified regional walking and cycling deficiencies and seek a stronger commitment from Transit in this regard.

Please do not hesitate to contact Joe Hewitt (04 381 7777) should you need any clarification about the matters raised in this submission.

Yours faithfully

Hon. Fran Wilde
Chair Wellington Regional Land Transport Committee