

Report 11.598
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Committee Regional Transport
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Regional Land Transport Programme 2012-15 Update

1. Purpose

This report provides the Committee with an update on work to develop the Regional Land Transport Programme (RLTP) 2012-15.

2. The decision-making process and significance

The matter requiring decision in this report has been considered by officers against the requirements of Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002.

2.1 Significance of the decision

Officers have considered the significance of the matter and recommend that the matter be considered to have low significance in terms of the Council's significance policy and decision-making guidelines.

The decisions in this report relate to minor process issues involved in developing the RLTP.

This report is an interim step in a process that will later involve agreeing a draft RLTP for consultation, and subsequently a final RLTP after consideration of community feedback received. These decisions will be the subject of separate reports over the next 8 months. Consultation on the draft RLTP will be in accordance with the special consultative procedure under the Local Government Act 2002.

Officers do not consider that a formal record outlining consideration of the decision-making process is required in this instance.

3. Background

3.1 Requirement to develop a RLTP

The Land Transport Management Act 2003¹ (the Act) requires the Committee to prepare and consult on a RLTP every three years. The RLTP must include:

- Proposed activities for the next 3 years (2012-15)
- An indication of significant activities for the following 3 years (2015-18)
- A 10-year financial forecast (2012-22).

3.2 The RLTP process

The programme is made up of all the proposed transport activities put forward by the local councils in the region, Greater Wellington and NZ Transport Agency. The RLTP can only include activities put forward by these organisations.

The Regional Transport Committee (RTC) is responsible for preparing and consulting on the draft RLTP, and recommending a final RLTP to Greater Wellington for adoption.

Public consultation on the draft RLTP will be carried out along with Greater Wellington's Long Term Plan in April 2012, and in parallel with consultation on local council Long Term Plans. Consultation will follow the special consultative procedure under the Local Government Act 2002.

Greater Wellington is required to approve the final RLTP and to submit it to NZTA by 30 June 2012. The NZTA must take account of the RLTP when allocating funding as part of the National Land Transport Programme.

During preparation of the RLTP all proposed activities must be prioritised in accordance with Policy 8.8 (programme prioritisation and funding) of the Regional Land Transport Strategy. In accordance with this policy the RLTP Technical Working Group has developed a regional prioritisation methodology that was endorsed by the RTC on 26 September 2011 (**Report 11.462**).

Note: A minor amendment to the methodology has been made to reflect a change in the way that NZTA funds travel demand management activities. Demand management activities are now funded under the "local roads maintenance and operations" category and as a consequence will automatically be included in the programme (i.e. not require prioritisation).

¹ As amended by the Land Transport Management Amendment Act 2008.

4. Update to timetable and meeting dates

The Minister of Transport altered the timeframes for submitting the final RLTP to better integrate the programme with councils' Long Term Plans. This does mean that the timetable for the preparation of the RLTP needs to be changed. The revised timetable is set out in **Attachment 1**.

The updated timetable requires changes to the scheduled RTC meeting dates. Final dates will be notified to Committee members shortly, in line with the timetable below:

- **Workshop early February 2012**

Workshop to review prioritised activities for the draft programme – in particular the ranking of the third-priority 'large new projects'

- **Meeting early March 2012**

Approve draft RLTP for consultation

- **Meeting mid June 2012**

Recommend final RLTP to GW for adoption

Greater Wellington will approve the final RLTP at its 27 June 2012 meeting and will submit the final RLTP to NZTA on 29 June 2012.

5. Definition of significant activities and significant expenditure

The RLTP must identify significant national, regional, inter-regional activities and significant expenditure from other sources, and NZTA guidelines require the RTC to agree how these will be identified. The Technical Working Group recommends the guidelines set out in **Attachment 2** as appropriate for this region, which mirror those suggested by NZTA at a national level.

These guidelines are separate to the "significance policy" required for variations to a Regional Land Transport Programme required under Section 106 (2) of the Act. The "significance policy" was adopted and included in the previous RLTP 2009-12. This policy was applied successfully to variations during the past three-year period (2009-12) and it is proposed that it be included unchanged in the draft RLTP 2012-15.

6. Communication

Public consultation on the draft Regional Land Transport Programme 2012-15 will be during April 2012.

7. Voting

Section 107 (1) of the Act states that objective and interest representatives have full speaking rights, but are not entitled to vote on matters related to regional

land transport programmes. As the subject matter of this report relates to the regional land transport programme, objective and interest representatives **may not** vote on the resolutions.

8. Recommendations

That the Regional Transport Committee:

- 1. **Receives** the report.*
- 2. **Notes** the content of the report.*
- 3. **Notes** the updated timetable for preparation of the Regional Land Transport Programme, with meeting dates to be confirmed as set out in **section 4 and Attachment 1**.*
- 4. **Endorses** the proposed guidelines for identification of significant national, regional, inter-regional activities and significant expenditure from other sources as set out in **Attachment 2**.*

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Attachment 1: RLTP Timeframes and key dates.

Attachment 2: Guidelines for identifying significant activities and expenditure.