



Report 09.453
Date 22 July 2009
File TP/01/04/05

Committee Regional Land Transport
Author Natasha Hayes, Senior Policy Advisor

Submission on Horizons' RLTS Review - Discussion Paper

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek the Committee's approval of the attached submission on Horizons Regional Council's Regional Land Transport Strategy (RLTS) Review Discussion Paper.

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.

3. Background

The Regional Transport Committee of Horizons Regional Council (Horizons) has developed a discussion paper on transport issues in the Manawatu-Wanganui Region as a first step in reviewing its RLTS. They are now seeking feedback on the paper to help determine what transport issues should be considered in the RLTS with a 30 year view.

Submissions close on Friday 7 August 2009.

The Horizons discussion paper is provided in **Attachment 1**, and the draft submission is provided in **Attachment 2**.

4. Comment

The draft submission has been formulated on the basis of established policy positions and issues previously identified by this Committee through earlier reports and submissions.

The draft submission first identifies the issues in the 2006 RLTS that are significant to both the Manawatu-Wanganui and Wellington regions, and are still relevant going forward.

These issues relate to:

- Safety and capacity of State Highway 1 south of Levin (and its importance as a Road of National Significance)
- Rail network issues
- Improving east – west connectivity (particularly Pahiatua Track)

Continuing to address these issues in the next RLTS is supported in the draft submission.

The draft submission also suggests that accommodating a forecast 70-75% increase in freight volumes and movement by 2031 should be added to the list of issues for the next Horizons RLTS. This is particularly important given the key freight corridors that pass through the region and the potential ‘wall of wood’ effect signalled in the discussion paper as likely to occur in 15 years time.

5. Communication

The submission will be forwarded to Horizons following any amendments arising from the Committee’s discussion at this meeting. A copy of the final submission will be circulated to members of the Committee. No further communication will be necessary.

6. Recommendations

That the Committee:

1. *Receives the report;*
2. *Notes the content of the report;*
3. *Agrees to the submission set out in **Attachment 2**; and*
3. *Delegates to the Chair of the Wellington Regional Transport Committee authority to approve the final submission to the Regional Transport Committee for the Horizons Region on its RLTS Review – Discussion Paper.*

Report prepared by:

Report approved by:

Report approved by:

Natasha Hayes
Senior Policy Advisor

Joe Hewitt
Manager, Transport Strategy
Development

Jane Davis
Divisional Manager Transport
Policy and Strategy

Attachment 1: Horizons’ Regional Land Transport Strategy Review – Discussion Paper
Attachment 2: Draft Submission