

Report 12.78
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Committee Regional Transport
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Draft Regional Land Transport Programme 2012-15 for consultation

1. Purpose

To approve the draft Regional Land Transport Programme 2012-15 (RLTP) for consultation, approve the Community Engagement Plan and appoint a subcommittee to consider submissions.

2. The decision-making process and significance

The proposed adoption of a draft RLTP is part of a decision-making process that will lead to the Committee making a decision of high significance within the meaning of the Local Government Act 2002. The decision-making process is explicitly prescribed for by section 18A of the Land Transport Management Act 2003, this process includes the use of the special consultative procedure as set out in the Local Government Act 2002.

3. Background

The draft RLTP sets out the land transport activities proposed in the region for the next three years, provides an indication of significant activities for the following three years and includes a 10-year financial forecast.

The Land Transport Management Act 2003 requires the Regional Transport Committee to prepare and consult on a RLTP every three years. The RLTP constitutes the region's bid for funding assistance from the National Land Transport Fund. The NZ Transport Agency must take the RLTP into account when preparing its National Land Transport Programme.

The draft RLTP has been developed with input from a technical working group made up of officers from councils in the region and the NZ Transport Agency. The Regional Transport Committee endorsed the regional prioritisation methodology used to prioritise the activities in the programme on 26 September 2011 (**Report 11.462**). Two Committee workshops have also been

undertaken on the prioritisation approach and the activities included in the draft RLTP.

3.1 Legislative requirements

The Land Transport Management Act 2003 (the Act) sets out a number of specific requirements for the content of a RLTP as set out below.

3.1.1 Core requirements of the RLTP

The Committee must assess the RLTP against the core requirements set out in section 14 of the Act and include that assessment in the RLTP.

The Committee must be satisfied that the RLTP:

- contributes to the aim of achieving an affordable, integrated, safe, responsive, and sustainable land transport system
- contributes to a) assisting economic development, b) assisting safety and personal security, c) improving access and mobility, d) protecting and promoting public health, and e) ensuring environmental sustainability
- is consistent with the Government Policy Statement on Transport Funding and the Regional land Transport Strategy.

The Committee must take into account:

- any national land transport strategy (there is none currently) and any national energy efficiency and conservation strategy
- any relevant policy statements and plans under the Resource Management Act
- any Regional Public Transport Plan
- likely funding from any source.

3.1.2 Form and content of the RLTP

The form and content requirements for the RLTP are set out in section 16 of the Act. The RLTP must include the following activities for the next three years¹:

- Activities relating to local road maintenance, local road renewals and local road minor capital works, and existing public transport services.
- Other activities that are not identified above. The Committee must determine an order of priority for these other activities and include this in the RLTP.

¹ Only activities proposed by Approved Organisations (local councils in the region, Greater Wellington and the NZ Transport Agency) can be included in the RLTP.

The RLTP must include an assessment of all of the above activities as follows:

- The assessment must be undertaken by the organisation proposing the activity
- The assessment of each activity must include: the objective or objectives to be achieved, an estimate of total cost and the cost for each year, the expected duration of the activity, proposed sources of funding other than the National Land Transport Fund, and any other relevant information.

The RLTP must also include:

- A statement of regional transport priorities for the next six years
- All significant expenditure on activities that are not funded from the National Land Transport Fund.
- A list of all activities that have been approved by the NZ Transport Agency but that have not yet been completed.
- An indication of any activities of inter-regional significance.
- An explanation of the proposed action if any activity is varied, suspended or abandoned.
- An indication of any nationally or regionally significant activities that are likely to be included in the following RLTP.
- A 10-year financial forecast of anticipated revenue and expenditure.
- A description of how monitoring will be undertaken to assess implementation of the RLTP.
- A summary of the consultation carried out in preparing the RLTP.
- A summary of the significance policy adopted by the Committee under s106 of the Act.

The RLTP must include assessments of how it complies with the above core requirements and of the relationship between police activities (which are not required to be included in the RLTP) and the RLTP.

4. Draft Regional Land Transport Programme 2012-15

4.1 Core requirements

The draft RLTP is set out in **Attachment 1**. Section 6.1 includes an assessment of the core requirements of the Act, demonstrating the matters that have been considered and its compliance with the Act. In summary, the draft RLTP contributes to an affordable, integrated, safe, responsive, and sustainable land transport system. Its development has taken into account the strategic context

(set out in section 2) and the wide range of activities reflect the Regional Land Transport Strategy's intention to develop a balanced land transport network consistent with an affordable, integrated, safe, responsive, and sustainable land transport system.

The draft RLTP also contributes to assisting economic development, assisting safety and personal security, improving access and mobility, protecting and promoting public health, and ensuring environmental sustainability. There are a wide range of activities included in the RLTP, with objectives for these activities contributing to all the above matters as demonstrated by the activity objectives in Table 3 of the draft RLTP.

The draft RLTP is also consistent with the Government Policy Statement on Transport Funding (GPS) and the Regional Land Transport Strategy. It has been prepared taking account of the strategic funding context provided by the GPS and its priorities are based on the RLTS outcomes and prioritisation policies.

Development of the RLTP has also taken into account the other matters that must be considered, as demonstrated in the assessment of core requirements and financial forecasts sections of the draft RLTP.

4.2 Form and content

The draft RLTP has been prepared based on the legislative requirements for form and content, with Appendix D of the draft RLTP setting out how these requirements have been met.

5. Community Engagement Plan

A Community Engagement Plan is set out in **Attachment 3**. Consultation on the draft RLTP will be carried out in accordance with the special consultative procedure under the Local Government Act 2002 and will be combined with consultation on Greater Wellington's Long Term Plan. This is to reduce the overall costs of consultation. The region's local councils will also be consulting on their respective Long Term Plans at this time.

Advertisements will be placed in the Dominion Post and local papers and a summary document (**Attachment 2**) will be distributed, along with Greater Wellington's Long Term Plan summary document, to all households in the region.

The consultation period for feedback will cover six weeks (including Easter) from 26 Mar to 4 May 2012. All people making submissions will be offered the opportunity to be heard in support of their submission.

6. Establishment of subcommittee to consider submissions

A subcommittee is an efficient option for hearing a number of submitters and considering submissions in some detail. It is recommended that a *Regional Land Transport Programme Hearing Subcommittee* be established to consider submissions on the draft RLTP.

The subcommittee will be scheduled for a full day session on 28 May 2012, with 1 June 2012 as a reserve day. The subcommittee will report back recommending a final RLTP to the Regional Transport Committee on 22 June 2012.

All members of the Regional Transport Committee are eligible for appointment to the subcommittee. However, as the objective and cultural interest representatives on the Regional Transport Committee do not have voting rights on the RLTP (refer section 9 below) they are not being recommended for membership of the hearing subcommittee. The terms of reference for the subcommittee are set out in **Attachment 4**.

It is recommended that at least four Committee members be appointed to the Subcommittee to ensure appropriate coverage in the event of illness or any absence. It is recommended that the Chair of the Regional Transport Committee to be appointed as chairperson of the Subcommittee.

7. Next steps

The final RLTP must be adopted by Greater Wellington by the end of June 2012. The key steps leading to adoption in June are as follows.

Committee decision	Timing
Committee approve draft RLTP for consultation and appoint subcommittee to hear submissions	9 March
Consultation period	26 March to 4 May 2012
Subcommittee to hear submissions	28 May 2012 (with 1 June as reserve date)
Committee approve and recommend final RLTP to GW for adoption	22 June 2012
GW adopt final RLTP	27 June 2012

8. Communication

Communications are planned in accordance with the Community Engagement Plan as discussed above.

9. 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.

10. Recommendations

That the Regional Transport Committee:

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Notes the content of the report.*
3. *Approves the draft Regional Land Transport Programme 2012-15 (Attachment 1) and Summary of draft Regional land Transport Programme 2012-15 (Attachment 2) for public consultation.*
4. *Approves the Community Engagement Plan for the draft Regional land Transport Programme as set out in Attachment 3.*
5. *Delegates to the Chair of the Regional Transport Committee authority to approve minor editorial amendments to the draft Regional Land Transport Programme 2012-15 and Summary of draft Regional land Transport Programme 2012-15.*
6. *Establishes a Regional Land Transport Programme Hearing Subcommittee to consider submissions on the draft Regional Land Transport Programme 2012-15 and make recommendations to the Regional Transport Committee in accordance with the Terms of Reference in Attachment 4.*
7. *Appoints Councillor Fran Wilde to the Regional Land Transport Programme Hearing Subcommittee as the chairperson and other members as agreed by the Regional Transport Committee.*

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Attachment 1: Draft Regional Land Transport Programme 2012-15

Attachment 2: Summary Document for draft Regional land Transport Programme 2012-15

Attachment 3: Community Engagement Plan for the draft Regional Land Transport Programme 2012-15

Attachment 4: Terms of Reference for the Regional Land Transport Programme Hearing Subcommittee