Regional Public Transport Plan Development Subcommittee
OPEN MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Regional Public Transport Plan Development Subcommittee held in Council Chambers, Waikato Regional Council, 401 Grey Street on Monday 30 July 2018 at 10.01am.

Present:
Members
Waikato Regional Council  Cr R Rimmington (Chair)
Hamilton City Council     Cr D Macpherson
                       Cr L Tooman
(Regional Transport Committee Members)  Cr J Bannon – Waipa District Council
                                        Cr T Adams – Hauraki District Council
NZ Transport Agency      M Kettle

In Attendance:
Waikato Regional Council Staff  M Garrett (Chief Financial Officer)
                                A Wilson (Manager Public Transport)
                                B McMaster (Team Leader, Transport and Infrastructure)
                                V Kuo (Senior Policy Advisor)
                                T Bio (Democracy Advisor)
Hamilton City Council Staff  K Johns (Strategic Transport Planner)
Opening welcome by Chair Rimmington who emphasised the strategic importance for Public Transport in the Waikato of the draft document that would be presented today.

**Apologies**

Apologies were conveyed from Cr D Fulton, Cr G Webber and Cr H Vercoe for their absence.

Cr Macpherson moved/Cr Tooman seconded.

**RPTPDS18/11**

THAT the apologies from Cr Fulton, Cr Webber and Cr Vercoe be accepted.

The motion was put and carried (RPTPDS18/11)

**Confirmation of Agenda**

(Agenda Item 2)

Cr Adams moved/Cr Macpherson seconded.

**RPTPDS18/12**

THAT the agenda of the meeting of the Regional Public Transport Plan Development Subcommittee of 30 July 2018, as circulated, be confirmed as the business for the meeting.

The motion was put and carried (RPTPDS18/12)

**Disclosures of Interest**

(Agenda Item 3)

There were no disclosures of interest.

**Minutes of Previous Meeting**

(Agenda Item 3) Doc # 12412264

The minutes were taken as read.

Cr Macpherson moved/Cr Adams seconded.

**RPTPDS18/13**

THAT the Minutes of the Regional Public Transport Plan Development Subcommittee meeting of 18 May 2018 be received and approved as a true and correct record.

The motion was put and carried (RPTPDS18/13)
Section B (For recommendation to Council)

Endorsement of the Draft Regional Public Transport Plan 2018-2028
(Agenda Item 4) Doc # 10963331

A Wilson (Public Transport Manager) and V Kuo (Policy Advisor) provided a powerpoint presentation (Doc 12829486) to the Regional Public Transport Plan Subcommittee for the endorsement of the draft Regional Public Transport Plan 2018 – 2028 (the Plan).

During questions, answers and related discussion by the Subcommittee the following points were noted:

- City and district Councils were encouraged to ensure appropriate funding provision for bus stops/shelters is included in their future annual and long term plans. Members suggested that this matter should be referred to the Regional Transport Committee to emphasise the importance of quality bus infrastructure in improving end-to-end journey experiences, and to ensure that suitable provisions are made in City and district councils’ annual plans/long term plans to support the implementation of the RPTP.

- Members were directed to page 13 of the Plan (page 37 of the Agenda) where staff discussed the phased implementation approach. A member referred to the Hamilton Network Concept diagram on page 14 of the Plan (page 38 of the Agenda) and suggested that growth areas such as Tamahere, Horotiu, Lake Rotokauri, Te Kowhai and Gordonton should also be identified in the diagram.

- A member noted that the hours of operation as specified in table 3.2 (6am-11pm weekdays and 7am to 9pm weekends) may need to be extended, particularly in the morning to enable bus connections with the proposed passenger rail service between Auckland and Hamilton. Staff responded that table 3.2 was included as a reference to the standard service levels for each of the network layers, and they are subject to change depending on local context, demand and funding availability. It was noted that a footnote will be included in table 3.2 to clarify this.

- In terms of the network approach to Hamilton (transitioning towards a mass transit network), members were advised that this is aligned with the current central government priorities, particularly with an increased focus on public transport and mode neutrality. Members were advised that the One Network Steering Group was looking into governance arrangements for the Mass Transit plan.

- Members were directed to page 23 of the Plan (page 47 of the Agenda), specifically Policy 16 in relation to how Council would seek to better integrate the delivery of Ministry of Education school transport services and publicly funded bus services. It was noted that stronger collaboration between local government and central government agencies (i.e. Ministry of Education and NZTA) is needed in order to deliver the best transport outcomes for the community. It was suggested that Policy 16 be strengthened to ensure the Council is properly consulted (at both political and staff level), and that any changes to the Ministry-funded school services will result in better value for money outcomes from a whole of government perspective (rather than a transfer of costs to local government).

- Staff directed discussion to the issue of public ride-share on page 23 of the Plan (page 47 of the Agenda) which contained policies that enabled the
implementation and management of public ride-share (demand responsive) services. A member asked if the proposed public ride-share service will be eligible for NZ Transport Agency funding. It was noted that whilst NZTA does not have a clear position on this, the current policy does not prevent this activity to be funded under the NLTP. NZ Transport Agency representative M Kettle noted she would take this back to NZ Transport Agency for discussion regarding the public ride-share service and what the funding approval processes would look like.

- The topic of community support on page 24 of the Plan (page 48 of the Agenda) was discussed. A member noted that supporting community transport services was important. The member suggested that the Council could provide support by way of its purchasing powers to obtain best value for the purchase of community transport vehicles and hoist equipment and/or procuring professional services and training resources. It was suggested by members that Policy 24 should be amended to reflect this.

- Staff directed the Committee to page 28 of the Plan (page 52 of the Agenda) which discussed Interregional passenger rail. Members agreed to include Auckland Transport in policy 43 as a potential lead agency for the shared services arrangement. Staff discussed table 3.4 Passenger Rail phased development on page 29 of the Plan (page 53 of the Agenda). Table 3.4 would be taken to Auckland-Hamilton Transport Connections Working Party for consideration which would then feed into the Passenger Rail Detailed Business Case. Staff emphasised that this was a draft table and may be changed once it went to the working party which the members acknowledged.

- Members turned to 3.3 Objective 3: Provide the infrastructure necessary for an accessible, effective and efficient public transport network on page 30 of the Plan (page 54 of the Agenda). In relation to Mass Transit identified in policy 45, a member suggested that there is a need to provide for dedicated bus priority measures on the Hamilton to Cambridge corridor to avoid congestion. It was suggested the development of a Mass Transit Plan may help to guide future land use development in the city (i.e. intensifications around key transport nodes), and in turn may also attract funding from private developers.

- Members were directed to 3.6 Objective 6: Provide public transport services that are affordable for passengers and funders on page 35 of the Plan (page 59 of the Agenda). Members noted that P74 would be amended to include support for the investigation of applying for regional/sub-regional fuel tax as a way to reduce reliance on passenger fares and public subsidy.

- With respect to the ride-share structure, members noted that the idea was to provide the public and organisations with the platform to self-organise themselves. An example was given of patients who require transport from their residence to the hospital. It was suggested that this structure would enable the hospital booking officer to book appointments as well as tap into the ride-share system and make the appropriate transport booking. It was further noted that there would be checks and measures in place to ensure that those that offer transport services are suitable and appropriate providers.

- The Chair requested the Plan include a policy to pay the Living Wage to Bus drivers. Staff advised that the current Waikato Regional Council position on this matter was that it was a national issue impacting multiple funder parties and Council was awaiting the direction from the Ministry of transport on this matter.
Further the matter was due to be reported back to the September Public transport Joint committee meeting.

- Overall the members were satisfied and supported the endorsement of Draft Regional Public Transport Plan 2018-2028 for recommendation to Council for adoption and public consultation.

Cr Adams moved/Cr Macpherson seconded.

RPTPDS18/14

That the Regional Public Transport Plan Development Subcommittee:


2. Receive the Draft Waikato Regional Public Transport Plan 2018-28 (attached as a separate document) and the Draft Summary of Proposal document (circulated prior to the meeting), and incorporate feedback of the points raised during the presentation.

3. Endorse the Draft Waikato Regional Public Transport Plan 2018-28, and recommend it to Waikato Regional Council (via the Strategy and Policy Committee) for adoption and public consultation under sections 82 and 83 of the Local Government Act 2002.

4. Delegate to the Chair of the Regional Public Transport Plan Development Subcommittee authority to approve any typographical, grammatical and formatting changes to the Draft Waikato Regional Public Transport Plan 2018-28, along with any amendments approved at the RPTP Development Subcommittee meeting prior to its adoption by Waikato Regional Council.

5. Endorse the Draft Summary of Proposal document and recommend its adoption by the Waikato Regional Council for public consultation.

The motion was put and carried (RPTPDS18/14)

The Chair thanked the Committee and staff for their support and commitment to the development of the draft Plan.

Meeting closed at 12.16pm.

Doc #9808084