
Minutes of a meeting of the Nelson Regional Transport Committee

Held in the Council Chamber, Civic House, Trafalgar Street,
Nelson

On Friday 1 August 2014, commencing at 1.00pm

Present: Councillor E Davy (Chairperson), Councillors R Copeland and B McGurk, and L Hammond (NZTA)

In Attendance: P Hookham and Kate Styles (NZTA), Group Manager Infrastructure (A Louverdis), Senior Asset Engineer – Transport and Roding (R Palmer), Group Manager Strategy and Environment (C Barton), Contractor – Strategy and Planning (C Pawson), and Administration Adviser (G Brown)

Apology: Her Worship the Mayor R Reese

1. Apology

Resolved

THAT the apology from Her Worship the Mayor be received and accepted.

Davy/McGurk

Carried

2. Confirmation of Order of Business

There was no change to the order of business.

3. Interests

There were no updates to the Interests Register, and no interests were declared in relation to any agenda items.

4. Confirmation of Minutes – 6 June 2014

Document number A1206257, agenda pages 6-12 refer.

Resolved

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Nelson City Council – Regional Transport Committee,

held on 6 June 2014, be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Davy/McGurk

Carried

5. Chairperson's Report

Document number A1222316, agenda pages 13-14 refer.

It was discussed that Councillor McGurk would not be able to attend the additional Regional Transport Committee (RTC) meeting proposed for 12 September 2014.

Councillor Davy, seconded by Councillor McGurk moved

Resolved

THAT the Chairpersons Report (A1222316) be received;

AND THAT the Committee recognises Jenny Chetwynd's service to the Regional Transport Committee and notes Lyndon Hammond as a replacement until further notice;

AND THAT an additional Regional Transport Committee meeting be scheduled for a date in mid September 2014.

Davy/McGurk

Carried

6. New Zealand Transport Agency(NZTA) Regional Report

Document number A1222262, agenda pages 15-19 refer.

Regional Manager, NZTA Lyndon Hammond summarised the main points raised in the NZTA Regional Report.

In response to a question, Senior Asset Engineer, Rhys Palmer informed the Committee that Nelson City Council (NCC) would be making a submission on the Draft Government Policy Statement in accordance with the recent Works and Infrastructure Committee report (A1217533).

Mr Hammond discussed the safety issues in relation to truck rollovers. He advised that NZTA conducted a workshop in Christchurch in relation to raising awareness on this issue. It was suggested a workshop to be in Nelson could be arranged.

In response to a question, Mr Hammond advised that the 50MAX High Productivity Motor Vehicle (HPMV) when utilised would have less impact on the network, and that there are currently online mapping tools available to help identify these routes. Mr Palmer clarified that

Nelson has adopted 50MAX HRMV city wide with exclusions which included bridges in the Maitai Valley. Mr Hammond also advised that 50MAX HPMV allowed the opportunity to carry additional weight by the addition of an extra axle which spreads the load and therefore allows a greater weight to be carried without extra damage to the pavement structure.

Mr Hammond informed the Committee that the central Government had announced an additional funding package for bridge replacements in Marlborough and for the investigation and design of the Southern Link in Nelson.

Councillors raised concerns about the cycle crossing near the junction on SH6 at Quarantine Road. Mr Palmer told the Committee that he had seen draft plans that indicated the existing crossing would remain but be increased in size to better accommodate cyclists.

In response to a question, Mr Hammond advised that investigation, design and consenting of the Southern Link would be conducted over the next 3 – 5 years, and that this work programme was only announced a number of weeks ago. It was discussed that this would be a NZTA lead project but would require NCC support.

7. Top of the South Technical Officers Group – Terms of Reference

Document number A1221247, agenda pages 20-24 refer.

Mr Palmer discussed the Terms of Reference (TOR) from the Technical Officers Group. He advised that the key points from the TOR was to enable strategic direction in the delivery of transport projects from the top of the south region. He advised that this approach enabled opportunities for collaboration and officer support. Mr Palmer tabled the signed TOR (A1228956).

In response to a question, Group Manager Infrastructure, Alec Louverdis informed the Committee that himself, Mr Palmer, NZTA, NCC, Tasman District Council (TDC) and Marlborough District Council (MDC) all attend the officers group and its primary focus was to discuss transport issues which would then be brought to the Works and Infrastructure Committee.

Resolved

THAT the report Top of the South Technical Officers Group – Terms of Reference (A1221247) and its attachments (A1179060) be received.

Davy/McGurk

Carried

8. Regional Land Transport Plan 2015-18

Document number A122058, agenda pages 25-31 refer.

Mr Palmer tabled a document (A1228946). He said that Sections A through to G would be the strategic 'front end' of the Regional Land Transport Plan (RLTP) and describe the strategic thinking. He advised that NZTA were encouraging NCC to have joined up thinking as it would give the region a more collective voice and opportunity to receive maximum investment.

NZTA Planning and Investment Manager, Peter Hookham advised that it had been discussed at TDC's RTC that to ensure all Committee's had fair input to the process it was agreed to participate in a joint RTC to look at the strategic 'front end' of the RLTP. He advised that the joint RTC would be facilitated by an independent Chair who would be provided by NZTA.

It was discussed that SH6 required an upgrade as Nelson was the second highest growth area behind Auckland.

In response to a question, Mr Palmer said that the Public Transport Plan had not yet been developed, but that this would be developed in parallel with the RLTP.

In response to a further question, Mr Palmer clarified that the RLTP was the key vehicle for documenting what was going to happen with funding from the National Land Transport fund, and that the Southern Link investigation was included due to the need to document all significant transport projects from other funds. Mr Hookham informed the Committee that the Southern Link funding would come from the Future Investment Fund, and that any projects over \$5million were classed as significant.

Mr Palmer tabled a document (A1228159) and discussed the proposed programme for community engagement. It was suggested that the special consultative process be brought forward to November/December, and that the hearing and deliberations be heard by Council rather than the Committee, due to time constraints.

Resolved

THAT the report Regional Land Transport Plan 2015-18 (A1222058) be received.

Davy/McGurk

Carried

Recommendation to Council

THAT the strategic "front end" of the Regional Land Transport Plan be written in conjunction with Tasman District Council and Marlborough

District Council, subject to similar agreement by Tasman District and Marlborough District Councils.

Davy/McGurk

Carried

9. Waimea Road/The Ridgeway Intersection Improvements

Document number A1213609, agenda pages 32-38 refer.

Mr Palmer provided background to the report and the safety issues at this intersection. He advised that the investigation was complete and the options of a roundabout or a set of signals imposed significant delays to traffic on Waimea Road. He stated that an alternative option under the safe systems approach would be to consider lowering the speed limit to mitigate the potential for crashes without increasing the peak travel time delay to Waimea Road traffic.

Concerns were raised regarding the bridge near Beatson Road roundabout as the underpass did not meet current design standards, and that this was a major link for pedestrians and cyclists. Mr Palmer informed the Committee that an upgrade was considered with the Waimea Road cycleway but it was expensive at \$300-\$400K and still would not have met design standards.

It was discussed that the Marsden and Ngawhatu Valley developments would increase the use of this intersection along with the eastern suburbs of Richmond.

Councillor Davy, seconded by Councillor McGurk moved

Resolved

THAT the report "Waimea Road/The Ridgeway Intersection Improvements" (A1213609) be received;

AND THAT existing funding be used for future possible options.

Davy/McGurk

Carried

10. Regional Land Transport Programme 2012-2015

Document number A1223552, agenda pages 39-41 refer.

Mr Palmer informed members that the Regional Land Transport Strategy (RLTS) required that the Committee view all status updates which were primarily focussed on the R Fund spend, however not all projects were funded for the RLTP.

In response to a question, Mr Hookham advised that projects were nationally prioritised and that the 'Does not qualify' status projects

had lower profiles and the benefits for these projects would be extremely low.

Resolved

THAT the report Regional Land Transport Programme Status Update (A1223552) and its attachment (A1191076) be received.

McGurk/Copeland

Carried

11. Cable Bay Road Upgrade

Document number A1223605, agenda pages 42-44 refer.

Mr Palmer provided background to this report and how Cable Bay Road had an insufficient width and shoulder support, and this was why it had deteriorated rapidly. He proposed that NZTA fund this upgrade through the RLTP.

In response to a question, Mr Palmer confirmed that it was a 100kph road and that no discussions had taken place with the residents about raising the speed limit back to 100kph at this stage. Mr Palmer also clarified that no comments had not been received from local users through the annual plan process.

Resolved

THAT the report Cable Bay Road Upgrade (A1223605) be received;

AND THAT the upgrade to the first 900m of Cable Bay Road be included in the Regional Land Transport Programme.

Davy/McGurk

Carried

There being no further business the meeting ended at 2.28pm.

Confirmed as a correct record of proceedings:

_____ Chairperson _____ Date