

Minutes of the Regional Transport Committee Meeting held in Mauao Room 2, Bay of Plenty Regional Council Building, 87 First Avenue, Tauranga on Tuesday, 24 April 2018 commencing at 1.00 p.m.

Present:

Chairman: S Crosby (Bay of Plenty Regional Council)

Deputy Chairman: J Nees (Bay of Plenty Regional Council)

Appointees: Mayor S Chadwick (Rotorua Lakes Council), Councillor R Curach (Tauranga City Council), Councillor A Iles (Alternate, Whakatane District Council), Councillor D Thwaites (Western Bay of Plenty District Council)

In Attendance: J Galbraith (Freight Advisor), Inspector B Crowe (Safety Advisor, NZ Police), Councillor T Molloy (Alternate, Tauranga City Council), Councillor L Thurston (Alternate, Bay of Plenty Regional Council), Councillor J Palmer (Alternate, Western Bay of Plenty District Council), G Maloney (Transport Policy Manager), B Healey (Senior Transport Planner), S Rossiter (Communications Manager), P Sisam (Communications Partner), M Hunt (Shine Consultancy), S Kameta (Committee Advisor), attendance in part: N Newman (Principal Advisor)

Apologies: New Zealand Transport Agency: P McLean (Regional Director Waikato/BOP), A Talbot (Alternate); Ōpōtiki District Council: Mayor J Forbes, Councillor K Young (Alternate), Kawerau District Council: Mayor M Campbell, Councillor B Julian (Alternate), Mayor A Bonne (Whakatane District Council)

1 Apologies

Resolved

That the Regional Transport Committee:

- 1 Accepts the apologies of Parekawhia McLean, Alistair Talbot, Mayor John Forbes, Councillor Kevin Young, Mayor Malcolm Campbell, Councillor Berice Julian and Mayor Tony Bonne tendered at the meeting.**

**Crosby/Iles
CARRIED**

2 Acceptance of Late Items and General Business

Nil.

3 **Declaration of conflicts of interest**

Nil.

4 **Reports**

4.1 **Government Policy Statement on Land Transport**

Refer PowerPoint Presentation Objective ID A2857805.

The report sought approval of the submission to the Draft Government Policy Statement on Land Transport (the GPS). Transport Policy Manager Garry Maloney gave a presentation on the GPS and key points within the proposed submission.

The Chair updated members on the recent transport briefing given on the GPS by Ministers' Twyford and Genter and subsequent panel discussions held. Members discussed and made the following comments:

1. Noted misalignment with NLTP funding for the region in proportion to increased walking, cycling and GDP and considered the connection between land use, transport and the capital cost of land was not being taken into account.
2. Positive impact was anticipated on future freight connections between road and rail with KiwiRail investment coming into the Transport Agency programme. The potential for rail and tourism and the need for line integrity were raised.
3. Bay of Connections was the filter for the Regional Investment Fund and was currently looking at three projects: the Kawerau container terminal, the Whakatāne waterfront development (tourism) and Ōpōtiki Harbour access.

Members provided feedback on the submission:

1. Considered there was sufficient justification within the GPS for activity class projects and safety improvement projects to be completed, which needed to be highlighted.
2. The Ministers' reinforcement of the GPS's direction was likely to dismiss funding for the Tauranga Northern Link (TNL), therefore the importance of this project needed to be emphasized. Prioritising of the TNL had not been discussed by the Committee, as it was waiting for clearer direction from the NZ Transport Agency to consider in May.
3. The submission should link with language used in the GPS and highlight the significant investment already made on committed projects.
4. Satisfied that safety was the top priority.
5. Observed underfunding within the NLTP should be noted.
6. Road pricing was undervalued and should be incorporated.
7. The submission should represent the wider Bay of Plenty region.
8. The GPS should look at ways to incentivise freight routes using modes of transport at certain times and give higher criteria for public transport.
9. FAR rates needed to be considered with the shift in new investments.

10. Opportunities for passenger rail in the region should be included in the submission.

The Chair requested that staff make the necessary amendments to the submission in response to the Committee's feedback and circulate the amended submission to the Committee for comment.

Resolved

That the Regional Transport Committee:

- 1 **Receives the report, Government Policy Statement on Land Transport;**
- 2 **Approves the appended submission on the Draft Government Policy Statement on Land Transport for 2018/19 to 2027/28, subject to any amendments arising from the meeting.**
- 3 **Delegate authority to the Regional Transport Committee Chairman to authorise and approve the final submission, subject to any further amendments following circulation and comments received from the Regional Transport Committee.**

**Nees/Curach
CARRIED**

4.2 Regional Fuel Tax

The report sought approval of the submission on the proposed Regional Fuel Tax. Transport Policy Manager Garry Maloney clarified that supporting the change in the legislation would not commit the region to using it, but would make it available as a potential funding source.

Members supported the submission to consider all funding tools and for the following matters to be included as commentary:

- Consideration should be given to obtaining revenue and influencing driver behaviour through legislative change to trigger advancements in technology; and to consider GPS based systems for road pricing. Advancements in technology overseas had seen a shift from gantry charging to GPS systems was noted.
- Regional Fuel Tax should benefit those who pay for it and have regard to social equity issues, particularly in areas of high deprivation.

Resolved

That the Regional Transport Committee:

- 1 **Receives the report, Regional Fuel Tax;**
- 2 **Approves the appended submission that supports the Land Transport Management (Regional Fuel Tax) Amendment Bill.**
- 3 **Delegate authority to the Regional Transport Committee Chairman to authorise and approve the final submission, subject to any further**

amendments following circulation and comments received from the Regional Transport Committee.

**Iles/Crosby
CARRIED**

4.3 KiwiRail Becoming an Approved Public Organisation

The report sought approval of the submission on KiwiRail becoming an approved public organisation.

Resolved

That the Regional Transport Committee:

- 1 Receives the report, KiwiRail Becoming an Approved Public Organisation;**
- 2 Approves the appended submission that supports KiwiRail becoming an Approved Public Organisation.**

**Chadwick/Nees
CARRIED**

The meeting closed at 2:01 pm.