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Report 00.903

14 December 2000

File: E/6/19/2

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Report of the Meeting of the Passenger Transport Committee held in the Wellington Regional Council Chamber, The Regional Council Centre, 142-146 Wakefield Street, Wellington on Thursday, 14 December 2000 at 9.30am

Matters for Council Decision are shown in bold type and enclosed in a box.
Matters for Information of Council are in italic type.

Present

Councillors McDavitt (Chairperson), Allen, Bonner, Buchanan, Gibson, McQueen, Shields and Turver and Councillor Foster (WCC)

Officers Present

Messrs Brennand, Bodnar, Cross, Darroch, Davey, Grace, Waddington and Dr Watson

Also Present

Councillors Shaw and Werry

Public Business

Procedural Items

PT 139 **Apologies**

Resolved

(Cr McDavitt/Cr Turver)

That the apology from Councillor Macaskill and the apology for lateness from Councillor Bonner be confirmed.

PT 140 **Public Participation**

There were no members of the public who wished to participate in the meeting.

PT 141 **Confirmation of Minutes**

Public Excluded Minutes 1 November 2000 - Councillor Foster

Members noted Councillor Foster was present at the start of the public excluded part of the 1 November 2000 meeting but left before discussion on the substantive item.

Resolved

(Cr Turver/Cr Allen)

That the public and public excluded minutes of the meetings of 1 November 2000, Report 00.795, and Report PE00.796, as amended, be confirmed, the public excluded business to remain confidential.

Public Excluded Minutes 1 November 2000

Members noted the public excluded minutes of 1 November 2000 about the Urban Rail Contract was now a public document following a resolution of Council on 4 December 2000.

Matters for Information

PT142 **Implications of Financing Options for Transmission Gully on Passenger Transport Planning**

Report 00.885

File: T/7/1/6

Rail Improvements

Councillor Foster asked what were the projected roading congestion impacts as a result of the proposed Western Line Rail Improvements? Councillor McDavitt requested officers to circulate the answer in writing to Councillor Foster and members of the Committee.

Councillor Foster left at 10.00am

Councillor Bonner arrived at 10.10am

Resolved (Cr McDavitt/Cr McQueen)

That this report be received and the policy of the Regional Land Transport Strategy be endorsed.

PT143 Kick Start Funding

Report 00.864

File: T/2/11/8

Resolved (Cr Shields/Cr McQueen)

- (1) *That it be noted that the Kick Start Funding application be sent to Transfund New Zealand on 4 December 2000.*
- (2) *That it be noted that the Newlands bus service alterations have received Kick Start funding approval and will be implemented later this month.*
- (3) *That it be noted that the baseline funding negotiation will be entered into early next year.*

PT144 Insight into Next Year's Business Plan

Dr Watson circulated three pages that provided additional information on the expected Business Plan in relation to Transfund Subsidy Support, future Rating and Congestion Pricing relating to the proposed Business Plan for 2001-2010.

Resolved (Cr McQueen/Cr McDavitt)

- (1) *That this report be received.*
- (2) *That Council set out in a letter to Transfund New Zealand, copied to the Minister of Transport, the longer term concerns as set out in paragraph 3 of Report 00.862 including an additional concern about data reliability.*

10.55am Councillor Gibson apologised for his early departure.

Councillors Foster, Shaw and Werry arrived at 10.55am.

Presentation by Mr Brent Efford, Insights on a Light Rail Conference

Mr Efford said he had recently attended the UITP 5th International Rail Conference as a representative of Transport 2000 New Zealand and was grateful to also receive assistance from the Regional Council to attend the conference.

Mr Efford covered five themes applicable to New Zealand and Wellington in particular.

A copy of Mr Efford's papers was circulated to members.

Presentation by Councillor Allen, Petone Railway Station Interchange Upgrade

Councillor Allen gave a presentation on progress to date on the Petone Railway Station Interchange Upgrade and referred to the new concept plans on display in the Council Chamber.

Councillor Allen said the concept plans will be discussed with the working group and stakeholders with a decision by the end of March 2001.

Councillor Allen noted the proposal was item 3 on the Infrastructure Projects list.

Resolved (Cr McQueen/Cr Shields)

That this report from Councillor Allen be received and note that costings for the project will be available in March next year.

PT145 **Public Transport Update**

Report 00.900 File: T/10/1/1

Resolved (Cr McDavitt/Cr McQueen)

That the report be received and the information noted.

PT146 **Divisional Manager's Report – December 2000**

Report 00.857 File: E/6/19/3

Infrastructure Update

Councillor Turver asked why there was no comment on bus shelters for Kapiti?

Dr Watson said there had been a report in preparation which had been withdrawn from the present agenda to further consider whether a change could be made to the present policy. Dr Watson said he will report on bus shelter policy to the next meeting.

Holiday Break

Councillor McDavitt thanked members and staff, including staff who did not attend meetings, for their assistance during the year and wished all a happy and enjoyable Christmas break.

Resolved (Cr McDavitt/Cr Buchanan)

That the information be received.

PT147 **Update on the Wellington Interchange Upgrade**

Report 00.886 File: T/8/2/7

Dr Watson tabled and circulated a letter from Mr Ian Hunter, Regional Manager, Transfund New Zealand, dated 8 December 2000, declining any Transfund subsidy for the Wellington Passenger Transport Interchange.

Members expressed disappointment and requested Councillor McDavitt to liaise with the Chairperson of the Regional Council and Mayor Blumsky for a meeting with the Minister of Transport about consistencies in Transfund New Zealand's funding policy.

Resolved (Cr McDavitt/Cr McQueen)

- (1) *That the report be received*
- (2) *That Councillor McDavitt and officers liaise over a strategy to address the funding issues for Alternative to Roading Projects.*

Other Matters

PT148 Questions

There were no questions.

PT149 General

Transmission Gully Funding

Dr Watson said members have been given a copy of the PriceWaterhouse Coopers-Sinclair Knight Merz Report on Procurement Financing and Funding for Transmission Gully prior to today's meeting. The Chairperson of Council will forward a copy to the Minister of Transport tomorrow with a covering letter explaining the linkages to the options for the funding and construction of Transmission Gully. Copies will also be sent to other Ministers and Members of Parliament and interested parties.

Hutt Corridor Plan (Transmission Gully)

Councillor Werry asked if a link road between Hutt City and Porirua became a serious proposition what effect this would have on Transmission Gully?

Councillor McDavitt said the technical report on the Hutt Corridor Plan for the next meeting of the Land Transport Committee, will address this issue.

Next Steps (Transmission Gully)

Members noted the resolution of the last meeting of the Regional Land Transport Committee on 23 November 2000 for members to report back to the next meeting on 15 March 2001 on whether they support continued action on the early construction of Transmission Gully.

Councillor McDavitt advised that in response to several inquiries, particularly from Regional Councillors who were not members of the Transport Committee who wished

to participate in discussing the matter, it would be appropriate to hold a workshop on the subject of Transmission Gully in the New Year prior to the Regional Land Transport Committee meeting.

New Zealand Local Government Association and Transport Matters

Councillor Shields said Government policy announcements were expected in the near future and it would be appropriate to report to the next meeting.

Public Excluded Business

Councillor McDavitt said Urban Rail Negotiations was the only item for consideration at today's meeting and as it had been discussed at the Council meeting on 7 December 2000 and as there was no new information available at this time there was no need to consider the item today.

The meeting closed at 12.55pm.

T J McDAVITT
Chairperson

Date:

Wellington Regional Council – 1 February 2001

To be moved:

That the report of the meeting of the Passenger Transport Committee held 14 December 2000 Items PT 139 to PT149 inclusive be adopted.
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