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## **Report 01.563**

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Report to the Passenger Transport Committee  
By Anthony Cross, Manager Public Transport

## **Public Transport Update**

### **1. Purpose**

To update the Committee on recent developments and work in progress in the Public Transport Department.

### **2. Rail Service Improvements**

#### **2.1 New Rail Timetables and Connecting Buses**

The new rail timetable will come into effect on Sunday 5 August 2001.

The final decision to implement on this date was taken late, which put enormous pressure on Mana Coach Services in particular, and Cityline Hutt Valley, to change all their bus timetables to match the changes to morning peak train times. Eleven timetable leaflets (in addition to Kapiti) needed to be reprinted, with little or no time to spare for distribution. Consequently there may be some adverse reaction about the lack of notice of these changes.

#### **2.2 Kapiti Coast Bus Improvements**

The timetable booklet for the new Kapiti Coast bus routes will, I hope, be available for distribution at the Committee's meeting.

#### **2.3 Raumati South - Leinster Avenue**

As reported to the Committee's last meeting, Leinster Avenue will no longer be part of the Raumati bus route. Arrangements have been made for residents of the Leinster

Avenue area of Raumati South who have been regular users of the bus service to have access to taxi vouchers at a cost of \$20.00 for a book of ten.

This will be a cheaper option than providing a special scheduled service. The “Leinster Link” scheme will be reviewed once a decision has been made on the construction of the Raumati railway station (which will be opposite the Leinster Avenue/State Highway 1 intersection).

#### 2.4 Paekakariki Shoppers Service

The trial Paekakariki shoppers service will operate on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays to the following timetable:

Paraparaumu Station		12.20
Coastlands		12.23
Leinster Avenue		12.25
Paekakariki Station	9.20	12.35
Paekakariki Beach Road	9.30	12.45
Leinster Avenue	9.40	
Coastlands	9.45	
Paraparaumu Station	9.50	

#### 2.5 Kapiti to Kenepuru and Wellington Hospitals

This service will operate on Tuesdays and Thursdays to the following timetable:

	AM	PM
Paraparaumu Hospital	8.25	
Paraparaumu Station	8.30	
Paekakariki	8.45	
Pukerua Bay	8.57	
Porirua Station	9.10	
Kenepuru Hospital	9.20	
Wellington Hospital	10.00	2.00
Kenepuru Hospital		2.40
Porirua Station		2.50
Pukerua Bay		3.07
Paekakariki		3.15
Paraparaumu Station		3.30
Paraparaumu Hospital		3.35

It is important to restate that the success of this service is dependent on Capital and Coast District Health Board’s ability to provide Kapiti people with specialist appointments to fit in with the bus timetable.

#### 2.6 Otaki Bus Service

Information about the current Otaki bus services operated by Thompsons Passenger Services and Blue Penguin Coaches is included in the Kapiti Coast timetable booklet.

There are currently two requests for tender for trial services for Otaki. One is for up to three commuter services from Otaki Beach to Paraparaumu on weekday mornings and up to three return services in the afternoons. The other is for a Saturday service from Otaki to Paraparaumu and return, in response to a request from the Kapiti Youth Council.

## 2.7 **Kapiti After Midnight service**

Andrea Houchen and I have met again with the Council of Youth in Kapiti, who are of the view that, at \$10.00, the fare on the Kapiti After Midnight service was too high to encourage greater use. They understood therefore that the service will operate for the last time when the trial contract ends on Sunday 30 September 2001.

However, the new train timetable fills the notorious gap in the weekend evening timetables by providing hourly trains from Wellington to Paraparaumu until 1.00am on both Saturday and Sunday mornings.

## 2.8 **Kapiti School Buses**

There are likely to be changes to Ministry of Education-funded school bus services in Waikanae and Paraparaumu from the beginning of the next school year, but these have yet to be notified to us.

## 2.9 **Porirua–Hutt Valley via SH58**

The “Haywards Connection” service between Porirua and Upper Hutt will begin on Monday 6 August 2001. The timetable will be distributed at the meeting. Matching signs are being put up at 75 stops along the route to promote the service. Staff of Unibag New Zealand Ltd, which is in the process of moving its plant from Porirua to the old Coca Cola site at Refreshment Place, Upper Hutt, are expected to be an early source of custom for the new service.

## 2.10 **Hutt Valley bus services**

With the exception of revisions to bus-train connections, all Hutt Valley bus service changes have been put on hold pending a review and consultation exercise which will take place in the first half of 2002.

## 3. **Passenger Survey 2001**

Members of the Committee were sent copies of this year’s survey report with the Councillors’ Bulletin back in May. The responses to the standard questions were consistent with those in previous years. Of particular interest was the strong level of support, from both bus and train passengers, for the Council to be part of the new ownership of the Region’s rail passenger services. With respect to infrastructure, 29% of bus and 21% of train passengers responded that there was no adequate shelter at their bus stop/railway station from wind, rain or sun; 41% of bus and 55% of train passengers thought there was not enough seating.

## 4. **Recommendations**

*That this report be received.*

Report prepared by:

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