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**Committee** Ara Tahi  
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## **Nomination of Ara Tahi representative to the Regional Land Transport Committee**

### **1. Purpose**

To provide Ara Tahi with information on the process for nominating a representative to the Regional Land Transport Committee.

### **2. Background**

On 16 June 2004, an iwi technical workshop was held to outline recent changes to the Transport Act 1998 and how this affects Iwi/Māori. Günther Wild, Access Planning Analyst, made a presentation supported by Dave Watson, Divisional Manager - Transport and Terry McDavitt, Chairperson, Regional Land Transport Committee.

During the workshop Günther, Terry and Dave outlined provisions in the new Transport Act, especially s178(2) which requires the formation of the Regional Land Transport Committee (RLTC). The RLTC is responsible for developing the Regional Land Transport Strategy and representatives will be required to attend formal RLTC meetings four times per year.

The requirement for the RLTC to have a representative for cultural interests was also discussed. Use of the term 'cultural interests' was seen as being problematic because it was too broad and not specific to Tangata Whenua or Māori. Although there was general consensus on this view, Council wanted to ensure that Tangata Whenua had the option of representation on the RLTC and saw Ara Tahi as an avenue for this to occur.

This was also discussed at the Ara Tahi hui on 25 August and iwi indicated an interest in nominating a representative to the RLTC.

### **3. Discussion**

At the Ara Tahi hui on 25 August, Iwi indicated an interest in putting forward a nominee for the RLTC, however it was resolved that this would be done when Ara Tahi meet to discuss representation on Council Committees. This is not

possible because there is insufficient time to have a hui before the RLTC are due to meet. Therefore, urgency is required to elect a nominee from Ara Tahi to the RLTC. There are two scheduled meetings of the RLTC before the end of 2004.

If Ara Tahi wish to be represented on the RLTC a process needs to be defined and a nominee put forward. The person nominated will sit on the RLTC representing cultural interests. Other areas represented on the RLTC include access and mobility, public health, safety and personal security and economic development.

#### **4. Conclusion**

Transport infrastructure and planning will be one of the biggest issues facing the region over the next 3 years. Greater Wellington plays an important role in this process. By having representation on the RLTC, Iwi will be able to participate in future transport planning processes and strategies. There are opportunities for representatives to become more aware of significant projects that will affect Māori and report these back to Ara Tahi.

If Ara Tahi is not represented on the RLTC there is a risk that the cultural interests of the RLTC will not reflect the views of Iwi or Māori. Iwi representation on the RLTC is an opportunity to ensure that the views of Tangata Whenua are considered in transport planning and that Iwi are kept informed during the entire process.

#### **5. Recommendation**

*It is recommended that Ara Tahi:*

- 1. **Receive** the report;*
- 2. **Note** the contents; and*
- 3. **Nominate** a representative to sit on the Regional Land Transport Committee.*

Report prepared by:

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