

Date 17 June 2020, 11am

Venue: Taranaki Regional Council, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford

Document: 2456153

Present	Councillors	Matthew McDonald	TRC (Chairperson)
		Tom Cloke	TRC
		Harry Duynhoven	NPDC
	Mayor	Neil Volzke	SDC
	Ms	Emma Speight	NZTA
Attending	Messrs	Mike Nield	(Director – Corporate Services TRC)
		Chris Clarke	(Transport Manager TRC)
	Ms	Fiona Ritson	(Policy Analyst TRC)
		Liesl Davidson	(Committee Administrator TRC)
	Messrs	Ross I’ Anson	(New Zealand Transport Agency)
		David Perry	(New Zealand Transport Agency)
		Steve Bowden	(Stratford District Council)
		Rui Leitao	(New Plymouth District Council)
	Ms	Charlotte Littlewood	(Taranaki Trails Trust)
			(Venture Taranaki)
	Ms	Stacey Hitchcock	(Taranaki Trails Trust)
	Mr	Ian Armstrong	(Taranaki Trails Trust)
	Councillor	Colin Johnston	(New Plymouth District Council)
	Mr	Peter Ledingham	(Communications Adviser TRC)
	Mr	Richie Arber	(NZ Road Carriers Association)

One member of the media, Mr Mike Watson, Taranaki Daily News.

Apologies Apologies were received from Mayor Phil Nixon and Councillor Robert Northcott, South Taranaki District Council.

Notification of Late Items There were no late items.

1. Confirmation of Minutes – 11 September 2019

Resolves

That the Regional Transport Committee of the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) takes as read and confirms the minutes and resolutions of the Regional Transport Committee meeting of the Taranaki Regional Council held in Taranaki Regional Council chambers, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford, on Wednesday 11 September 2019 at 11am
- b) notes that the minutes of the Taranaki Regional Transport Committee meeting held in Taranaki Regional Council chambers, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford, on Wednesday 11 September 2019 at 11am were authenticated by the Regional Transport Committee Chairperson, C S Williamson and the Taranaki Regional Council Chief Executive, B G Chamberlain, pursuant to standing orders.
- c) notes that the unconfirmed minutes of the Regional Transport Committee meeting held at Taranaki Regional Council chambers, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford, on Wednesday 11 September 2019 at 11am, have been circulated to the New Plymouth District Council, Stratford District Council and South Taranaki District Council for their receipt and information.

Cloke/Volzke

Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

2. Key Functions and Terms of Reference

- 2.1 Mr M J Nield, Director – Corporate Services, spoke to the memorandum updating members on the Terms of Reference and the functions of the Regional Transport Committee and Regional Transport Advisory Group, noting that the terms of reference went to the Taranaki Regional Council due to COVID-19.

Resolves

That the Regional Transport Committee of the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) notes the role of regional transport committees, as required by the *Land Transport Management Act 2003*
- b) receives for information purposes the Terms of Reference for the Regional Transport Committee for Taranaki
- c) receives for information purposes the Terms of Reference for the Regional Transport Advisory Group for Taranaki
- d) notes the decision by Stratford District Council to again join the Taranaki region in respect of transport matters, and that a Memorandum of Understanding has been completed to formalise this arrangement.

Cloke/Volzke

3. Overview of Regional Transport Core Work Programme

- 3.1 Mr M J Nield, Director – Corporate Services, spoke to the memorandum to provide an overview of regional transport and the committee core work programme for the new triennium noting items that are included for information.

Recommends

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the memorandum Overview of Regional Transport and Core Work Programme.

Duynhoven/Speight

4. Minutes Regional Transport Advisory Group

Mr M J Nield, Director – Corporate Services spoke to the memorandum introducing the minutes from the RTAG group meetings from November, March and May.

Resolves

That the Regional Transport Committee of the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the confirmed minutes of the Taranaki Regional Advisory Group meeting held on Wednesday 6 November 2019
- b) receives the confirmed minutes of the Taranaki Regional Advisory Group meeting held on Wednesday 4 March 2020
- c) receives the unconfirmed minutes of the Taranaki Regional Advisory Group meeting held on Wednesday 27 May 2020.

Cloke/Volzke

Matters Arising

Ahititi stock effluent disposal site is being designed at the moment. It needs to be completed by 1 June 2021 and is progressing well.

It was clarified that the safety improvements of Egmont Road in 27 May minutes does not refer to Devon Road/Egmont Road intersection.

5. Minutes of State Highway 3 Working Party – 20 September 2019

- 5.1 Mr M J Nield, Director - Corporate Services, spoke to the memorandum updating members on the postponements and rescheduling of these meetings, the next meeting is going to be held late July or early August with the potential to include a site visit to the Awakino tunnel bypass and work sites.

Resolves

That the Taranaki Regional Transport Committee of the Taranaki Regional Council :

- a) receives the unconfirmed minutes of the State Highway 3 Working Party meeting held on Friday 20 September 2019 at the St Johns Ambulance Rooms in Mōkau

- b) notes the State Highway 3 Working Party meeting planned for Friday 1 May is in the process of being rescheduled, with timing dependent on update availability from key project staff of the New Zealand Transport Agency
- c) notes the second meeting of the State Highway 3 Working Party for 2020 is scheduled for Friday 6 November.

Cloke/Duynhoven

Matters arising

The SH3WP Project List was raised, with the NZ Transport Agency needing to advise how the listed projects were being progressed.

6. Request to Vary the Regional Land Transport Plan for Taranaki: Mid-term Review 2018/2019 – 2020/2021

- 6.1 Mr S Bowden, Roading Asset Manager, Stratford District Council, spoke to the memorandum seeking approval of a request to vary the *Regional Land Transport Plan for Taranaki: Mid-term Review 2018/2019-2020/21*.
- 6.2 This extension connects key areas of the Stratford township increasing accessibility for the community. Currently to get from the north-west to the south-west people have to travel back to the highway to get there. Emergency services would also benefit from this as an alternate route as at peak traffic hours the highway can be gridlocked through Stratford.
- 6.3 The extension would also create longer term benefits and options for future development around the area.
- 6.4 As it is a residential area it would not be a high use heavy traffic thoroughfare.
- 6.5 The project does not align with Stratford District Councils significance policy so community consultation would have to be undertaken.

Recommends

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the memorandum, Request to Vary the *Regional Land Transport Plan for Taranaki: Mid-term review 2018/19-2020/21*
- b) agrees to the requested variation to the *Regional Land Transport Plan for Taranaki: Mid-term Review 2018/19-2020/21*, made by the Stratford District Council, to add a new project 'Brecon Road Extension'
- c) adopts this variation to the *Regional Land Transport Plan for Taranaki: Mid-term Review 2018/19-2020/21* and forwards it on to the NZ Transport Agency.

Volzke/Cloke

7. Regional Land Transport Plan: Annual Monitoring Report for 2018/19

- 7.1 Mr M J Nield, Director – Corporate Services, spoke to the memorandum presenting Members with the *Regional Land Transport Plan for Taranaki 2015/19-2020/21: Annual Monitoring Report for 2018/19*.

Recommends

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives and adopts the *Regional Land Transport Plan to Taranaki 2015/16-2020/21: Annual Monitoring Report for 2018/19*.

Cloke/Duynhoven

8. Taranaki Trails Trust Presentation

- 8.1 Ms Charlotte Littlewood, Ms Stacey Hitchcock and Mr Ian Armstrong, Trustees of the Taranaki Trails Trust, spoke to the memorandum providing a presentation to updating Members on the Trust's activities and to advise how they intend to work in to the next Regional Land Transport Plan.
- 8.2 It was suggested that horse trails be considered within the scope of the Trust's work, where feasible.

Recommends

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives with thanks the presentation by the Taranaki Trails Trust on their activities
- b) supports in principle the intent to create a shared regional vision for trails in Taranaki as part of developing the *Regional Land Transport Plan for Taranaki 2021/22-2026/27*.

Volzke/McDonald

9. Taranaki 2050 Roadmap

- 9.1 Charlotte Littlewood, Venture Taranaki, spoke to the report providing Members with an update on the transport-related aspects of the Taranaki 2050 project.

Mr Ian Armstrong left the meeting 11.47am

Recommends

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the update from Venture Taranaki on the transport-related aspects of the Taranaki 2050 project.

Cloke/Duynhoven

Ms Stacey Hitchcock and Ms Charlotte Littlewood left the meeting 11.52am

10. Updates on Ministry of Transport Workstreams Including Development of GPS 2021

- 10.1 Mr M J Nield, Director – Corporate Services, spoke to the memorandum for Members to seek endorsement of the regional submission on the draft *Government Policy Statement on Land Transport (GPS) 2021*, which was previously circulated by email to allow the Committee's consideration prior to the submission closing.
- 10.2 Members were updated on other key work programmes of the Ministry of Transport, including the Future of Rail project and the Tackling Unsafe Speeds Programme.
- 10.3 Thanks was extended to those who assisted with the submission.

Recommends

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the memorandum, Updates on Ministry of Transport Workstreams including Development of GPS 2021
- b) adopts the submission on the draft *Government Policy Statement on Land Transport (GPS) 2021*.

Duynhoven/Cloke

11. New Zealand Transport Agency Regional Report and State Highway Project Updates

- 11.1 Ms E Speight, New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA), spoke to the memorandum, providing the committee with a presentation updating the Committee on New Zealand Transport Agency's activities nationally and regionally, including state highway projects of significance in the region.
- 11.2 COVID-19 had a significant impact on the highway roading projects in Taranaki. The teams have worked hard to get back up and running.
- 11.3 Version 1.1 of Arataki is out now and NZTA are working on Version 2. It is great to get input from the regions and Councils.
- 11.4 The transport performance and investment reports are due out in June.
- 11.5 The Innovating Streets Pilot Fund is now open for the second round of submissions. This fund is for temporary projects not permanent.
- 11.6 NZTA are looking to provide more guidance and case studies as to what has been done in other regions on the Urban Development Programme.
- 11.7 NZTA are looking at Accessible Streets and how the use of footpaths has changed and looking at whether footpaths are still safe for the elderly and disabled.
- 11.8 Regionally \$9.6million has been funded by the Provincial Growth Fund for the sealing of Tangarakau Gorge. The design is currently underway and NZTA are looking to support local contractors. The committee felt that it would be preferred that the highway be sealed as wide as possible to ensure safety for people needing to pull over. There are some areas where the road cannot possibly go wider than the 5m as they need to keep within the road corridor. If they go outside the corridor this would then slow the project down.
- 11.9 State Highway maintenance renewals - The summer season is almost over and mostly complete.
- 11.10 NZTA were complemented on the Moturoa design and consultation of the project.
- 11.11 Mt Messenger bypass - Voting is currently underway. Once the outcome from the Court hearing has been finalised contractors will be able to start work. The final design has gone through processes to ensure the design is as safe as possible.
- 11.12 Awakino Gorge to Mt Messenger - Aiming to improve safety of this area.
- 11.13 Tongaporutu intersection improvements should be completed by December 2020.
- 11.14 Rapanui passing lane is scheduled to start in October and be completed by February 2022.
- 11.15 Waitara to Bell Block Safety improvements include wider centre lines, flexible safety barriers, upgrades at Airport Drive and Princes Street intersections.

11.16 Egmont Road/Devon Road intersection – It was noted that there is nothing in the current capital works programme for upgrades to be made at this intersection. There is no funding for a business case at this time. Members expressed concerns around the safety of this intersection noting that the seagull intersection was only supposed to be a temporary situation. If an opportunity becomes available for funding then it could be looked at but at this stage there is nothing.

Action: Letter to be sent from Chair requesting the specific inclusion of a solution for this intersection is included in the upcoming Transport Agency Investment Proposal.

11.17 Hāwera to New Plymouth – There is currently no funding available for the full project however, some of the improvements for this section can be made under the safety improvements fund.

11.18 NPDC have funding to make improvements to black spot areas along Egmont Road.

Recommends

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

a) receives the presentation provided by the New Zealand Transport Agency.

Cloke/Volzke

12. Developing the Regional Land Transport Plan 2021

12.1 Mr M J Nield, Director – Corporate Services, spoke to the memorandum updating the Committee on the proposed timeline and process for the developing the *Regional Land Transport Plan for Taranaki 2021/22-2026/27* (RLTP 2021).

Recommends

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

a) receives the Memorandum, *Developing the Regional Land Transport Plan 2021*.

Cloke/Duynhoven

13. Public Transport Operational Update for the Quarter Ending 31 March 2020

13.1 Mr C Clarke, Transport Manager, spoke to the memorandum providing Members with an operational update on the public transport services for the quarter ending 31 March 2020.

13.2 NZTA were very supportive of public transport services throughout lockdown, stepping up with funding and support.

13.3 Services were reinstated fully in May and on 25 May fares were reinstated.

13.3 There is currently still a decrease in patronage but this is expected to pick up again soon.

13.4 Mr M J Nield expressed thanks to Mr C Clarke and the operators for the work they put in through lockdown to get the best and most practical transport options in place as soon as possible.

Recommends

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives and notes the operational report for the public transport services for the quarter ending 31 March 2020.

Cloke/Duynhoven

14. Correspondence and Information Items

- 14.1 Mr M J Nield, Director – Corporate Services, spoke to the memorandum updating the committee on correspondence and information items since the last meeting.

Recommends

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives and notes for information purposes the copy of the submission made on the *Land Transport (NZTA) Legislation Amendment Bill* and the accompanying Memorandum to the Council’s Executive, Audit and Risk Committee
- b) receives and notes for information purposes the copy of the submission made by the Transport Special Interest Group on the *Land Transport (Rail) Legislation Amendment Bill*
- c) receives and notes for information purposes the correspondence with KiwiRail
- d) receives and notes for information purposes the correspondence with the NZ Transport Agency
- e) receives the update on the State Highway 43 Improvement Project.

Cloke/Speight

15. General Business

- 15.1 Councillor T Cloke introduced Mr Richie Arber, National Road Carriers, who is based in Palmerston North.

- 15.2 Councillor H Duynhoven introduced Councillor C Johnston who is the NPDC alternate.

There being no further business the Committee Chairperson, Councillor M J McDonald, declared the Regional Transport Committee meeting closed at 1.09pm.

Confirmed

**Taranaki Regional Transport
Committee Chairperson:**

M J McDonald

Wednesday 9 September 2020