

**Minutes of the Regional Transport Committee
Meeting of the Taranaki Regional Council,
held in the Taranaki Regional Council
Chambers, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford on
Wednesday 14 June 2017 commencing at
11.00am.**



Members	Councillor	C S Williamson	(Committee Chairperson)
	Councillor	M J McDonald	(Committee Deputy Chairperson)
	Councillor	H Duynhoven	(New Plymouth District Council)
	Mayor	N Volzke	(Stratford District Council)
	Mayor	R Dunlop	(South Taranaki District Council)
	Ms	P McLean	(NZ Transport Agency)
Attending	Councillor	M J Cloke	
	Messrs	B G Chamberlain	(Chief Executive)
		M J Nield	(Director-Corporate Services)
		G C Severinsen	(Policy and Strategy Manager)
		P Ledingham	(Communications Officer)
	Mrs	F Ritson	(Policy Analyst)
	Mrs	K van Gameren	(Committee Administrator)
	Messrs	R I Anson	(NZ Transport Agency)
		D Langford	(New Plymouth District Council)
		S Bowden	(Stratford District Council)
	Ms	C Copeland	(South Taranaki District Council)
	Messrs	L Hodgetts	(New Plymouth District Council)
		P Tennent	(TRED Lead Team Chairman)

Two members of the media.

Apologies There were no apologies.

Notification of

Late Items There were no late items of business.

1. Minutes Regional Transport Committee meeting – 8 March 2017

Resolved

THAT the Regional Transport Committee of the Taranaki Regional Council:

1. takes as read and confirms the minutes and recommendations of the Regional Transport Committee meeting of the Taranaki Regional Council, held in the Taranaki Regional Council chambers, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford, on Wednesday 8 March 2017 at 11.00am.

2. notes that recommendations therein were adopted by the Taranaki Regional Council on 3 April 2017.

Williamson/McDonald

Matters arising

New Zealand Transport Agency Regional Report (March 2017)

It was noted to the New Zealand Transport Agency that the webpage (<https://nzta.govt.nz/taranaki>) has not been updated since November 2016. The purpose of the webpage was to provide current information. The Committee believes the website should be regularly updated. The Agency advised the Committee that matters surrounding the webpage and the delay in uploading content have been resolved and email notifications will now be sent to key stakeholders announcing updates when they become available. Ms P McLean, NZ Transport Agency, advised the Committee that the webpage would be updated promptly following the meeting.

2. Minutes of the Taranaki Regional Transport Advisory Group

- 2.1 The minutes of the Taranaki Regional Transport Advisory Group (RTAG) meetings held on 12 April 2017 and 24 May 2017 were received and noted.

Recommended

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. receives for information purposes the minutes of the Taranaki Regional Transport Advisory Group meeting held on 12 April 2017
2. receives for information purposes the unconfirmed minutes of the Taranaki Regional Transport Advisory Group meeting held on 24 May 2017.

Dunlop/Volzke

3. Notes of the State Highway 3 Working Party meeting

- 3.1 The notes of the State Highway 3 Working Party (SH3WP) meeting held on Wednesday 3 May 2017 were received and noted.

Recommended

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

1. receives for information purposes the unconfirmed notes of the State Highway 3 Working Party meeting held on Wednesday 3 May 2017.

Duynhoven/Dunlop

4. Request to vary the Regional Land Transport Plan for Taranaki 2015/16 – 2020/21

- 4.1 Mr M J Nield, Director-Corporate Services, spoke to the memorandum seeking approval of a request to vary the *Regional Land Transport Plan for Taranaki 2015/16 – 2020/21* (the Plan). The request was received from the South Taranaki District Council to vary the Plan by adding a new project enabling rail level crossing improvements for Nukumaru Station Road.

Recommended

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

1. receives the memorandum Request to vary the *Regional Land Transport Plan for Taranaki 2015/16-2020/21*
2. agrees to the requested variation to the *Regional Land Transport Plan for Taranaki 2015/16-2020/21*, made by the South Taranaki District Council, to add the project 'Upgrade of rail level crossing at Nukumaru Station Road'
3. adopts this variation to the *Regional Land Transport Plan for Taranaki 2015/16-2020/21* and forwards it on to the New Zealand Transport Agency.

Dunlop/Williamson

5. 'Make Way for Taranaki' regional economic development strategy

- 5.1 Mr P Tennent, Regional Economic Development Lead Team Chairperson, and Mr L Hodgetts, New Plymouth District Council, provided a presentation to the Committee on the Make Way for Taranaki: *Tapuae Roa* Regional Economic Development Strategy (the Strategy).
- 5.2 The Committee noted the Strategy and provided feedback on transport projects which may be referenced in the Taranaki Regional Economic Development Strategy and Action Plan. Support was provided for the sealing of the last 12km stretch and general upgrade of SH43 which the Committee have long advocated for. The proposal in the Strategy to revisit the Blue Water Highway project (Port Taranaki to Nelson) was also endorsed. The Committee advised that the road links into the Egmont National Park (Dawson Falls, Stratford, Pukeiti and North Taranaki) are currently becoming unable to deal with growing tourist numbers/vehicles and supported the proposal to upgrade the roads to enhance visitor experiences.
- 5.3 A further suggestion by the Committee was support to the forthcoming upgrade at the New Plymouth Airport terminal. Safety improvements at the intersection of Airport Drive and SH3, based on expected growth at the airport, were considered highly desirable and should be considered as part of the Bell Block to Waitara safety improvement project.
- 5.4 As part of the mid-term review of the *Taranaki Regional Land Transport Plan 2015/16 – 2020/21*, the matters raised as part of the Committee's discussions, will be considered for inclusion.

Recommended

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. receives and notes for information purposes the attached paper and associated presentation on addressing transport challenges in the 'Make Way for Taranaki: Tapuae Roa' Regional Economic Development Strategy and Action Plan
2. provides feedback about the transport projects which may be referenced in the Taranaki Regional Economic Development Strategy and Action Plan, provides support for the Blue Water Highway proposal, road upgrades into Egmont National Park (Dawson Falls, Stratford, Pukeiti and North Taranaki) and safety improvements at Airport Drive/SH3 and considers the inclusion of these projects as part of the mid-term review of the *Taranaki Regional Land Transport Plan 2015/16 – 2020/21*.

Williamson/Volzke

Mr Tennent and Mr Hodgetts left the Regional Transport Committee meeting at 12.00pm.

5. New Zealand Transport Agency Regional Report

5.1 Ms P McLean, NZ Transport Agency, and Mr R I Anson, NZ Transport Agency, spoke to the NZ Transport Agency's Quarterly Report to the Taranaki Regional Transport Committee updating Members on Agency news and activities and provided a presentation to the Committee on the NZ Transport Agency's *Long-Term Strategic View*.

5.2 A number of matters were discussed by the Committee including:

- Mt Messenger bypass Project Update and consultation process therein – it is anticipated the Minister of Transport will make an announcement on the chosen route option in August 2017. Members of the Committee were invited to a NZ Transport Agency function on Thursday 15 June presenting the latest SH3 route options. Construction is expected to finish in 2020.
- State Highway reinstatement works, notably SH43, following the June 2015 flooding event. It was advised that work would be substantially complete by the end of June 2017.
- Electric vehicle programme and trial of special electric vehicle lanes in Auckland.

Recommended

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. receives and notes the Regional Report from the NZ Transport Agency dated 14 June 2017
2. notes the development by the NZ Transport Agency of a *Long-Term Strategic View* document which aims to provide a clearer outline of the longer strategic picture
3. provides feedback on the NZ Transport Agency's *Long-Term Strategic View* which officers can incorporate into a written submission.

Duynhoven/McDonald

Ms P McLean, NZ Transport Agency, left the Regional Transport Committee meeting at

1.00pm.

6. Mid-term review of the Regional Land Transport Plan 2015/16 – 2020/21

- 6.1 Mr M J Nield, Director-Corporate Services, spoke to the memorandum updating the Committee on the need for a mid-term review of the *Regional Land Transport Plan for Taranaki 2015/16 – 2020/21*, to seek support of the proposed approach, process and timeframes for the review and to seek guidance on potential changes that should be considered as part of the review.

Recommended

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. receives the memorandum, Mid-term review of *Regional Land Transport Plan for Taranaki 2015/16-2020/21*
2. agrees to the approach, process and timeframes proposed for the mid-term review of *Regional Land Transport Plan for Taranaki 2015/16-2020/21*
3. notes that a two-part externally-facilitated stakeholder workshop will be held as part of the review of the *Regional Land Transport Plan for Taranaki 2015/16-2020/21*
4. provides guidance on content changes needed to the strategic policy framework of the *Regional Land Transport Plan for Taranaki 2015/16-2020/21*.

Duynhoven/Dunlop

7. State Highway maintenance concerns

- 7.1 The memorandum advising the Committee of concerns regarding the maintenance of state highways throughout the region and to seek support from the Committee in advocating for revision of the Network Outcomes Contract (NOC) model that is being used for maintaining the highways was received and discussed.
- 7.2 The Committee noted that the Taranaki Regional Transport Advisory Group have raised the concerns as sought support from the Committee to advocate to the NZ Transport Agency, in its capacity as the Road Controlling Authority for state highways, to revise the NOC model with some urgency.
- 7.3 The Committee agreed to support the advocacy request.

Recommended

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. receives the memorandum *State highway maintenance concerns*
2. agrees to the concerns about state highway maintenance in Taranaki arising from the current contract model being referred to the NZ Transport Agency for consideration in their review of the Network Outcomes Contract model.

Dunlop/Volzke

8. Passenger transport operational update for the quarter ending 31 March 2017

- 8.1 Mr M J Nield, Director-Corporate Services, spoke to the memorandum providing the Committee with an operational report of the public transport services as at 31 March 2017.
- 8.2 The Committee noted and discussed the Connector (Hawera to New Plymouth) bus service. Further information on the service's performance was requested by the Committee for inclusion into subsequent update reports for deliberation, including the funding ratios received from key stakeholders (WITT and Taranaki District Health Board) against the percentage of Connector patronage for the reporting period.
- 8.2 Wider discussion was held on the Connector service. Members agreed that it was timely to consider how the service could (potentially) be improved by way of (for example) a weekend service and timetable changes to enhance better utilisation of the service. It was agreed that these matters would be investigated further and be reported back to the Committee in due course.

Recommended

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. receives and notes the operational report of the public transport services for the quarter ending 31 March 2017.

Williamson/Dunlop

9. Correspondence and information items

- 9.1 The memorandum updating Members on correspondence and information received since the last Committee meeting was noted.
- 9.2 It was noted that a letter of support for Option 3 for the Mt Messenger Bypass project from Remediation New Zealand has been received.

Recommended

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

1. receives and notes for information purposes the submission sent to the Ministry of Transport on the draft *Government Policy Statement on Land Transport 2018/19-2027/28*
2. receives and notes for information purposes the submission sent to the NZ Transport Agency on the draft *Investment Assessment Framework 2018/19-2027/28*
3. receives and notes for information purposes the correspondence forwarded onto the Minister of Transport in regard to the SH3 Awakino Gorge to Mount Messenger Programme.

Dunlop/Duynhoven

There being no further business the Committee Chairperson, Councillor C S Williamson, declared the Regional Transport Committee meeting closed at 1.30pm.

Confirmed

Chairperson _____
C S Williamson

Date **6 September 2017**