

**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 7 September 2016 commencing at  
11.00am.**



<b>Members</b>	Councillor	C S Williamson	(Committee Chairperson)
	Councillor	R F H Maxwell	(Committee Deputy Chairperson)
	Councillor	H Dodunski	(New Plymouth District Council)
	Mayor	N Volzke	(Stratford District Council)
	Ms	R Bleakley	(NZ Transport Agency)
<b>Attending</b>	Councillor	M J Cloke	
	Messrs	B G Chamberlain	(Chief Executive)
		C B Clarke	(Transport Services Manager)
	Mrs	F Ritson	(Policy Analyst)
	Mrs	K Watt	(Passenger Transport Officer)
	Ms	J Mack	(Committee Administrator)
	Ms	J Alexander	(NZ Transport Agency)
	Messrs	R I Anson	(NZ Transport Agency)
		W Wallace	(NZ Transport Agency)
		C Whittleston	(New Plymouth District Council)
		V Lim	(South Taranaki District Council)
		B Manning	(South Taranaki District Council)
		S Bowden	(Stratford District Council)
		D Eyre	(Ministry of Transport)
		M Han	(Ministry of Transport)
Ms	J Gordon	(Ministry of Transport)	
Mr	C Olsen	(for Local Government New Zealand)	

**Apologies** The apology from Mayor R Dunlop (South Taranaki District Council) was received and sustained.

**Notification of  
Late Items**

General Business - New Plymouth-Hawera - SH3/3A

**1. Confirmation of Minutes - 1 June 2016**

**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 1 June 2016 at 11.00am.

2. notes the recommendations therein were adopted by the Taranaki Regional Council on 28 June 2016.

Maxwell/Volzke

**Matters arising** – there were no matters arising.

## **2. Minutes of the Taranaki Regional Transport Advisory Group**

- 2.1 The unconfirmed minutes of the Taranaki Regional Transport Advisory Group (RTAG) meeting held on Wednesday 17 August 2016 were received and noted.

### **Recommended**

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. receives for information purposes the unconfirmed minutes of the Taranaki Regional Transport Advisory Group meeting held on Wednesday 17 August 2016.

Maxwell/Bleakley

## **3. First Annual Monitoring Report for the Regional Land Transport Plan 2015-2021**

- 3.1 The Committee is required to monitor the implementation of the Regional Land Transport Plan. In order to provide the Committee with an overview of progress on the planned activities and projects, and how these are implementing the strategic objectives of the Plan, a summary report has been compiled from information provided by the approved organisations in the region. The report covers the 2015/16 financial year, being the first year of the six-year Plan that came into effect on 1 July 2015, and the first year nationally that such Plans exist in this form.
- 3.2 Mr C Clarke, Transport Services Manager, introduced the report, making note of the good progress made in spite of the large additional expenditure due to last year's flood events.
- 3.3 Councillor H Dodunski, New Plymouth District Council, queried the unspent budget for the Community Road Safety Programme (CRSP) and whether these approved funds could have been used towards an additional road safety activity. Mr V Lim, South Taranaki District Council, advised that the planned CRSP activities for the year had all been completed, but at less cost than anticipated due to third party contributions. With all the CRSP activities able to be undertaken within the 2015/16 year having been achieved, the corresponding 'underspend' was therefore declared as surplus and returned to the co-funder (the Agency).

### **Recommended**

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

1. receives and adopts the *Regional Land Transport Plan for Taranaki 2015/16–2020/21 – Annual Monitoring Report for 2015/16*.

Bleakley/Maxwell

#### **4. Request to vary the Regional Land Transport Plan 2015/16-2020/21**

- 4.1 Mr C Clarke, Transport Services Manager, spoke to the memorandum seeking approval of two requests for variation of the *Regional Land Transport Plan for Taranaki 2015/16 – 2020-21* (Taranaki RLTPlan):

- From South Taranaki District Council to add a new project to enable intersection improvements necessary to facilitate the new regional landfill; and
- From the New Zealand Transport Agency to add phases, costs and timings detail to the SH3 Mt Messenger to Awakino Gorge Corridor Improvements project.

Both these requests have received support from the Regional Transport Advisory Group and are now brought before the Committee for consideration. Neither of these requests are significant enough to require going back out for public consultation.

- 4.2 An updated memorandum from the Transport Agency was tabled, replacing the second attachment in the item (#1729121) which related to the SH3 Awakino Gorge to Mt Messenger Corridor Improvements. This updated version of the attachment amended the funding tables to correct an error in the cost-split calculations shown. There was no change to the totals, or to the rest of the attachment.
- 4.3 Councillor R F H Maxwell raised concern regarding the SH3 north corridor improvements and sought clarification from the Transport Agency as to whether the accelerated funds have been converted to something else and have the goal posts changed in some way; and if so, how is the criteria normally applied to national land transport funding going to affect the options and development of the programme that has been identified?
- 4.4 Ms R Bleakley, NZ Transport Agency, allayed these concerns and tabled an information page 'Accelerated Regional Roding Programme Tranche 2: Mt Messenger and Awakino Gorge Corridor'. The Committee agreed to make specific note of the Costs and Funding Source section of the factsheet.

#### **Recommended**

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

1. receives the memorandum, Requests 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 following project:
  - Intersection Improvement of SH3/Rotokare Road
3. notes the bypasses of the Awakino Tunnel and Mt Messenger (\$89-105 million) will be funded by the Crown as part of the Government's Accelerated Regional Roding Programme. Implementation of the corridor-wide improvements (\$25-30 million) is

included in the National Land Transport Programme 2015-18. Together, the improvements on SH3 north of Taranaki will total \$114-135 million.

4. agrees to the requested update to the *Regional Land Transport Plan for Taranaki 2015/16-2020/21*, made by the New Zealand Transport Agency, to add phases to the following project:
  - SH3 Mt Messenger to Awakino Gorge Corridor Improvements
5. adopts these variations to the *Regional Land Transport Plan for Taranaki 2015/16-2020/21* and forward them on to the New Zealand Transport Agency.

Williamson/Dodunski

## 5. New Zealand Transport Agency Regional Report

- 5.1 Ms R Bleakley, NZ Transport Agency, spoke to the Regional Report updating Members on Agency news and activities.
- 5.2 A number of matters were discussed by the Committee including:

### Taranaki state highways webpage

Ms R Bleakley advised that as part of improving communications with stakeholders and the community about a number of issues in Taranaki including flood repairs, the Agency has created a new webpage (<https://nzta.govt.nz/taranaki>). This will provide updates on work that is happening on the state highway network in Taranaki, and was hoped to provide better active and passive communication within the community. Committee Chairperson, C S Williamson thanked the Agency for the progressive move to improving communication with local communities.

### Minor safety programme works

General discussion regarding works alongside the Methanex site where a section of pavement needed renewal.

Princess Street/Mangati Road and SH3A to Waitara was discussed.

Moturoa pedestrian crossing, intersection and shopping precinct – Mr R I Anson stated the Transport Agency was working closely with the New Plymouth District Council (NPDC) to improve safety through this section.

### Vickers to City project

The pink colour of the concrete traffic islands was raised, with Mr R I Anson noting that NPDC and an architect are working on a solution to improve the islands and welcomed any suggestions. There was discussion around future-proofing this section of highway further, including potential to purchase land. Mr C Whittleston noted that very early investigations were underway surrounding a range of matters including a possible second crossing of the Waikwhakaiho river.

### Taranaki R Funds

Chairperson Williamson queried the R Funds balance and sought clarification on what projects these funds have gone to. Ms R Bleakley replied that a reconciliation of all Taranaki R-funded projects would be provided by email.

## **Recommended**

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. receives and notes the Regional Report from the New Zealand Transport Agency dated 7 September 2016.

Maxwell/Dodunski

## **6. Implementation of the One Network Roding Classification across the Taranaki Region**

- 6.1 A Road Efficiency Group (REG) representative, Mr Chris Olsen, presented an update to Members on progress to implement the One Network Roding Classification (ONRC) across the Taranaki region.

## **Recommended**

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. receives for information purposes the report *Implementation of the One Network Roding Classification across the Taranaki Region* and associated presentation from the Road Efficiency Group.

Maxwell/Volzke

## **7. Developing the 2018 Government Policy Statement on Land Transport**

- 7.1 Mr David Eyre of the Ministry of Transport presented a 'GPS Listening Session' to give and receive information on the 2018 Government Policy Statement on Land Transport (GPS). The Ministry of Transport is currently in the process of planning GPS 2018 and are talking with Regional Transport Committees around the country as part of this process.
- 7.2 Mr B G Chamberlain, Chief Executive, noted that the Taranaki region is embarking on reviews of its Destination Strategy and its Economic Development Strategy. From the outset it is clear that tourism is an area that needs to be given greater priority. The roading network plays a critical enabling role in this opportunity for growth. SH43, as an entry point to the region needs to be brought up to state highway standard – that is, fully sealed. Taranaki has major private and local public investments aimed to lift the amenities and visitor offerings in the region. Having the right roading network in place to facilitate tourism into the region is critical, and SH43 is currently a major constraint to the region meeting its potential.

## **Recommended**

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. receives and notes the presentation from the Ministry of Transport on development of the *2018 Government Policy Statement on Land Transport*.

Williamson/Bleakley

## **8. Passenger transport operational update for the quarter ending 30 June 2016**

- 8.1 Mr C B Clarke, Transport Services Manager, spoke to the memorandum providing the Committee with an operational report of the public transport services throughout Taranaki as at 30 June 2016.

### **Recommended**

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. receives and notes the operational report of the public transport services for the quarter ending 30 June 2016.

Maxwell/Volzke

## **9. Correspondence and information items**

- 9.1 The purpose of this item is to update Members on correspondence and information items received since their last meeting.
- 9.2 Mayor N Volzke, Stratford District Council, acknowledged and thanked the Transport Agency for the repair work on the Stratford roundabouts.
- 9.3 Mayor Volzke also thanked the Transport Agency for the cost estimate for sealing the unsealed section of SH43. This is an issue that he will be taking up with the region's three local Members of Parliament at a meeting to be held in Whangamomana later in the month.
- 9.4 Chairperson C Williamson acknowledged the gratitude of this committee to the Transport Agency for coming back on the issues in the correspondence and noted that the bottleneck had cleared and communication between all parties has improved. Ms R Bleakley, NZ Transport Agency, responded that if there were any issues during the electoral gap she would encourage councillors or officers to contact the Agency to work through any issues.

### **Recommended**

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

1. receives and notes the correspondence received from the New Zealand Transport Agency in response to queries raised at the previous Regional Transport Committee meeting on 1 June 2016.
2. notes for information purposes the correspondence sent to Apiculture New Zealand regarding the location of bee hives in relation to public pathways.

## **10. General Business**

### New Plymouth to Hawera – SH3/3A

It was noted that the first New Plymouth to Hawera SH3/3A strategic business case development meeting has been held and an update was provided to the Committee.

### Thanks and Acknowledgements

Committee Chairperson, C S Williamson, thanked the Members and Council management and officers for their work and support of the Committee during the 2013-2016 triennium. The meeting is the last to be held prior to the 2016 local authority elections. Special thanks and acknowledgement was extended to Councillor R F H Maxwell for his years of dedicated service to the Committee and who is not seeking re-election and is standing down from the Council.

There being no further business the Committee Chairperson, Councillor C S Williamson, declared the Regional Transport Committee meeting closed at 12.45pm.

### **Minutes authenticated pursuant to Model Standing Orders**

**Regional Transport**

**Committee Chairperson** \_\_\_\_\_

**C S Williamson**

**Taranaki Regional Council**

**Chief Executive** \_\_\_\_\_

**B G Chamberlain**