
MINUTES
of the
TASMAN REGIONAL TRANSPORT COMMITTEE MEETING
held
9.30 am, Monday, 15 April 2019
at
Tasman Council Chamber, 189 Queen Street, Richmond

Present: Councillors S G Bryant (Chair), C M Maling, D E McNamara and P F Sangster and New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) , Director Regional Relationships, Mr J Harland

In Attendance: Committee Advisers, Mr W Findlater and Ms J Murray

Transportation Manager (J McPherson), Activity Planning Manager (D L Fletcher), Activity Planning Adviser (D Bryant) and Senior Executive Assistant (R L Scherer)

NZTA Planner (R Palmer), NZTA Systems Manager (A James) and NZTA Top of the South Lead Strategic Planner (S Higgs)

1 OPENING, WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the first Regional Transport Committee meeting of 2019.

2 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Moved Cr Sangster/Cr Maling

TRTC19-04-1

That apologies from Cr D J Ogilvie be accepted.

CARRIED

Apologies from Committee Advisers, Inspector D Mattison and Ms D Smith were also noted.

3 PUBLIC FORUM

Nil

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

**Moved Cr Maling/Cr Sangster
TRTC19-04-2**

That the minutes of the Tasman Regional Transport Committee meeting held on Monday, 26 November 2018, be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

CARRIED

6 PRESENTATIONS

Nil

7 REPORTS

7.1 New Zealand Transport Agency Report - SH60, Motueka High Street Investigation

Transportation Manager, Jamie McPherson introduced the report prepared by the New Zealand Transport Agency. Mr McPherson noted that the report requests the Committee to make recommendations to Tasman District Council regarding the SH60, Motueka High Street investigation.

NZTA Planner, Rhys Palmer spoke to the report contained in the agenda which provided an update on the Transport Agency's investigations into the traffic congestion and safety issues on SH60, Motueka High Street.

Mr Palmer noted that NZTA staff are presenting the report to the committee to gain their feedback and endorsement so that if NZTA programme funding priorities change, the Transport Agency can re-open the project and commence any works that receive funding.

Mr Palmer spoke about the investment objectives of the business case for SH60, Motueka High Street which include improved pedestrian safety, improved vehicle safety at key intersections and maintenance of through-capacity and side road access.

Mr Palmer used a powerpoint presentation to demonstrate the safety improvements that could be carried out at each intersection along parts of SH60, Motueka High Street.

The Chairman circulated a memorandum which Cr Ogilvie had prepared outlining his perspective of some immediate steps that could be taken to improve safety on SH60, Motueka High Street.

In response to a question, Mr James agreed that the Transport Agency could do some low-cost, low-risk fixes now and these would not undermine the long-term intentions of the business case.

In response to a question from NZTA Regional Director, Relationships, Mr Harland, NZTA Systems Manager, Andrew James agreed that the Agency could look at the option of providing marking for a right turn bay at the Wallace High Street intersection.

In response to a question, Mr James noted that the Transport Agency had undertaken extensive consultation with both the community and the SH60, Motueka High Street working party. As part of this consultation a number of different scenarios and options to improve the route had been presented. He advised that Transport Agency had not carried out any further communication with the community about the preferred options as this could raise false expectations and wasn't

seen as necessary until the work is ready to progress.

Moved Cr Sangster/Mr Harland

TRTC19-04-3

That the Tasman Regional Transport Committee:

- 1. receives the New Zealand Transport Agency Report - SH60 Motueka High Street Investigation report, RTC19-04-01; and**
- 2. endorses the draft option as detailed in Section 4 of the report and as shown in the drawings in Attachment 1; and**
- 3. recommends to Tasman District Council that they endorse the draft option as detailed in section 4 and as shown in the drawings in Attachment 1; and**
- 4. recommends that the New Zealand Transport Agency be encouraged to investigate low-cost, low-risk options to make High Street, Motueka safer in the near term.**

CARRIED

7.2 Speed Management Plan Update - Early Public Engagement

Transportation Manager, Jamie McPherson spoke to the report contained in the agenda which was taken as read. He noted that the report is for the committee's information advising them that Tasman District Council will be reviewing the Tasman Speed Management Plan.

Mr McPherson advised the committee that the previous speed management plan had focused on the top ten percent of the District's roads that required a speed limit change for safety reasons. He noted that consistent speed limits are a tool that can have a positive impact on road safety.

Mr McPherson spoke about safe and appropriate speeds and the risk of different networks throughout the country making speed limit changes at different rates resulting in uncertainty for drivers. He noted that staff intend to work with Nelson City Council and the Transport Agency to ensure speed management is consistent within the Nelson-Tasman region.

The Committee discussed the current open road posted speed limit of 100 kph used on New Zealand roads and the fact that often this speed cannot be achieved because of the sheer nature of the road geometry. Committee members also spoke about the number of accidents on our roads caused by driver inattention especially with the use of mobile phones while driving.

Mr Findlater left the meeting at 10.33 am.

Mr McPherson spoke about the Council's plans to carry out a survey with the local community focusing on speed limits. The survey will be launched during Road Safety week from 6 to 12 May 2019. He noted that staff intend to undertake the survey in collaboration with the Council's road safety partners, the Police, ACC, Nelson City Council and the Transport Agency. The results of the survey will be conveyed to the committee as soon as they are available.

Mr Harland agreed that the Transport Agency would support the Council as much as it can with the speed limit survey but noted that it had limited resources. He suggested that the Council's survey should reference local roads rather than the state highway network.

Moved Cr McNamara/Cr Maling

TRTC19-04-4

That the Tasman Regional Transport Committee receives the Speed Management Plan Update - Early Public Engagement report, RTC19-04-02.

CARRIED

New Zealand Transport Agency Update

Mr Harland and NZTA Lead Transportation Planner, Mr Higgs provided an update on New Zealand Transport Agency activities. They advised that the Transport Agency is currently taking a long term view of how the state highway network will function over the next 30 years.

Mr Harland suggested that there is likely to be some significant changes of how our roads are used in the not too distant future. He spoke about the introduction of autonomous vehicles, the use of hydrogen or electric-power vehicles and other forms of transport, for example scooters using footpaths which are not currently designed for them.

In response to a question, Mr Harland agreed that issues such as sea level rise and climate change will also be an integral consideration in the Transport Agency's long term view of the state highway network.

Mr James spoke about the bailey bridges that had been installed on SH63 after the Kaikoura earthquake. He noted that the Transport Agency now intends to remove the bridges for use in other areas. In response to concerns from Cr Bryant, Mr James agreed to provide an update about the reasons for removing the bridges as information for the next meeting of the Lake Rotoiti Community Council.

Mr James also spoke about remedial works on the Takaka Hill. He noted that while a number of minor works are near completion, work will close down over winter and some sections of the road will continue to be one-lane only. He said that Transport Agency staff are currently carrying out the design work for the five largest slip sites and work will start on these sites during the summer construction period.

In response to a question about the variable speed limits on SH6 through to Murchison, Mr James advised that the Transport Agency intends to carry out a formal review of the speed limit on this section of the highway.

In response to a question about the Transport Agency's use of road barriers on the state highway network, Mr James said that the barriers had been placed in high risk areas for safety reasons and had already proven to be effective in preventing accidents.

In response to a question from Cr Sangster about the remedial works on the Puramahoi section of SH60, Mr James said he would investigate the reasons for staging the work in small sections and respond to Cr Sangster directly.

8 CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

Nil

The meeting concluded at 11.04 am.

Date Confirmed:

Chair:

Confirmed Minutes