

Report No:	RCN12-01-11
File No:	
Date:	18 January 2012
Decision Required	

REPORT SUMMARY

Report to: Full Council
Meeting Date: 26 January 2012
Report Author: Sarah Downs, Transportation Planning Officer
Subject: **Regional Passenger Transport Plan**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Tasman Regional Passenger Transport Plan (TRPTP) ("the Plan") is legally required to be adopted by Council. The Plan has been approved by the Tasman Regional Transport Committee (TRTC) following the compulsory consultation process. The submission hearings took place on 16 December 2011.

The TRTC resolved that with their suggested amendments the RPTP should be presented to Full Council for adoption.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report is received and the resolutions adopted.

DRAFT RESOLUTION

THAT the Tasman District Council receives this report RCN12-01-11 and adopts the Tasman Regional Passenger Transport Plan.

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1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is for the Council to adopt the Tasman Regional Passenger Transport Plan.

2. Background

- 2.1 A draft Tasman Regional Passenger Transport Plan (TRPTP) was published for public consultation and has been approved by the Tasman Regional Transport Committee.
- 2.2 The Public Transport Management Act 2008 (PTMA) came into being on 1 January 2009. It was designed to give regional councils new tools to develop public transport systems to meet the needs of their communities.
- 2.3 The PTMA repealed the Transport Services Licensing Act 1989 and has an objective of helping regional councils and the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) obtain the best value for money in achieving affordable, integrated, safe, responsive and sustainable public transport systems.
- 2.4 The Minister of Transport wrote to the Council in April 2009, September 2009 and December 2010 setting out the Ministry's objectives for the public transport system and indicating the intention to change the PTMA.
- 2.5 The RPTP gives effect to the public transport service components of the Regional Land Transport Strategy known as "*Connecting Tasman*".
- 2.6 The role of passenger transport in Tasman is one of the main strategies in '*Connecting Tasman*'.
- 2.7 The purpose of this plan is to provide an overarching framework for the development of the region's passenger transport system. The Regional

Passenger Transport Plan is necessary for outlining the passenger transport services and infrastructure proposed for the region both for general travel purposes and for providing services to those who are transport disadvantaged.

3. Present Situation/Matters to be Considered

- 3.1 Public consultation on the draft Regional Passenger Transport Plan took place during November 2011 with a deadline of 5 December 2011 for submissions to be submitted to the TRTC.
- 3.2 Seventeen submissions were received with seven submitters requesting to be heard at the hearing of the Tasman Regional Transport Committee on 16 December 2011.
- 3.3 The submissions supported the need for a Regional Passenger Transport Plan so that those who are transport disadvantaged are catered for. Greater detail and commitment to passenger transport in the region was stressed as being important as it was highlighted that we have an ageing population, who will become increasingly reliant on public transport as well as the young.
- 3.4 The Tasman Regional Transport Committee made some observations and recommended some amendments to the draft plan. The main points for consideration included:
- How to improve existing services?
 - Better passenger transport access to Nelson hospital;
 - The bus terminus being located in Sundial Square;
 - A need to investigate day passes on all bus routes; and
 - A need to have various locations/outlets to purchase bus tickets.
- 3.5 After consideration and amendment, the Regional Transport Committee resolved that the RPTP should be presented to Council for adoption.

4. Financial/Budgetary Considerations

- 4.1 The RPTP is required legally as Tasman District Council currently contributes towards the Total Mobility Scheme (\$29,938 per annum) and the Late Late Bus (\$10,000 per annum).
- 4.2 The draft RPTP does mention in section 3.2 that "Tasman District Council is considering including funding of this service (the SBL or NBus service between

Nelson and Richmond) in the Nelson-Tasman region in its Long Term Plan process”.

5. Options

- 5.1 That the RPTP is adopted by Council as a document that sits under ‘*Connecting Tasman*’. It is also a legal requirement as Tasman District Council currently receives funding of the Total Mobility Scheme from the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA). The plan and associated consultation process covers the requirements (Public Transport Management Act 2008) for the provision of services which the NZTA funds.
- 5.2 Alternatively the Council could decide to no longer contribute to the Total Mobility Scheme or the Late Late Bus. If this was the case, a Regional Passenger Transport Plan would not be required.

6. Pros and Cons of Options

- 6.1 The advantages of having a RPTP is that this document provides future direction for provision to the community in passenger transport services.
- 6.2 The plan also identifies how it aims to cater for the transport disadvantaged.
- 6.3 By having a plan, Tasman District Council is able to obtain funding from NZTA for future passenger transport services in the region.
- 6.4 If Council were decide to have no plan then we would not be able to access funds from NZTA.

7. Evaluation of Options

- 7.1 As indicated in paragraph 6.4, there are no disadvantages in having a Regional Passenger Transport Plan. It would be in the Council and region’s best interest for the plan to be adopted.

8. Significance

- 8.1 This is not a significant decision under Council’s Significance Policy. However it is likely to have some localised impact on the transport disadvantaged.

9. Recommendation

9.1 That the report is received and the resolutions adopted.

10. Timeline/Next Steps

10.1 Tasman District Council adopts the Regional Passenger Transport Plan and the final document is available to the public under the '*Connecting Tasman*' document.

11. Draft Resolution

THAT the Tasman District Council receives this report RCN12-01-11 and adopts the Tasman Regional Passenger Transport Plan.

Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Final copy of the Tasman Regional Passenger Transport Plan

Appendix 2 – Transportation Projects Modified after Council meetings