

STAFF REPORT

TO: Chairman & Members, Engineering Services Committee
FROM: Roger Ashworth
REFERENCE: T601
DATE: 24 February 2005
SUBJECT: Transit New Zealand's Draft Ten Year State Highway Plan

PURPOSE

To update the Committee on the status of Transit NZ state highway projects within the Tasman District.

BACKGROUND

Transit NZ have just released their draft ten year state highway plan.

Transit has invited Council to make a submission on the draft plan content as part of their formal consultation process and are particularly interested on views of the following:

- Transport issues identified in our Region;
- Draft prioritisation of state highway activities, taking into account any contribution the activities may make to the objectives of the NZ Transport Strategy;
- Any other activities you consider important for Transit's plan.

Submissions close on 16 March 2005.

We have distributed to all Councillors and Community Board Members, a copy of the summarised sheet outlining projects specific to Nelson, Marlborough and Tasman.

Graham Taylor, the new Regional Manager for Transit in Wellington, also outlined at the Liaison meeting of 22 February 2005, the process for submissions and also the key regional transport issues within our Region.

You will note from page 3 of the summary sheet that Ruby Bay Bypass has an indicative national prioritisation of 50, with an indicative construction start date of year 10/11. This is an improvement on the previous ten year plan. The Hope Saddle has an indicative construction start date of year 12/13. These are the two projects for Council consideration for activities larger than \$3 million, however, it has been noted in the new draft ten year plan that the McGlashen Avenue/State Highway 6

intersection now sits at projects larger than \$3 million and also ranks nationally at number 212. McGlashen Avenue project also has a revised cost estimate of \$6.7 million.

This project was discussed at some length at the Liaison meeting and Transit NZ have agreed to arrange for a presentation from their consultants to Council, at the earliest opportunity. In the interim, we are critically reviewing the scheme assessment prepared by Transit consultants for the McGlashen Avenue project and intend to ensure that this review is included in Council's submission.

The Chairman and Deputy Chairman will be attending the Regional Land Transport Committee meeting on Friday 25 February 2005 and will be in a position to update the Committee on the discussion at that meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Engineering Services Committee delegate to the Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Deputy Mayor, Engineering Manager and Transportation Manager, the authority to prepare a submission on Council's behalf, for the Ten Year State Highway Plan.

R Ashworth
Transportation Manager