

REPORT

TO: Members, Engineering Services Committee

FROM: Chair, Trevor Norriss

REFERENCE:

DATE: 12 July 2006

SUBJECT: **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - JULY 2006**

Welcome to today's meeting. For the three days leading up to this meeting, I will have attended the Local Government conference so I should be a ball of knowledge and possibly have some major concerns as to the direction Government legislation is leading our nation. It will be a very pleasant day indeed when some of these bright ideas have some dollars attached!

The recent LTCCP presentations, submissions and deliberations have taken up a huge amount of time and dollars, and have left Engineering projects deleted, postponed or delayed. However, regardless of the final document, Council can only do what is affordable on an annual basis. I keep feeling that somewhere along this trip we, as Councillors, and our ratepayers have been conned. I watch with interest the outcome for Mayor Shadbolt and his Council who may have been the wisest of all!

REGIONAL LAND TRANSPORT STRATEGY

By the time of this meeting, we may have recommendations to make to Council. With the budget spent and the whole strategy bogged down on issues in Nelson City it may be time that we went back to our own strategy and got on with what Tasman requires.

RIVER CARE MEETINGS

These are underway and by the time of today's meeting, Philip Drummond may be able to give us an update.

By this meeting we will also have had a presentation of issues and policy options on rivers and lakes at the RMP workshop held on 12 July 2006. You have heard me ask about the cost of this and who asked for it. I have still not had the answers. Council needs to tread very cautiously on this. If the answers are the same as we have had before then I question the wisdom of spending this money! Enough said!

My compliments to our roading contractors who have done a great job over this rather frosty period on our roads with no major accidents reported.

Finally, I would like to thank Maxine from the Motueka office and wish her well in her new job. Maxine always gave 150% in her job and had a great sense of humour. I am sure the committee will endorse my sentiments and I would like a letter of thanks and appreciation to be sent to Maxine on the Committee's behalf (see draft attached).

Regards

Trevor Norriss
Chair - Engineering Services Committee