

Report 11.591
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Committee Council
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Report on Economic Wellbeing Committee meeting of 24 November 2011

1. Purpose

To inform the Council about the Economic Wellbeing Committee meeting that took place on 24 November 2011.

2. The decision-making process and significance

No decision is being sought in this report.

3. Reports

3.1 Wairarapa Public Transport Review

The Committee discussed progress on the Wairarapa public transport review. The Committee noted that the current delay in the review was due to a number of rail-related issues, namely rail costing and operational matters. The Committee agreed to separate the bus and rail components of the review and to proceed with the bus component of the review ahead of the rail component.

3.2 Wellington City bus review – proposed network consultation

The Committee discussed the methods by which consultation on the Wellington City bus review would take place. Officers confirmed that they would be willing to meet with individual community groups in addition to their planned community workshops.

The Committee requested the proposal that goes out for consultation clearly state any implications that potential changes might have including in which areas of the city services are being increased or added, and in which areas services are being removed or reduced.

Officers stressed that the proposed options have a much lower element of “hubbing” or interchanges than had originally been suggested. The Committee requested that the proposal going out for consultation provide clear information

about the impact that introducing suburban interchange points would have on commuters at both peak and off-peak times.

3.3 Wellington Fare Structure Review – Terms of Reference

The Committee discussed the proposed reference group. It was confirmed that the appointment of the two user group representatives to the reference group would be made by the Committee Chair following nominations made to Greater Wellington.

The Committee agreed that Councillors Bruce and Glensor would be members of the reference group.

The Committee requested that any fare structure review consultation document include a glossary of terms such as “integrated fares” and “integrated ticketing”.

3.4 Regional Land Transport Programme 2011-2012

It was confirmed to the Committee that the priorities set out in the programme reflect the priorities set out in transport planning documents.

The Committee discussed the implications of not having a project listed as a priority in the programme. The Committee discussed whether priorities in the programme could be changed once set. It confirmed that Greater Wellington has the ultimate control in determining the projects being undertaken and funded by this Council but that NZTA funding would not be given to a project not set out in the list of priority projects.

The Committee discussed the prospect of bicycles being allowed on buses and requested that officers communicate to the public that, while listed as a priority, the design and installation of equipment on buses to allow for the carriage of bicycles (approximately \$1 million) was not included until year 6 of the 10-year budget.

3.5 Quarterly review for the period ending 30 September 2011

Public Transport

The Committee noted the successful provision of public transport services during the Rugby World Cup.

The Committee discussed the punctuality of bus services and noted that while 99.8% of bus services in this quarter had been recorded as being on time the definition of “on time” allowed for buses to depart 10 minutes after the timetable.

The Committee discussed the punctuality of the train service and requested that officers advise the public that the network upgrade will continue for a number of years to come.

Officers were thanked for their work on the Porirua bus services (Porirua school bus review and Porirua East community bus service).

Catchment Management

The Committee discussed work undertaken by Periodic Detention workers clearing areas of the Waikanae, Otaki and Hutt Rivers and agreed that the Chair of this Committee would work with officers to draft a letter to the Corrections Department acknowledging the contributions of the Periodic Detention workers.

Strategy and Community Engagement

The Committee congratulated this Group for the various awards that it had received recently.

The Committee requested that officers provide a briefing for Porirua and Kapiti Coast councillors on the Western Corridor Plan refresh project.

3.6 General Managers' Report to the Economic Wellbeing Committee

The Committee discussed the implications for Regional Councils which the grounding of the Rena container ship in the Port of Tauranga had highlighted. Councillors will receive a report from officers in the New Year on the grounding of the Rena container.

The Committee discussed the recent petition relating to the provision of bicycles on trains. It was noted that a number of things being requested in the petition already form part of the current policy. The committee agreed that officers would write to the petitioners advising them of this

4. Recommendations

That the Council:

- 1. Receives the report.*
- 2. Notes the content of the report.*

Report prepared by:

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