



Report 09.67
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Committee Council
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Report on the Transport and Access Committee Meeting held on 11 February 2009

1. Purpose

To inform Council about the meeting of the Transport and Access Committee that took place on 11 February 2009.

2. Significance of the decision

The matters for decision in this report do not trigger the significance policy of the Council or otherwise trigger section 76(3)(b) of the Local Government Act 2002.

3. Report

Several members of the public appeared before the Committee. One person spoke on the fare review paper and raised a number of questions which will be addressed at the next meeting of the Committee. All other public participants expressed concern about the proposed end of the Otaihanga and Paekakariki shopper services.

The Committee spent some time discussing the annual fare review, and agreed that the review information points to a zero fare increase for the coming year. The Committee agreed to pass this conclusion to the full Council as it considers the LTCCP and the Annual Plan. Councillors agreed that there was little merit in comparing the cost of public transport with the costs of running a car. Specific proposals to adjust fares were raised and referred to Officers for comment.

The Committee was provided with updates on service reviews at Kapiti, Porirua and Wellington and also on a proposal to amend Route 120 from Stokes Valley to Wellington. The latter amendments will improve timetable reliability, address capacity issues, improve network efficiency and reduce costs.

The updates on the Otaihanga and Paekakariki shopper services were discussed in some detail. The Committee had previously resolved to withdraw these services unless, through additional publicity, patronage could be increased to an average of four passengers per trip. This figure had not been achieved on either service, and neither service met the minimum 20% cost recovery level. The Committee asked Officers to work with the operator and the Paekakariki and Paraparaumu Community Boards to see if a reduced schedule could be agreed that would meet the minimum subsidy level of 20%. Officers were asked to report back by the end of April 2009.

The Divisional Manager's Report covered a number of general items. Of note were the high uptake of the SuperGold travel scheme and the 4.8% patronage growth in the six months to December 2008.

The Committee noted that the role of Public Transport Disability Liaison Officer will continue.

The meeting closed with a presentation on current rail infrastructure projects demonstrating the very real progress that is now visible on a number of key projects.

4. Minutes

The minutes of the Committee's meeting are attached as Attachment 1.

5. Recommendations

That the Council:

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

Report prepared by:

Report prepared by:

Peter Glensor
Councillor

Wayne Hastie
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Attachment 1: Public minutes