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Committee Economic Wellbeing Committee
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General Managers' report to the Economic Wellbeing Committee meeting on 15 June 2011

1. Purpose

To inform the Committee of Greater Wellington activities relating to the Committee's areas of responsibility.

2. Public Transport Group

2.1 Bus services

2.1.1 Porirua

A demand-responsive community transport service was introduced in Porirua East on a six-month trial basis (due to expiry in mid-August) to replace bus services in Ranui Heights and Castor/Drivers Crescent. The service's performance, in terms of patronage, is not meeting the expectations of the trial. We are currently reviewing the performance of this service in consultation with Porirua City Council. The Committee Chair and local representatives are attending the Porirua City Council City Services Committee meeting on 16 June to discuss the matter.

A review of Porirua school bus services is also being undertaken now that patronage on the new public services is becoming more evident. This had been delayed due to the delays in negotiations over public services described above.

2.1.2 Wellington

A review of Wellington City school bus services has been undertaken. This has resulted in some minor changes to the way some buses from the southern suburbs operate and includes the amalgamation of two trips, withdrawal of a

poorly used afternoon service from Wellington College, and the addition of an extra morning bus from Wrights Hill to Wellington College via Kelburn.

2.2 Infrastructure

2.2.1 Kapiti Stations

Only some minor works remain to be completed at Paraparaumu and Waikanae stations.

Greater Wellington and the Kapiti Coast District Council worked together on designs and information for directional signage which have recently been installed in the Paraparaumu Subway.

2.2.2 Waterloo Interchange

The third and final phase of the light replacement programme has now been completed, with the cleaning and re-lamping of 39 roof lights, new prison grade strip lights in the subway and overhauled emergency subway lighting..

2.2.3 Cycle Facilities

Since Greater Wellington took over the administration and maintenance of cycle lockers at train stations a number of lockers have now been repaired and are being put back into service. This has meant a reduction in waiting times for lockers at Waterloo, Petone, Melling, Paekakariki, Porirua and Plimmerton.

2.2.4 Bus stops

Seventy-seven new bus stop train replacement signs have been designed and are due to be installed shortly. Placed at key sites close to train stations, commuters will have a clearly designated place to wait for rail replacement buses.

2.2.5 Bus shelters and bus stops

(a) Accessibility

Following the recent bus route changes within Porirua the installation of 19 additional standing pads, designed to aid customer boarding, have now been installed. This is a continuation of the previous project where 11 standing pads were successfully installed in the Porirua area at the beginning of the financial year.

(b) Metlink Bus Shelter

Four prototype shelters are being trialled in Lower Hutt and Wellington. The trial is monitoring ergonomic consideration, comfort, space, exposure, durability, and cost. At this point officers have received limited response from the public. However, after a recent spell of wet weather officers are reassured by the lack of complaints about the new shelters.

(c) **New bus shelters**

During the design and development of the new prototype Metlink bus shelter the procurement and installation of the ongoing bus shelters for this financial year has continued. The eleven planned standard shelters were installed at the end of May

2.3 Service Reviews

2.3.1 Rugby World Cup

Greater Wellington will provide special shuttle buses from Wellington CBD to the stadium for all eight matches in Wellington. The buses will run on two routes, one from Courtenay Place, and the other from upper Willis St. The buses will start running 90 minutes prior to kickoff, with the last one leaving 30 minutes prior to kickoff. The buses will provide return services after the games. The buses will be free for ticket holders on pool game-days, and will be free for all on the two quarter-final days.

Extra train capacity will be provided by adding extra carriages to existing trains prior to all games. After the games, in addition to providing extra carriages, special trains (probably at least two per line) will be provided. The train services will not be free. There will be extra costs associated with providing this extra capacity, but these are expected to be covered by extra passenger revenue.

The bus and rail situation will be closely monitored during the tournament and changes may be made to capacity levels if needed.

2.3.2 Wairarapa

The Draft Terms of Reference for the Wairarapa Public Transport Service Review was approved by the Committee on 17 March 2011. This was then circulated to the three local authorities in Wairarapa, KiwiRail and Tranzit Coachlines for their input. Those organisations indicated they were happy with the terms of reference.

A reference group comprising representatives of those local authorities and transport operators has been formed and it met in May.

Consultation began in early June, and will run until 19 July. Consultation brochures have been widely distributed, and advertising has been undertaken in all local newspapers. A survey of train users will also be undertaken.

2.3.3 Wellington

Option design is continuing. A detailed system analysis and assessment task has now been completed by Greater Wellington's consultants, who are also running what is expected to be the final round of planning workshops between the 13th and 17th of June. The supporting Discussion Paper, which summarises the issues, high-level options, and associated trade-offs will be available to Councillors shortly.

Consultation on the options remains planned for August-September.

2.3.4 Otaki

(a) Terms of Reference

The Draft Terms of Reference for the Otaki Public Transport Service Review was approved by the Committee on 17 March 2011. The Draft Terms were circulated to the KCDC, the Chair of the Otaki Community Board (OCB) and to Uzabus for their input. KCDC and OCB provided feedback on 19 April which has been incorporated into an updated version circulated to KCDC for final input before being provided to the Reference group which is expected to meet after 23 June on a date to be advised by KCDC.

(b) Initial Consultation

An initial consultation brochure has been distributed to all households in Otaki, Peka Peka and Te Horo from 9 May with public feedback accepted until 16 June. This was accompanied by advertising in the Kapiti Observer, Horowhenua Mail and Otaki Mail, letters to key stakeholders including those suggested by KCDC and OCB, Metlink website and on bus advertising. KCDC and OCB requested that people working in Otaki as well as Otaki employers be consulted. To this end letters were sent to all Otaki business PO Boxes along with 350 radio adverts broadcast on ZM, Classic Hits and Newstalk ZB inviting feedback on the review.

3. Catchment Management Group

3.1 Floodplain Management Plan Implementation

3.1.1 Hutt

The Land Entry Agreement with the Boulcott Farm Heritage Golf Club has now been signed along with the Contract with Goodmans Contracting Ltd for the construction works. The contractor has been given possession of the site from 17 June 2011, although it is likely to be another month before any work commences on site. Work will start at the downstream end by Connolly St.

An information day has been planned for 21 June 2011 to let the community know about the works programme for the coming months. This will be done in conjunction with the Golf Club Management who will also be letting the community know about their ideas for club development. A ceremony to "Tee Off" construction is proposed for early July 2011 but a date has yet to be confirmed.

Work on the Bridge Road edge protection work has been completed on time and within budget.

3.1.2 Wairarapa

The capital works programme for 2010/11 for the Lower Wairarapa Development Scheme has been completed. The land entry agreements were finalised and construction of the first stage of the Tobin's stopbank completed

in April 2011. The balance of the Tobin's work will be completed over the next 2 years.

3.2 Operations Delivery

All of the annual maintenance works programmes have been completed for the year. The teams are now gearing up to start the annual planting programme in July and August. There are no significant exceptions on progress or budget to be reported.

The annual Advisory Scheme meetings were all completed during April and May 2011 with no significant issues being raised. The scheme rates for the 2011/12 year were kept at the same levels as this year but there was a shift in proposed expenditure with more funding going into the annual works programme and a corresponding reduction in the amount going into reserves. The scheme reserve levels have grown to a reasonable level after a few years with no significant floods. We do, however, propose to review the levels next year as the changes in the insurance market following the Christchurch earthquake suggests that a higher level of reserves is required.

Dr Russell Norman's visit to the Wairarapa has been rescheduled for the 12th August 2011. An itinerary for the day long visit will be prepared nearer the time.

3.3 Investigations

A report on a range of options for the updating of the Wainuiomata flood hazard information is currently being prepared. The options range from a simple re-plotting of the flood level information onto the new LIDAR survey through to a full re survey and modelling of the river system. The report will be presented to the next Hutt Valley Floodplain Management Sub Committee.

A letter has been sent to the land owners along the Whakawiriwiri Stream (South Wairarapa) advising them of the Councils decision to apply for consents for the Tawaha diversion and for the regarding of the Whakawiriwiri Stream. The key landowners and the Chair of the LWVDS were contacted personally and advised of the decision and no adverse reactions have been received to date. Ranjan Cyril, based in the Masterton office, will be responsible for the preparation of the information necessary for the lodging of these consents.

4. Recommendations

That the Committee:

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

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