

Confirmed Public minutes of the Transport Committee meeting on Thursday 24 October 2024

Taumata Kōrero – Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council
100 Cuba Street, Te Aro, Wellington at 9.31am

Members Present

Councillor Nash (Chair)
Councillor Woolf (Deputy Chair)
Councillor Bassett
Councillor Connelly
Councillor Duthie
Councillor Kirk-Burnnand
Councillor Laban
Councillor Lee
Councillor Ponter (until 11.39am)
Councillor Ropata (from 9.48am until 10.45am, from 11.18am until 11.47am, from 11.59am until 12.13pm)
Councillor Saw
Councillor Staples

Councillors Duthie and Ropata participated at this meeting remotely via Microsoft Teams and counted for the purpose of quorum in accordance with clause 25A of Schedule 7 to the Local Government Act 2002.

Karakia timatanga

The Committee Chair opened the meeting with a karakia timatanga.

Public Business

The Chair acknowledged the death on an Auckland public transport service and advised that there will be an update at the next Transport Committee on safety issues on the Wellington Region public transport services.

1 Apologies

Moved: Cr Staples / Cr Connelly

That the Committee accepts the apologies for absence from Councillor Gaylor and Andrew Lensen.

The motion was **carried**.

2 Declarations of conflicts of interest

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

3 Public participation

Derek Neale, Karori Residents' Association, spoke to the Karori Survey 2024.

Noted: The Committee requested that the Council Chair and Committee Chair write a letter to the Karori Residents' Association, thanking it for the survey and outlining the actions Greater Wellington is taking to improve transport outcomes for Karori.

Jill Day, Chair, Tawa Community Board, spoke to agenda item 6 – Public Transport Tawa On Demand Trial: Assessment and Future Options and tabled a petition.

Councillor Ropata joined the meeting remotely at 9.48am, during the above public participation presentation.

Graeme Aiken and Denys Latham, residents of Summerset on the Landing, Porirua spoke to agenda item 6 – Public Transport Tawa On Demand Trial: Assessment and Future Options.

4 Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Transport Committee meeting on 19 September 2024 – Report 24.522

Moved: Cr Laban / Cr Bassett

That the Committee confirms the Public minutes of the Transport Committee meeting on 19 September 2024 – Report 24.522.

The motion was **carried**.

5 Update on the progress of action items from previous Transport Committee meetings – October 2024 – Report 24.577 [For Information]

Samantha Gain, Group Manager Metlink, spoke to the report.

6 Public Transport Tawa On Demand trial: assessment and future options – Report 24.537

Alex Campbell, Principal Advisor Network Design, and Michael Freeman, Senior Business Development Specialist, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Staples / Cr Kirk-Burnnand

That the Committee:

- 1 Notes the Tawa On Demand Public Transport Trial ends on 31 December 2024.
- 2 Notes that Greater Wellington did not receive National Land Transport Funding for Tawa On Demand Public Transport.
- 3 Notes that Greater Wellington has received a report from MRCagney (refer Attachment 1) which advises that there are currently no opportunities in the Wellington Region where On Demand Public Transport would be more cost effective than current fixed route services.
- 4 Notes that the Tawa On Demand Public Transport Trial has demonstrated that there is demand for public transport beyond the coverage of current bus and train services.
- 5 Notes that a new bus route for Tawa aligns with the Wellington Regional Public Transport network access considerations for walking access to public transport.
- 6 Notes that a new bus route for Tawa, which provides at a minimum a weekday day hourly service can be funded within existing budgets.
- 7 Agrees to establish a new fixed route for Tawa, which provides at a minimum a weekday day hourly service.
- 8 Welcomes the feedback from the Tawa Community Board and residents of Summerset on the Landing in relation to the design of the new fixed route service.
- 9 Invites the Chief Executive to report to a future Transport Committee meeting on the logistics, costs and funding for a fixed route in Tawa, including options for extending the route to Linden and Kenepuru and to consider half hour peak frequency.

The motion was **carried**.

The meeting adjourned at 10.45am and resumed at 11.03am. Councillor Ropata was not present when the meeting resumed.

7 Route 2 Electric Articulated Vehicles – Report 24.533 [For Information]

Hamish Burns, Manager Bus and Ferry Assets, Michael Freeman, Senior Business Development Specialist, and Gareth Edwards, Project and Programme Manager, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Nash / Cr Ponter

That the Committee:

- 1 Notes the imperative of introducing articulated buses on the number 2 Route so that Metlink can increase capacity in line with patronage forecasts that show passenger numbers on this core route doubling from 3 million per year to 6 million in the next ten years.

- 2 Reconfirms the commitment to finalising the first stage of procurement for articulated buses on the number 2 Route, in line with previously approved plans and budgets, by the end of 2024.
- 3 Invites the Chief Executive to report back on progress towards finalising the procurement of articulated buses at the next Transport Committee meeting in November.

The motion was **carried**.

Councillor Ropata returned to the meeting at 11.18am during questions on the above item.

8 Regional Public Transport Plan Review – Update – Report 24.534

Emmet McElhatton, Manger Policy, and Scott Walker, Senior Policy Advisor, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Saw / Cr Bassett

That the Committee:

- 1 Notes that work has continued on the review of Te Mahere Waka Whenua Tūmatanui o te Rohe o Pōneke Wellington Regional Public Transport Plan (RPTP).
- 2 Notes that the National Land Transport Fund (NLTF) funding decisions has created a \$134 million shortfall in funding which will require Metlink to re-examine the planned projects around the Wellington Region.
- 3 Notes that decisions from the Committee on which projects should be continued and in what form are needed before a draft Wellington RPTP can be presented to the Committee.
- 4 Agrees to the amended timelines, with the draft Te Mahere Waka Whenua Tūmatanui o te Rohe o Pōneke Wellington Regional Public Transport Plan scheduled to be:
 - a presented to, and endorsed by, the Committee on 13 February 2025
 - b publicly consulted on between 3 and 27 March 2025, with hearings and deliberations in May 2025.
 - c Adoption by Council 26 June 2025 following Committee consideration on 12 June 2025.
- 5 Notes that public consultation on the draft RPTP will be conducted in conjunction with Greater Wellington's 2025/26 Annual Plan in March 2025.

The motion was **carried**.

9 Public Transport Performance Update – Report 24.538 [For Information]

Matthew Chote, Senior Manager Operations and Partnerships, spoke to the report.

Councillor Ponter left the meeting at 11.39am and did not return.

Councillor Ropata left the meeting at 11.47am.

Noted: The Committee requested the statistics of the operators running the unplanned rail services replaced by buses.

Noted: The Committee requested a breakdown of reported problems with buses replacing rail services, the reasons why problems are occurring and possible solutions.

Noted: The Committee requested an update on the installation of bus shelters at Petherick Street and High Street in Taitā, Lower Hutt, and Wood Street in Wainuiomata.

10 Public Transport Operator Update – Mana – Report 24.581 [For Information]

Craig Chin, Managing Director, Mana, spoke to the report.

Councillor Ropata returned to the meeting at 11.59am, during the above item.

Councillor Ropata left the meeting at 12.13pm during the above item and did not return.

Karakia whakamutunga

The Committee Chair closed the meeting with a karakia whakamutunga.

The public meeting closed at 12.18pm.



Councillor T Nash

Chair

Date: 28/11/24