

Regional Transport Committee Minutes

Meeting held in the NRC Council Chamber
36 Water Street, Whangārei
on Tuesday 2 April 2024, commencing at 11.00am

Tuhinga/Present:

Chair, Councillor Joe Carr
Deputy Chairperson, Councillor John Blackwell
FNDC Councillor Steve McNally
WDC Councillor Simon Reid
KDC Councillor Ash Nayyar
Waka Kotahi Director Regional Relationships Steve Mutton

I Tae Mai/In Attendance:

Full Meeting

NRC Councillor, Rick Stolwerk (*online*)
NRC GM Community Resilience, Louisa Gritt
NRC Policy Specialist, Michael Payne
NRC Governance Specialist, Gavin Dawson
NRC Secretariat, Erica Wyatt
NTA General Manager, Calvin Thomas
NTA Transport Manager, Chris Powell (*online*)
NTA Representative, Dawn Spence
NTA Representative, Nicole Korach
NTA Representative, Kayla Gunson
NTA Representative, Elizabeth Stacy
Waka Kotahi, Martin Taylor (*online, 11.07am*)
FNDC Councillor, Ann Court
FNDC Mayor, Moko Tepania
WDC Mayor, Vince Cocurullo (*arrived 11.10am*)
FNDC, Anin Nama
Northern Advocate, Susan Bolting
WDC, Jim Sephton (*online*), (*onsite: 11.22am*)

Part Meeting

WDC Councillor, Phil Halse, (*arrived 12.04pm*)
NRC Rivers & Natural Hazards Manager, Joseph Camuso (*arrived 12.11pm*)
Automobile Association Representative, Tracey Risetto (*left 11.47am*)
Northland Road Safety Trust, Ashley Johnston (*left 12.08pm*)

The Chair declared the meeting open at 11.00am.

Karakia Whakamutunga

FNDC Mayor, Moko Tepania

Ngā Mahi Whakapai/Housekeeping (Item 1.0)

Ngā whakapahā/Apologies (Item 2.0)

Moved (Reid/Nayyar)

That the apologies from, KiwiRail Programme Director Northland Eric Hennepf and WDC CE Simon Weston.

Carried

Nga whakapuakanga/Declarations of Conflicts of Interest (Item 3.0)

It was advised that members should make declarations item-by-item as the meeting progressed.

Confirmation of Minutes - 13 February 2024 (Item 4.1)

Report from Erica Wyatt, Personal Assistant - General Manager Community Resilience

Ngā mahi tūtohutia / Recommendation

Moved: (Blackwell/Nayyar)

That the minutes of the Regional Transport Committee meeting held on 13 February 2024, be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Carried

Receipt of Action Sheet (Item 5.1)

Report from Erica Wyatt, Personal Assistant - General Manager Community Resilience

Nga mahi tūtohutia / Recommendation

Moved: (Nayyar/Reid)

1. That the action sheet be received.
2. That the RTC to NRC Brynderwyns Report be received
3. That the RTC to NRC Brynderwyns Report be approved for reporting to Northland Regional Council

Secretarial note: Steve Muton requested corrections of fact to the RTC to NRC Brynderwyns report as follows:

NZTA are mindful of the disruption to Northland communities and businesses with SH1 Brynderwyn Hills being temporarily closed while we undertake critical work. The corridor continues to be closed temporarily, so we can get the work done faster and make it more resilient for people before winter. It is important that we undertake this critical work to ensure we don't have lengthy closures like we have experienced on SH1 through the Mangamuka Gorge.

NZTA have committed \$61m for the Brynderwyn Hills resilience work. There will be additional costs incurred due to operational activities to meet resource consent requirements, additional material being removed and re-opening of the corridor over the Easter break.

It was agreed that these comments would be added to the report.

Carried

Regional Land Transport Plan 2021/2027 - National Funding Assistance Uptake Report. (Item 6.1)

Report from Chris Powell, Transport Manager - Northland Transportation Alliance

Ngā mahi tūtohutia / Recommendation

Moved: (Nayyar/Blackwell)

That the report 'Regional Land Transport Plan 2021/2027 - National Funding Assistance Uptake Report.' by Chris Powell, Transport Manager - Northland Transportation Alliance and dated 4 March 2024, be received.

Carried

Retrospective Approval for the Submission on the Draft Government Policy Statement on Land Transport 2024. (Item 7.1)

Report from Chris Powell, Transport Manager - Northland Transportation Alliance

Recommendation(s)

Moved (Nayyar/Blackwell)

1. That the report 'Retrospective Approval for the Submission on the Draft Government Policy Statement on Land Transport 2024.' by Chris Powell, Transport Manager - Northland Transportation Alliance and dated 14 March 2024, be received.
2. That the Regional Transport Committee retrospectively approve the submission on the Draft Government Policy Statement on Land Transport compiled by the Regional Transport Committee and released to the Ministry of Transport.

Secretarial note: NZTA abstained from the final decision of the RTC Draft GPS submission, and would like it recorded that this submission is not the position of NZTA and that NZTA will be giving their own submission on the Draft GPS.

Carried

Draft Regional Land Transport Plan 2021/2027 - Three Year Review - Update (Item 7.2)

Report from Chris Powell, Transport Manager - Northland Transportation Alliance and Michael Payne, Policy Specialist

Recommendation(s)

Moved: (Blackwell/Mutton)

1. That the report 'Draft Regional Land Transport Plan 2021/2027 - Three Year Review - Update' by Chris Powell, Transport Manager - Northland Transportation Alliance and Michael Payne, Policy Specialist and dated 20 March 2024, be received.

Carried

Moved: (Blackwell/Nayyar)

2. That the Regional Land Transport Committee approve staff to make minor amendments to the Strategic Front End of the Draft Regional Land Transport Plan 2021/2027 – Three Year Review to align with the Draft Government Policy Statement on Land Transport 2024 and that the Chair of the Regional Transport Committee be delegated authority to approve these minor changes.

Secretarial note: The MoT and NZTA have given a six week extension for the submissions of the RLTP with a new due date of 1 August 2024.

Carried

Moved: (Mutton/Reid)

3. That the Regional Transport Committee approve the receipt of late submissions from the Far North, Whangarei, Kaipara District Councils, the Northland Regional Council and NZTA to make the necessary changes to their funding applications.

Secretarial note: NTA will contact council members to check their available dates for draft deliberations then distribute a timetable.

Carried

Moved: (McNally/Blackwell)

4. That the Regional Transport Committee approve that in the event that the Significance Policy is triggered by the release of the State Highway Investment Proposal or by updating of the Funding Application Spreadsheets of Far North, Whangarei and Kaipara District councils or Northern Regional Council, that targeted consultation be undertaken on the relevant projects with the consultation programme approved by the Chair of the Regional Transport Committee.

Carried

Action:

- If the significance policy is triggered, NTA will confirm if the State Highway 1 to Bay of Islands project has to undergo a consultation process as it is a project that has already been identified.

Northland Road Safety - Update (Item 8.1)

Report from Chris Powell, Transport Manager - Northland Transportation Alliance and Nicole Cauty, Road Safety Project Manager

Ngā mahi tūtohutia / Recommendation

Moved: (McNally/Reid)

That the report 'Northland Road Safety - Update' by Chris Powell, Transport Manager - Northland Transportation Alliance and Nicole Cauty, Road Safety Project Manager and dated 4 March 2024, be received.

Secretarial note: KDC infrastructure improvements are on hold as speed limits in the area are been revised.

To help reduce Northland fatalities the RTC are advocating for more maintenance and more improvements to the roads.

Northland Road Safety Trust representative advised that they have a number of educational programmes available.

It was noted that Police are no longer attending the RTC meetings and it was acknowledged that they are an important partner to this committee, and that their attendance is extremely valuable.

Carried

Northland Local Roads Resilience Strategy (Item 8.2)

Report from Calvin Thomas, Northland Transport Alliance Manager and Dawn Spence, NTA Asset Strategy & Management Lead

Ngā mahi tūtohutia / Recommendation

Moved: (Nayyar/McNally)

That the report 'Northland Local Roads Resilience Strategy' by Calvin Thomas, Northland Transport Alliance Manager and Dawn Spence, NTA Asset Strategy & Management Lead and dated 21 March 2024, be received.

Secretarial note: There was discussion had around FAR and the fact if council's don't uptake all the FAR it will be lost.

Members want more local detour routes added to map figure 3.4, in particular the Twin Coast Discovery Route from Kaitaia and Rawene via kohukohu.

There was discussion on how can we ensure resilience with more Forest harvest occurring and the associated increase in heavy trucks on Northland's roads?

Carried

Secretarial note: Tracey Risetto left meeting 11.47am

Section 17a Plus review Update (Item 8.3)

Report from Louisa Gritt, Group Manager - Community Resilience

Ngā mahi tūtohutia / Recommendation

Moved: (Reid/Blackwell)

1. That the 'Section 17a Plus review Update only' by Louisa Gritt, Group Manager - Community Resilience and dated 4 March 2024, be received.

Secretarial note: Amendments were made to resolution 1 following conversation of the Joint Committee members.

This committee acknowledges that the report placed on the agenda was in error and will be immediately taken off the website with a new recommendation to receive the update only. The Chair asked for a press embargo.

Apology was given from Chair Joe Carr on attaching the confidential report.

Carried

Secretary note: Northland Road Safety trust, Ashely Johnston left 12.08pm.

Short, Medium and Long Term options for management of the SH1 South Brynderwyns (Item 8.4)

Report from Louisa Gritt, Group Manager - Community Resilience

Ngā mahi tūtohutia / Recommendation

Moved: (McNally/Reid)

- That the report 'Short, Medium and Long Term options for management of the SH1 South Brynderwyns' by Louisa Gritt, Group Manager - Community Resilience and dated 4 March 2024, be received.

Carried

NZTA update (Item 8.5)

Report from Steve Mutton, NZTA - Director Regional Relationships, Te Tai Tokerau me Tāmaki Makaurau

Ngā mahi tūtohutia / Recommendation

Moved: (McNally/Mutton)

- That the report 'NZTA update' by Steve Mutton, NZTA - Director Regional Relationships, Te Tai Tokerau me Tāmaki Makaurau and dated 4 March 2024, be received.

Secretarial note: Northland maintenance programme is well underway at 74% progress to date.

Carried

KiwiRail verbal update (Item 8.6)

Report from Eric Hennepf, KiwiRail - Programme Director Northland

Secretarial note: In absence of KiwiRail representative, no verbal update given.

SH1 Whakapara Route Resilience Proposal update (Item 8.7)

Report from Joseph Camuso, Rivers & Natural Hazards Manager

Ngā mahi tūtohutia / Recommendation

Moved: (Carr/Blackwell)

That the report 'SH1 Whakapara Route Resilience Proposal update' by Joseph Camuso, Rivers & Natural Hazards Manager and dated 4 March 2024, be received.

Secretarial note: Discussion was had around the use of the railroad in extreme weather events.

Carried

Committee members priorities and updates (Item 8.8)

Report from Calvin Thomas, Northland Transport Alliance Manager

Ngā mahi tūtohutia / Recommendation

Moved: (Nayyar/Reid)

1. That the report 'Committee members priorities and updates' by Calvin Thomas, Northland Transport Alliance Manager and dated 4 March 2024, be received.
2. The supplementary verbal updates provided by Regional Transport Committee members be received.

Secretarial note: Due to members not receiving all of Item 8.8., this item is to be carried over to the next meeting on 11 June.

Carried

Karakia Whakamutunga

FNDC Mayor, Moko Tepania

Whakamutunga (Conclusion)

The meeting concluded at 12.18pm.