

Joint WDC-NRC Whangarei Public Transport Working Party Minutes

Meeting held in the NRC council chambers
36 Water Street,
Whangārei
on Tuesday 1 October 2024, commencing at 9.00am

Tuhinga/Present:

Chairperson, NRC Councillor Rick Stolwerk
NRC Councillor Jack Craw
WDC Councillor Carol Peters
NRC Councillor Joe Carr
WDC Councillor Simon Reid (arrived 09.09am)

I Tae Mai/In Attendance:

Full Meeting

NRC Transport Manager, Chris Powell
NRC Regional Transport Coordinator, Kayla Gunson
NRC Secretary, Haylee Labelle

Part Meeting

NRC Transport Project Officer, Dean Mitchell (left 09.25am)
Otago Regional Council - Regional Integrated Ticketing Solution Contract
Manager, Paul Everitt (left 09.25am)

The Chair declared the meeting open at 0900am. Cr Peters opened with a Karakia

Ngā Mahi Whakapai/Housekeeping (Item 1.0)

Ngā whakapahā/Apologies (Item 2.0)

Moved

That the apologies from WDC Councillor Scott McKenzie and GM Community Resilience Louisa Gritt for non-attendance be received.

Carried

Confirmation of Minutes - 25 July 2024 (Extraordinary) (Item 4.1)

Report from Haylee Labelle, Personal Assistant Community Resilience

Moved (Peters/Carr)

That the minutes of the Whangarei Public Transport Working Party Extraordinary meeting held on 25 July 2024, be confirmed as a true and correct record and that these be duly authenticated by the Chair.

Carried

Receipt of Action Sheet - 1 October 2024 (Item 5.1)

Report from Haylee Labelle, Personal Assistant Community Resilience

Moved

That the action sheet be received.

Carried

Presentation - National Ticketing Solution (Item 6.1)

Presentation from Paul Everitt, Otago Regional Council

Moved

That the presentation “National Ticketing Solution’ by Paul Everitt, Otago Regional Council and dated 18 September 2024, be received.

Carried

Secretarial notes – The purpose of the ticketing solution is to provide a national standardised electronic ticketing system that will be both easier to administer and for customers to use. This will be also be used on trains (AKL/WGTN) and on ferries where applicable.

Prior to introduction customers will be asked to run the balances down on their existing cards as we cannot transfer money to their bank accounts. The Bee Card will be discontinued as customers use Motu Move cards/credit cards/eftpos/cash to pay. There will be no transaction fees to use a credit card for payment. Physical cards will still be available e.g. children won’t have a credit/eftpos card so will use the ‘Motu Move’ card.

The intent is no transfers from the Bee Card. Customers to use up balance on their Bee Card prior to introduction. It is easy for staff to view balances as the be ecard website exists until the last changeover to the new system.

There will be a national retail network managed by NZTA e.g. dairies. There will also be an NZTA 0800 number for customer support.

A staged delivery will be followed due to large amount of work for changing equipment in busses is a big job e.g. 3000 buses as the current system not compatible with new one. We have asked for everything to be done for Northland e.g. Kaitia and Hokianga. Whangarei is currently the only full electronic provider in Northland so the concern of balances wont impact the far north who currently use cash.

There may be local costs which are not budgeted for in the LTP but ongoing implementation costs go to NZTA.

Northland is scheduled for NTS implementation in November 2025

Operational Report (Item 6.2)

Report from Chris Powell, Transport Manager - Northland Regional Council and Kayla Gunson, Regional Transport Coordinator

Moved

That the report ‘Operational Report’ by Chris Powell, Transport Manager - Northland Regional Council and Kayla Gunson, Regional Transport Coordinator and dated 13 August 2024, be received.

Carried

Secretarial notes: Staff will be undertaking a full review of all contracted passenger services managed by the NRC. This review will include input from the community and the operators. Consultation will be undertaken through media, online outlets and through public surveys.

Chris and Dean are planning to visit the CityLink operator to discuss the ongoing SchoolLink driver shortage issue.

Update received from Jeff Devine on T2 lanes that there is one more decision to be made by WDC regarding the funds required which has increased from \$341k to approx. \$500k to account for cost increases for traffic light phasing and road marking into Kamo.

The release of the additional funds needs to be voted on by the WDC. The meeting is Thursday 10 October 9am. The WPTWP members are supportive of the work proceeding and request a letter of support be generated to be tabled at the meeting. Cr Craw will attend this meeting to encourage a vote of support.

The Total Mobility scheme continues to grow rapidly. The Ministry of Transport review into the eligibility criteria for clients, operators and funding requirements continues.

WDC are looking to start work on the first phase of Rose Street bus terminal late October/early November (talking about building only). Will need to move buses, ticket office and toilets during construction phase. No finish date provided as yet.

Passenger numbers on the SchoolLink service continue to climb. No ongoing or serious incident at Rose Street.

Survey drafted for Bream Bay Link service extension.

Other discussion took place about endorsing 4 lanes from Whau Valley lights to Kensington Avenue to ease congestion, this would require a report.

Action:

- 1. NRC Transport Manager to provide Cr Stolwerk a timeline for the Bream Bay link service extension survey**
- 2. NRC Transport manager to draft a letter of support to go to WDC by 10/10/24 advocating for an increase in local share to \$500k due to light phasing and other factors for stage 2 of T2 lanes**

Whakamutunga (Conclusion)

The meeting concluded at 9.53am with karakia by Cr Stolwerk