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Corporate Plan Output: Transport Policy Advice	

The purpose of this report is to update the committee on recent progress on the central city bus interchange and termini study.

Since the previous meeting of this committee, the public meeting of 4 March has been held, work is continuing on the Pre-Assessment report, and the City Council sub-committee (Councillors O'Rourke, Manning, Thompson, and Wright) has had another seminar.

The public meeting was held in the Town Hall, and was attended by some 200 people, including Councillors from both Councils. The meeting covered the following topics:

- Work since 1996 Cathedral Square plan adoption
- Various consultants' reports
- Current study process and timetable
- Invitation onto advisory group
- Community consultation outline
- Questions and comments

The main issues raised by audience in the general question and discussion session covered:

- The composition of Advisory Group
- The need for adequate consultation by Council
- Some suggested sites for interchanges/termini
- An alternative operational system
- The need to retain flexibility for future (don't design only for today)
- Ticketing improvement options
- Safety/security/weather protection etc. of infrastructure
- Through routing

After the meeting, people had the opportunity to volunteer to participate in a Consultative Group or to be on a contact list for information distribution over the course of this study. At the time of writing the Consultative Group was still being formed and its first meeting is anticipated to be in the week of 12 April.

Also at the time of writing this report, the pre-assessment report was still being written, but a draft executive summary will be presented at the Committee meeting for comment. Feedback and comment will be sought on certain issues in the report before its finalisation (including the assessment criteria to be used in the option assessments).

The Council sub-committee had a seminar on Wednesday 10 March. The composition of the Consultative Group and its terms of reference were reviewed, particularly in the light of the response from the public meeting (both revised versions attached). The study process was also reviewed, focussing on the different issues involved dependent upon whether the interchange was on-street or off-street. As a result, the process was

altered to move towards a decision point on this matter (a process diagram showing this is attached). A presentation on this matter (on-street and off-street interchanges), inviting comment from this committee will be made at this meeting.

Work has also been commissioned on forming an assessment framework for the social/environmental effects of the peripheral termini on the residential population, and on the impacts of bus stops on (central city) retail shops. This work will be completed toward the end of April or early May.

Recommendation: For information and comment.

Chairman's

Recommendation: For discussion.