

Report To: UDS Implementation Committee
Subject: Development of the Canterbury Regional Land Transport Strategy 2011-41
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1. Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to introduce the development process, timeline and key matters in relation to the next Regional Land Transport Strategy (RLTS), and to receive feedback from the UDSIC at this stage on any matters arising in relation to the project.

2. Background

On June 15th 2009 the Regional Transport Committee approved commencement of the development of the RLTS 2011 – 2041. The Regional Transport Committee has the statutory role of preparing the RLTS on behalf of the Canterbury Regional Council. The RLTS sets out the land transport outcomes that the region aims to achieve. A RLTS must be prepared every six years and have a 30 year outlook.

The RLTS contributes to the aim of achieving an affordable, integrated, safe, responsive and sustainable land transport system that assists economic development, assists safety and personal security, improves access and mobility, protects and promotes public health and ensures environmental sustainability. It should be consistent with any national policy statement and regional policy statement or plan in force under the RMA. It must also take into account the Government Policy Statement on Land Transport Funding (GPS) and any national energy efficiency and conservation strategy and any relevant district plans.

The current RLTS 2008 – 2018 was developed prior to some significant changes to transport legislation and is based on some assumptions that are becoming dated in relation to now looking towards 2041. It is proposed to develop a new RLTS by June 2011 in order to inform development of the Regional Land Transport Programme 2012 – 2022 and to provide guidance to local authorities for the next and subsequent rounds of Long Term Council Community Plans. Conveniently and significantly, the planning horizon for the RLTS will align with the UDS planning horizon.

The front end of the process for developing the new RLTS is to define the issues that have implications for the region's transport system over the next 30 years and to account for what issues may present themselves to the region beyond 2041. The issues will form the basis to develop strategy options during the following stage in the development of the RLTS.

3. Process

Development of the RLTS is overseen by the RTC and supported by an RTC sub-committee and the Regional Land Transport Officers Group (TOG) which comprises officers from all of the region's local authorities plus representatives from the Ministry of Transport and New Zealand Transport Agency.

One of the key objectives in the development of the RLTS is that an inclusive and collaborative approach is undertaken to ensure there is widespread understanding and acceptance of the:

- transport issues facing the region,
- options available to address those issues,
- agreed approach to addressing those issues, and
- role of each delivery agency in the strategy's implementation.

Alongside the other processes that support implementation of the UDS, development of the RLTS necessitates the continued need for a high degree of collaboration and co-ordination between the UDS partners. This is continuing to take place with the development of proposals that will run in parallel with the RLTS development, such as the Christchurch Transport Plan.

A detailed, end to end, two year consultation strategy has not been developed due to the complexity of the process ahead of TOG. Part of the step towards achieving that strategy will be early engagement with each local authority in the region, to gauge the preferred manner, type and frequency of involvement in the process. It has been recognised however that close involvement of all the local authorities and the NZTA will be essential, and that intelligent use be made of public consultation to ensure an inclusion strategy is developed that has the buy in from the community as well as the parties who be responsible for it's implementation.

4. Timeline

Issues Identification	Present
Consult on Issues	Nov 2009
RTC approves Issues	Feb 2010
Strategic options developed and assessed	2010
Preferred option defined	late 2010
Draft RLTS for consultation and SCP	Mar 2011
RLTS adopted	June 2011

5. Recommendation

That the UDSIC receives the report "Development of the Canterbury Regional Land Transport Strategy 2011-41".