

# MINUTES

**TITLE:** Tasman Regional Transport Committee  
**DATE:** Friday 9 March 2012  
**TIME:** 9.30 am  
**VENUE:** Tasman Council Chamber, 189 Queen Street,  
Richmond.

**PRESENT:** Crs T E Norriss (Chair), B W Dowler, Z S Mirfin and P F Sangster  
Lyndon Hammond, NZ Transport Agency  
Mark Owen, NZ Transport Agency  
Jo Leyland, Environment and Sustainability  
Bill Findlater, Economic Development  
Kura Stafford, Iwi Representative  
Jenni Richardson, Safety and Personal Security Appointee  
Cr Rachel Reese, Nelson City Council (10.39 am)

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Gary Clark, Transportation Manager, Tasman District Council  
Sarah Downs, Transportation Planning Officer, Tasman District Council  
Ray Firth, MWH NZ Administration Officer (G Woodgate)

## APOLOGIES

Moved Findlater/Cr Sangster  
TRTC12-03-01

THAT apologies from Cr J L Edgar, Jenny Chetwynd, Paul Heywood and Peter Burton for absence be received.

CARRIED

## 1 PUBLIC FORUM

No-one spoke in Public Forum.

## 2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

### 2.1 Tasman Regional Transport Committee – 16 December 2011

**Moved Cr Dowler/Findlater  
TRTC12-03-02**

**THAT the minutes of the Tasman Regional Transport Committee meeting held on 16 December 2011 containing resolutions TRTC11-12-01 to TRTC11-10-05, be confirmed as a true and complete record.  
CARRIED**

**3 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Cr Norriss gave a verbal report which advised that conjecture had arisen regarding the three roundabouts between Richmond and Stoke. An article in a local newspaper wrongly accused the Tasman District Council (TDC) of causing the Nelson City Council (NCC) to lose \$2m over the roundabout issue. Clarification on this matter and a media release would follow this meeting.

**Moved Crs Norris/Dowler  
TRTC12-03-03**

**THAT the Tasman Regional Transport Committee receives the Chairman's Report.  
CARRIED**

**4 UPDATE FROM THE NEW ZEALAND TRANSPORT AGENCY -  
RRTC11-10-01**

Mr Lyndon Hammond, New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) was in attendance to present Ms Jenny Chetwynd's report which was included in the agenda.

The report provided an update on the NZTA's role in the delivery of the regional Land transport Strategy and the National Land Transport Programme in the Tasman Region and provided an update on key initiatives that may impact the strategic development of the regional transport network.

The NZTA report covered the following matters:-

- 2009-12 NLTP Implementation Update
  - Update on Tasman State Highway & Network Operations Activities
  - Maruia Erosion works
  - Retaining structures at Hope Saddle, Kawatiri and Shenandoah Saddle
  - Birds Hill Slip
  - Nelson Tasman Network Maintenance Contract
- Other NZTA & Ministry of transport Initiatives of regional Significance
  - RLTP & NLTP Development – Moderation
  - High productivity Motor Vehicle Routes
  - Road Maintenance Taskforce
  - Implementing the Safer Journey's Road Safety Strategy
  - Tasman Emergency Works Funding – Totaranui Road
- Tasman State Highway & Network Ops Activities in the 2009-12 NLTP.

Mr Hammond advised the following:-

- NZTA is behind in general maintenance activities

- The Maruia erosion works is due to start in April and HNO staff are working closely with Tasman District Council staff to get a joint solution to a difficult problem.
- NZTA is currently going through the design process for Bird's Hill and drilling of test pits is to begin shortly. Two lanes should be available by Christmas 2013.

Cr Sangster advised that he was disappointed with the inaccuracies of the Birds Hill report and outlined those inaccuracies. He asked for an explanation as to why nothing was done at all for the first 1½ days following the slip and added that dairy farmers lost milk production because of the lengthy road closure.

- A session was held at the end of February on the Draft 2012/15 Regional Land Transport Programme (RLTP) that identified points of pressure in the programme. There is a lot of pressure on final maintenance budgets/programmes that will need prioritising.

The Chair advised that the previous TDC roading maintenance programme was far too cheap and an increase will come through in next year's contract. Mr Hammond accepted this and advised that he understood that TDC's roading maintenance contract would increase.

Asked to confirm if the Canterbury rebuild was higher than expected, Mr Hammond advised that highway construction activity is the 'biggest bucket'.

Mr Hammond and Mr Owen advised of a 'flat lining maintenance budget' from NZTA over the next three years. A Maintenance Task Force had been established and feedback from this Task Force will come next month.

Gary Clark noted that bigger contractors had bigger overheads and therefore had higher contract prices. He added that smaller contractors were cheaper, employed locals and this benefitted local communities.

- Mr Hammond noted that the new Restricted Driver Test is harder and required a more complex traffic environment hence the more centralised testing in Nelson. He added that it was all about 'hazard recognition'.

The Chair advised that the Tasman district was disadvantaged by this decision adding that it was 'unbelievable to expect young people to travel from the likes of Murchison to Nelson and back for this test'.

Cr Sangster advised that most of the fatal accidents in the Tasman district happened at night, involved speed plus a powerful motor vehicle. He felt that defensive driving courses would do far more good than making the Restricted Driver Test harder and centralising it in Nelson and added that it greatly inconvenienced rural people.

- Mr Hammond advised that Totaranui Road funding had now been signed off.

The Chair advised that TDC was very appreciative of getting the funding to open Totaranui Road.

Cr Sangster noted that it took 10 days to open Totaranui Road after the weather event and it has taken until March to get a digger in there.

Cr Mirfin was advised by Mr Hammond that approximately \$100m of funding was set aside annually for unexpected flood event repairs to roading from within a \$3.6b roading programme.

**Moved Findlater/Mirfin**  
**TRTC12-03-04**

**THAT the Tasman Regional Transport Committee receives the Update from the New Zealand Transport Agency report, RRTC12-03-01.**  
**CARRIED**

**5 DRAFT REGIONAL LAND TRANSPORT PROGRAMME FOR TASMAN 2012 to 2014/5 – RRTC12-03-02**

Mr Gary Clark, Transportation Manager, Tasman District Council was in attendance to present his report which was included in the agenda.

The purpose of the report was to approve the Draft Regional Land Transport Programme (RLTP) for public consultation and covered the following matters:-

- Background
- Present Situation/Matters to be Considered
- Financial/Budgetary Considerations
- Prioritisation.

Mr Clark noted that the recent December weather event impacted on the time spent on the RLTP. He added that TDC's transport programme had been cut by approximately \$3m per year and that most of the remaining TDC projects were for maintenance and operations.

Projects within the TDC Draft RLTP that included a Nelson City Council component was then discussed.

Three Roundabouts

Issues regarding the roundabouts at Champion Road, Stoke and the Stoke Bypass were then discussed. Mr Clark advised that he wanted a better micro simulation modelling study undertaken on the roundabouts.

10.39 am: Cr Rachel Reese, NCC arrived.

It was agreed that discussions between TDC, NCC and HNO were required to progress this issue. TDC staff also advised that they needed to raise this issue with their Council.

Once progressed, the roundabout in the Tasman District would be included in the RLTP.

The Chair requested Committee members supply any suggested amendments to the Draft RLTP to Mr Clark or Ms Sarah Downs as soon as possible for actioning.

**Moved Cr Dowler/Findlater**

**TRTC12-03-05**

1. **THAT the Tasman Regional Transport Committee receives the Draft Regional Land Transport Programme Report, RESC12-03-02; and**
2. **THAT the Tasman Regional Transport Committee approve that the Chairman and Tasman District Council Transportation Manager be given delegated authority to complete and approve the final draft RLTP for public consultation as outlined in the report RRTC12-03-02.**

**CARRIED**

## **6 CHANGES TO THE RIGHT HAND GIVE WAY RULE - RRTC12-03-03**

Mr Gary Clark provided information on the changes to the give way to the right rule and its implications on the Tasman District road network.

Ms Jenni Richardson advised that the give way to the right rule comes into effect on 25 March 2012 and that at risk intersections will be monitored by Police – especially the Williams Street/Salisbury Road intersection since Mr Gary Clark had noted this could be one of particular concern.

Mr Clark advised that the latest TDC Newslines had an article on the new give way to the right rule.

**Moved Cr Sangster/Richardson**

**TRTC12-03-06**

**THAT the Tasman Regional Transport Committee receives the Changes to the Right Hand Give Way Rule report – RRTC12-03-03.**

**CARRIED**

The meeting concluded at 11.08 am.

Date Confirmed:

Chair: