

2012 Regional Land Transport Programme Update

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to update the Board on progress in preparing the 2012 Regional Land Transport Programme (RLTP).

Background

The preparation of the 2012 RLTP is well underway as follows:

- Information on proposed activities for the RLTP and also the Long Term Plan (LTP) is being collected by Business Support and the Asset Management team to create a ten year programme of activities. A single list of AT activities will be used for both processes.
- Liaison with Auckland Council staff has identified areas where the RLTP and LTP consultation processes can be coordinated, reducing cost and potential for public confusion.
- A draft RLTP document is being prepared for Board approval in November prior to the commencement of the public consultation period in February 2012
- NZTA has advised AT that the deadlines for submitting the 2012 RLTP have changed, with the final RLTP now due on 30 June 2012 (previously 30 April 2012). The draft RLTP document must be submitted to NZTA by Christmas 2011, and a list of activities must be submitted to NZTA by 31 October 2011.

Statement of Priorities

There is a statutory requirement under the Land Transport Management Act to include a Statement of Priorities in the RLTP which states the priority for transport investment over the six financial years from the start of the RLTP. The RLTP must be consistent with the Regional Land Transport Strategy and the Government Policy Statement, and AT also has statutory obligations to deliver Auckland Plan objectives and our own Statement of Intent. These requirements formed the basis of the Statement of Priorities.

In conjunction with NZTA and Auckland Council staff, the following four regional priorities have been identified for the Auckland region, including state highway activities, for the six years commencing 1 July 2012:

- *Support the integration of land use and transport*
The aim of this priority is to develop an integrated multi modal system that supports the future development of Auckland as set out in the Auckland Plan.
- *Support the connectivity and integration of the region's transport system*
This priority seeks integration between the region's transport networks to provide a seamless transport system. It will focus effort on completing regional networks such as the Western Ring Route and the Rapid Transit Network in a coordinated way that improves journey times and reliability across the whole transport system.
- *Make best use of the existing transport system*
It is a priority to leverage the optimum value from the existing transport system by making best use of existing assets and resources before considering investing in new infrastructure or services to add additional capacity.

- *Improve transport safety and reduce the adverse impacts from transport on the surrounding environment*

This priority seeks to reduce the adverse impact of the transport system on Auckland residents by improving safety and addressing negative environmental impacts.

Public Consultation

The RLTP must be publicly consulted on using the special consultative procedure in the Local Government Act.

The preliminary programme for RLTP engagement (June 2011 Board meeting) suggested a series of workshops with the various Council stakeholders in September and October. Auckland Council is also planning to discuss the Long Term Plan (LTP) with those stakeholders over the same period. It is now recommended that both the RLTP and the LTP be discussed at the same series of workshops, to be held in September. Details of AT engagement with Maori and Auckland Council's advisory boards are yet to be finalised.

Public consultation for the RLTP will run from 1 February 2012 for approximately five weeks. It is proposed to use Auckland Council resources to manage the RLTP public consultation process which will be occurring at a similar time to the LTP process. This will reduce costs and present a coordinated approach to ratepayers.

In order to produce a final RLTP by 30 June 2012, a draft document will be presented at the May Board meeting for approval. This means that the replies to submitters must be formally signed off at the April Board meeting. The preferred date for the public hearings is therefore the week commencing 19th March 2012.

Next Steps

- Early engagement with Local Boards, Councillors, Maori and advisory Boards in September 2011, before the draft document is prepared
- AT receives all submissions from Highways and Network Operations (NZTA), Auckland Council and AT during September and produces a prioritised list. This list will be submitted to the October Board meeting for approval before formally submitting to NZTA.
- The draft RLTP document is written and submitted for Board approval at the November 2011 Board meeting
- Public consultation starts in February 2012

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Auckland Transport Board receives this report and confirms the proposed work programme.

WRITTEN BY	Stuart McDougall RLTP Manager	
RECOMMENDED by	Peter Clark Corporate Manager Strategy and Planning	
APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION by	David Warburton Chief Executive	