

Confirmed Public minutes of the Council meeting on Thursday 16 May 2024

Taumata Kōrero – Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council | Te Pane Matua Taiao
100 Cuba Street, Te Aro, Wellington at 11.30am

Members Present

Councillor Ponter (Chair)
Councillor Staples (Deputy Chair)
Councillor Bassett
Councillor Connelly
Councillor Duthie
Councillor Gaylor
Councillor Kirk-Burnnand
Councillor Laban
Councillor Lee
Councillor Nash
Councillor Saw

Councillor Gaylor participated at this meeting remotely via Microsoft Teams and counted for the purpose of quorum in accordance with clause 25B of schedule 7 to the Local Government Act 2002.

Karakia timatanga

The Council Chair opened the meeting with a karakia timatanga.

Public Business

1 Apologies

Moved: Cr Nash / Cr Saw

That Council accepts the apologies for absence from Councillors Ropata and Woolf.

The motion was **carried**.

2 Declarations of conflicts of interest

- 3** Councillor Connelly declared a conflict of interest with regard to item 6 - Appointment of members to the Regional Transport Committee – Report 24.186.

4 Public participation

There was no public participation.

The Council Chair advised that agenda items 4 and 5 will be moved to the end of the agenda in accordance with Standing Order 3.5.2.

5 Appointment of members to the Regional Transport Committee – Report 24.186

Moved: Cr Staples / Cr Bassett

That Council:

- 1 Revokes the appointment of Mayor Martin Connelly, South Wairarapa District Council, to the Regional Transport Committee.
- 2 Appoints Deputy Mayor Melissa Sadler-Futter to represent South Wairarapa District Council.
- 3 Appoints Councillor Aidan Ellims as alternate for South Wairarapa District Council.
- 4 Appoints Kesh Keshaboina, Regional Manager Systems Design (Wellington/Top of the South), as alternate member for the NZ Transport Agency – Waka Kotahi on the Regional Transport Committee.

The motion was **carried**.

Councillor Connelly, having declared a conflict of interest, did not participate in the discussion or vote on the above item.

6 Proposed Not Significant Variation to Te Mahere Waka Whenua Tūmatanui o Te Rohe o Pōneke Wellington Regional Public Transport Plan 2021-31 – Report 24.181

Emmet McElhatton, Manager Policy, Metlink, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Nash / Cr Saw

That Council:

- 1 Notes that section 126 of the Land Transport Management Act 2003 sets out the process for varying a regional public transport plan.
- 2 Notes that proposed variations which are not significant require consultation with public transport operators.
- 3 Notes that initial consultation with public transport operators has taken place in relation to the variations that are relevant to them.

- 4 Notes the outcome of further consultation with public transport operators, as reported to the Council during consideration of this report.
- 5 Notes that in accordance with the Te Mahere Waka Whenua Tūmatanui o te Rohe o Pōneke Wellington Regional Public Transport Plan 2021-31 Significance Policy, the following proposed variations have been deemed not significant:
 - a establish a unit for Tawa On-demand Public Transport
 - b revise the 'Exempt Services' section to reflect the amendment to the Land Transport Management Act 2003
 - c amend the Appendices "Current Route Structure" to:
 - i reflect bus route changes implemented since the adoption of the current Wellington Regional Public Transport Plan
 - ii to remove reference to 'After Midnight' Routes N1 to N88.
- 6 Notes that there will be a staged replacement of the 'After Midnight' routes with later and earlier services on existing core routes that cover key areas of demand.
- 7 Adopts the Proposed not significant variation to Te Mahere Waka Whenua Tūmatanui o te Rohe o Pōneke Wellington Regional Public Transport Plan 2021-31 as set out in Attachment 1 to this report.

The motion was **carried**.

7 National Ticketing Solution: Approach to Fares Transition – Report 24.184

Tim Shackleton, Senior Manager Commercial Strategy and Investments, Metlink, and Anske Janssen, Manager Integrated Fares and Ticketing, Metlink, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Nash / Cr Connelly

That Council:

- 1 Notes that as part of the ongoing programme of work to implement integrated fares and ticketing with the National Ticketing Solution (NTS) in the region, officers have finalised the fares approach as agreed by Council as part of its resolutions on the Future Fares Direction Strategy.
- 2 Agrees to adopt the following fares changes to coincide with the NTS implementation in the region:
 - a Continue with the current concentric zones fare structure, with the fares charged based on the number of zones travelled through on a journey, including the zones where the journey starts and ends.
 - b Integrate fares across bus and rail journey combinations in the region to remove the additional costs associated with transfers between services within the same zone.
 - c Continue with the current 50% off-peak discount.
 - d Extend the number of fare zones using existing zonal pricings methodology to account for the longer multi-modal, or cross-line

journeys that will be possible when fares and ticketing will be integrated under the NTS.

- e Implement a journey-based 7-Day Cap, with a pricing approach that encourages greater use of public transport and off-peak travel while balancing user contribution with public funding.
 - f Implement a journey-based Daily Cap, with a pricing approach in line with the 7-Day Cap.
 - g Remove existing multi-trip and period passes (which will be replaced with the proposed capping scheme).
- 3 Notes that the pricing, level of discount and the number of journeys for fare capping will be determined taking an approach that is intended to balance: the fare impacts on existing users; fare revenue received by Greater Wellington; and network capacity considerations. This will be reported to Council for decision through the Annual Fares Review process prior to NTS implementation.
- 4 Agrees to adopt the following transition approach relating to cash payments:
- a Phase out cash on board trains once the NTS rail ticket vending machines are fully operational in the region.
 - b Progressively phase out cash on board buses on a route-by-route basis once an agreed set of criteria is developed through the Wellington Regional Public Transport Plan.
 - c Ensure the phase out strategy will provide for the needs of the cash reliant community through appropriate measures including targeted customer engagement, review of the retail network coverage and on the ground promotion of alternative payment and ticketing solutions.
 - d Where cash continues to be able to be used, continue with the current pricing approach for cash-based fares, as follows:
 - i Cash-based fares will continue to be set 25% higher than the equivalent contactless fares and rounded up to the nearest 50 cents.
 - ii No discounts or concessions will apply when fares are paid with cash, with the exception of the Child Concession.
 - iii Separate fares will be charged for each trip of a journey when fares are paid using cash.
- 5 Notes that Council's decisions on the proposed approach will guide the development of a detailed technical and operational specifications for delivery of the adopted approach as part of the region's requirements for the NTS solution design process.

The motion was **carried**.

Resolution to exclude the public

4 Resolution to exclude the public – Report 24.220

Moved: Cr Staples / Cr Duthie

That Council excludes the public from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

Lower North Island Rail Integrated Mobility: Delegation of Authority to Release Request for Proposal to Market – Report RPE24.185

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reasons for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific ground/s under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act) for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

Lower North Island Rail Integrated Mobility: Delegation of Authority to Release Request for Proposal to Market – Report RPE24.185	
<i>Reason/s for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</i>	<i>Ground/s under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</i>
<p>Certain information contained in this report relates to future rail service procurement and contracting in the Wellington Region. Excluding the public from the proceedings of the meeting is necessary as considering this information in public would be likely to prejudice or disadvantage the ability of Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage negotiations (section 7(2)(i) of the Act).</p> <p>Greater Wellington has not been able to identify a public interest favouring disclosure of this particular information in public proceedings of the meeting that would override the need to withhold the information.</p>	<p>The public conduct of this part of the meeting is excluded as per section 7(2)(i) to enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).</p>

The motion was **carried**.

The public part of the meeting closed at 11.48am.



Councillor D Ponter

Chair

Date: 30 May 2024