



MINUTES

Infrastructure Committee Meeting Tuesday, 10 March 2020

Ref: 1325781

**Minutes of Timaru District Council
Infrastructure Committee Meeting
Held in the Council Chamber, Timaru District Council Building, 2 King George Place, Timaru
on Tuesday, 10 March 2020 at 9.55am**

Present: Cr Sally Parker (Chairperson), Cr Paddy O'Reilly (Deputy Chairperson), Cr Allan Booth, Cr Peter Burt, Cr Barbara Gilchrist, Cr Richard Lyon, Cr Gavin Oliver, Cr Stu Piddington, Cr Steve Wills, Mayor Nigel Bowen

In Attendance: Community Board Representatives

Geraldine Community Board – Natasha Rankin

Council Officers

Acting Group Manager Infrastructure Committee (Erik Barnes), Land Transport Manager (Andrew Dixon) for Items 7.1 and 7.2, Road Safety Coordinator (Daniel Naude) for Items 7.1, Governance Advisor (Jo Doyle).

1 Apologies

No apologies were received.

2 Identification of Items of Urgent Business

No matters of Urgent Business were identified.

3 Identification of Matters of a Minor Nature

No matters of a Minor Nature were identified.

4 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

5 Chairperson's Report

The Chairperson welcomed the committee, staff and Geraldine community board member to the meeting.

Activities since the last meeting include a meeting with the Public Transport Advisory Group, a tour of Downlands Water Supply Scheme, Citizenship and Council Meeting, a hui at Arowhenua Marae, two council workshops, Rural and Provincial Sector meeting and a meeting with Acting Group Manager of Infrastructure.

Committee Resolution 2020/7

Moved: Cr Barbara Gilchrist

Seconded: Cr Peter Burt

That the Chairpersons report be accepted.

Carried

5 Confirmation of Minutes

6.1 Minutes of the Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on 28 January 2020

Committee Resolution 2020/8

Moved: Mayor Nigel Bowen

Seconded: Cr Barbara Gilchrist

That the Minutes of the Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on 28 January 2020 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Carried

6 Reports

7.1 Road Safety Actions

The committee were updated on the Governments new road safety strategy and plan 'Road to Zero' and what Council will do to assist with the achievement of the strategy. In attendance for this report were Jane Sullivan, Community and Public Health who is Timaru District School Travel Plan Co-ordinator and Senior Sergeant Dylan Murray of New Zealand Police.

The key message from this report is that the number of crashes and fatalities is unacceptable and the current trend is upwards. The Government has recognised this and has launched a new Road to Zero plan.

It was discussed that road safety does involve human behaviour, therefore education is a key factor. The focus will be on safety around schools and the management of speed.

An action in the Road to Zero plan is to reduce speed around schools to 30 km/h for urban schools and 60 km/h for rural ones. Changes to speed limit setting legislation is going through parliament. The committee discussed whether Council can be proactive and put this in place earlier with temporary signs especially around the start and end of the school day.

It was discussed that if the school is on a major road then the speed limit does need to be safe and appropriate. If it is on a major route then it isn't suitable to slow all traffic down to 30km per hour, in this case the school would need to look at alternative entry and exit points on side roads.

The Land Transport Manager noted that speed is just one area to look at to improve safety. There are other responses around schools such as engineering safe crossings, behaviour, and enforcement of parking and Police controlling congestion around school gates can also assist.

It was noted there was a planned increase in education spend to 1.5 FTE spent across the board, this was queried whether needed. The road safety co-ordinator explained that the majority of focus has been on bad drivers, however statistics prove that a high percentage of crashes are made by law abiding drivers who make a mistake. Education on the risk of when using a vehicle needs to be high on the priority list. Jane Sullivan who is working with schools, pointed out how hard it

is for children to cross busy roads like Wai-iti Road, and that unfortunately drivers don't always follow the rules.

Safety around Marine Parade for children and penguins was also discussed. There have been many requests for a slower speed limit in this area. There are possibilities to engineer this road down to safer limits, e.g. speed humps, however educating drivers about the environment they are driving in and creating the right attitude is considered a better option noting that this road is a regionally significant freight route. The Road Safety Coordinator is working to educate in this area. A request was made that the Land Transport Unit look at a plan and bring a report back to Committee for a road safety plan for Marine Parade.

The representative from the Police was asked whether South Canterbury is consistent with the national statistics and if the impact of drug use is creating an impact on these statistics. The Police are well trained in dealing with drugged drivers, however they can't always be at the right spot at the right time. There is a definite increase in drug use in drivers as results from post mortems are proving. Government is proposing road side drug testing will be in place by 2021.

The representative from Geraldine Community Board asked whether the painted patches on roads in the North Island could be a possibility to use here. This change in road surface make it very obvious that there is altering road conditions ahead. It was discussed that indeed this is another tool that can be used to create a change in the environment, and is being used in some areas on State Highway 1.

Discussion was held in regards to driver education and whether when drivers renew licences it could be possible to enforce a defensive driving course at that stage. It was acknowledged that there would have to be Government legislation for such a change.

Committee Resolution 2020/9

Moved: Cr Steve Wills

Seconded: Cr Gavin Oliver

That

1. The Infrastructure Committee supports the Government Road to Zero Road Safety Strategy 2020-2030 and Action Plan 2020-22.
2. An increase in our level of service around road safety improvements and education to be considered in the next Long Term Plan.
3. Recommend a report from Land Transport Unit be prepared for Council for a road safety plan for Marine Parade.

Carried

7.2 MYWay, Timaru's new public transport service update

ECan officer Judith Earl-Goulet provided an update on the progress with the implementation of the new On Demand Responsive Public Transport System (DRPTS) for the Timaru Urban area known as MyWay.

The MyWay trial is currently in a pilot period which started with Timaru District Council and ECan staff on 17 February. This pilot is going well and is proving very useful for ironing out any kinks discovered. The service provider, Ritchie's also run the call centre and the drivers are getting used to the new technology involved.

Two promotional videos were shown to the committee, and a demonstration on how the app works for booking a MyWay ride.

The high demand patterns are 7.30-9am and 3-5.30pm where the wait is longer, approx. 15 minutes. The Pilot operating times will be extended from Monday-Friday to include Saturday-Sunday from 28 March and will cover 9am to 6pm in the weekends.

South Canterbury is leading the way with this concept and Territorial Authorities around the country are watching with interest especially with the declining patronage on fixed route models.

Sharing the message with the elderly population is very important and to capture those that don't use technology, this is being covered by talking to the community through different groups such as Enliven.

There has been no direct feedback from Timaru Taxi's and whether this service has had any effect on them. Conversations within the Public Transport Advisory Group have recognised that this service does give the public more choice. For the first twelve months there will be a fixed adult fare for a ride which will be \$2 a ride if using the app or Metrocard. The adult cash fare is \$3 cash.

A question was asked about vehicle access for mobility impaired. Once this service is fully operational there will be a mixture of vehicles in which at least three will be able to be lowered and will be suitable for all passengers.

Committee Resolution 2020/10

Moved: Cr Peter Burt

Seconded: Cr Barbara Gilchrist

That the report be received.

Carried

7 Consideration of Urgent Business Items

No matters of Urgent Business were considered.

8 Consideration of Minor Nature Matters

No matters of a Minor Nature were considered.

The Meeting closed at 10.46am.

Minutes confirmed 28 April 2020.

**Chairperson
Cr Sally Parker**