

**Chairperson and Committee Members**

ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

19 JULY 2012

Meeting Status: **Public**

Purpose of Report: For Decision

**SUBMISSION TO GREATER WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL ON THE WESTERN CORRIDOR PLAN 2012**

**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1 This report seeks the Committee's approval of the attached submission (Appendix 1) on Greater Wellington Regional Council's draft Western Corridor Plan 2012 (Appendix 2).

**SIGNIFICANCE OF DECISION**

- 2 This report does not trigger the Council's Significance Policy.

**BACKGROUND**

- 3 The current Western Corridor Plan (WCP) was adopted by Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) in April 2006. The Western Corridor follows State Highway 1 north of Ngauranga and the North Island Main Trunk (NIMT) railway north of Kaiwharawhara to Ōtaki. Connections to the adjacent corridors are included in the Hutt Corridor Plan (which was updated in 2011) and the Ngauranga to Wellington Airport Corridor Plan.
- 4 A review of the Western Corridor Plan was scheduled in the Regional Land Transport Strategy (RLTS) 2010-40 to occur in 2010/11 but was delayed because of uncertainty around the timing of the Levin to Wellington Airport Road of National Significance (RoNS).
- 5 The Western Corridor Plan provides an overview for the development of the strategic transport network within the corridor. However, this review is being treated as a refresh, only focusing on updating the Plan's action programme with projects and activities that have already been consulted on and that are therefore committed. GWRC states that 'extensive planning work and public consultation has already been undertaken on the RoNS projects and related improvements'. A number of public transport updates have been completed (e.g. the double tracking and electrification of rail to Waikanae).
- 6 The Plan has been reviewed by a technical working group comprising of officer representatives of Wellington City Council, Porirua City Council, Kāpiti Coast District Council, New Zealand Transport Agency and KiwiRail.
- 7 GWRC is calling for feedback on the draft Western Corridor Plan and submissions close on 27 July 2012. The Plan will go to the Regional Transport Committee for approval on 15 August 2012. The feedback process is website

based with a link to the 'Have Your Say' site. GWRC are only looking for feedback on the draft Plan and new (non RLTP) actions. There are no plans for a hearing.

## CONSIDERATIONS

### Issues

- 8 The main concern is that this is a refresh, not a review, so there is not a lot of change in the long term planning in the document.
- 9 Major projects in the draft Plan include:
  - the package of SH1 upgrades as part of the Wellington roads of national significance programme;
  - upgrading the electric train fleet, stations, and park and ride facilities;
  - investigation of electronic integrated ticketing;
  - rollout of real time information for buses and trains;
  - upgrading several stretches of the regional cycling network along the western corridor;
  - road safety improvement works along SH1, including Otaihanga to Waikanae as well as several safety upgrades to SH58 and Grays Road;
  - investigations into better east-west connections via a new link road between Petone and Grenada as well as SH58.
- 10 Kāpiti Coast issues raised in the submission that are not covered sufficiently in the plan include the following:
  - improved public transport provision and rail services to Ōtaki;
  - Capital Connection rail service;
  - the significance of Kāpiti Coast Airport;
  - cycleway link through Queen Elizabeth Park, linking Paekākāriki to Raumati South;
  - State Highway One intersection at Paekākāriki;
  - use of the existing State Highway when the Expressway is in place;
  - the impact of the Expressway on public transport;
  - the Waikanae integrated transport hub;
  - the relationship between the Western Corridor Plan and the NZTA Network Plan.

### Financial Considerations

- 11 There are no financial considerations.

### Legal Considerations

- 12 There are no legal considerations.

### Delegation

- 13 The Environment and Community Development Committee has the delegated authority to approve submissions:

*7.19 Authority to review and approve any submission on any issue that is being made on behalf of Council.*

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- 14 That the Environment and Community Development Committee approves the submission to Greater Wellington Regional Council on the draft Western Corridor Plan 2012 (Appendix 1 to Report SP-12-616), subject to any changes requested by the Committee.

### Report prepared by:

Sue Johnson

**Strategic Projects Analyst**

### Approved for submission by:

Gael Ferguson

**Group Manager Strategy and Partnerships**

### ATTACHMENTS:

Appendix 1: Kāpiti Coast District Council draft submission on the Greater Wellington Regional Council's draft Western Corridor Plan 2012.

Appendix 2: Greater Wellington Regional Council's draft Western Corridor Plan 2012.