

Western Bay of Plenty District Council

**Minutes of Meeting No. JRS9 of Joint Road Safety Committee
held on 26 February 2019 in the Council Chamber, Barks Corner, Tauranga
commencing at 10.00am**

Present

Councillor Margaret Murray-Benge (Chairperson) and Stuart Harvey (Western Bay of Plenty District Council), Councillor Bill Grainger (Deputy Chairperson) and Phil Consedine (Tauranga City Council), Councillor Andrew von Dadelszen and Jenny Mack (Bay of Plenty Regional Council), Sergeant Mark Pakes (NZ Police), Marcell Davison (NZ Transport Agency), Nigel Kapa (Accident Compensation Corporation) and Peter Bedford (Automobile Association)

In Attendance

G Allis (Deputy Chief Executive), P Howard and J Wilton (Westlink), K Elder, (Governance Manager), M Parnell (Governance Advisor), and L Nind (Governance Advisor)

Other

Three members of the public and one member of the press.

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Martin Parkes, Karen Smith and Jessica Davis.

Resolved: Member Bedford / Councillor von Dadelszen

THAT the apologies for absence from Martin Parkes, Karen Smith and Jessica Davis be accepted.

Presentation

At the 2018 TRAFINZ Conference, Tauranga City Council received the TRAFINZ Safety Leadership Award for exceptional leadership in relation to its Travel Safe initiative. Tauranga City Council's Acting Transportation Manager, Phil Consedine, presented the TRAFINZ Safety Leadership Certificate to the meeting. The Chairperson accepted the Award on the Committee's behalf and thanked the Travel Safe Team for their work.

Public Forum

Resolved: Councillor Murray-Benge / Member Pakes

THAT the meeting adjourn for the purpose of holding a public forum.

Speeding

Ms Robyn Cossar, first female driving instructor in New Zealand and a new resident to Tauranga with an interest in road safety addressed the Committee. She expressed concerns and highlighted the following points relating to a 50 km/h speed sign on Lakes Boulevard at The Lakes:

- The sign was obscured by a tree
- The shrubbery around the tree needed to be removed
- Flashing lights needed to be installed around the 50 km/h sign

Ms Cossar was advised to contact the Tauranga City Council Service Centre directly and lodged a service request regarding these matters.

State Highway 29

Mr John Sankey spoke of his concerns regarding SH29, severe traffic congestion, the Belk Road intersection and the lack of passing lanes near McLaren Falls.

The Regional Road Safety Advisor for the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) Marcell Davison advised this would be addressed in NZTA's upcoming programme of work. The next Board Meeting is in March and new projects would be started after that.

The Deputy Chairperson asked Ms Davison to update the Committee regarding NZTA, noted the Chief Executive Officer had resigned at the end of last year. Ms Davison advised that Mr Mark Radcliffe has been appointed Acting Chief Executive Officer and there were several new Board Members. Upcoming projects were being considered and these would be discussed at the first Board Meeting in March.

It was noted that NZTA need to address State Highway 29 and particularly the Belk Rd intersection.

The Chairperson commended Adam Francis' work from NZTA and Ms Davison advised that NZTA's national programme would be made available.

Pedestrian Vulnerability

Dr Ing John-Paul Thull representing a pedestrian advocacy group Living Streets Aotearoa BOP, spoke to a PowerPoint presentation about mitigating pedestrian vulnerability.

Discussion followed regarding the importance of pedestrian crossings being inter connected with retail areas and it was suggested that more pedestrian crossings be added to new residential subdivisions. The use of pedestrian crossings and refuges were discussed and the importance of applying caution when considering pedestrian crossing locations was noted.

It was suggested Dr Thull speak to Traffic Safety Engineers at both Tauranga City Council and Western Bay Of Plenty District Council.

The Chairperson thanked members of the public for addressing the meeting.

10.29am **Resolved:** Councillors Murray-Benge / von Dadelszen

THAT the meeting reconvene in formal session

JRS9.1 **Presentation - Blue Light Youth Driver Navigator Programme**

Jenny Mack, Bay of Plenty Regional Council, introduced Blue Light's Events Support Manager, Wendy Robertson and the Blue Light Youth Driver Navigator Programme.

The Events Support Manager spoke to a PowerPoint presentation and highlighted the following points:

- Blue Light is a Registered Youth Charity which works alongside the Police.
- There are 68 branches nationwide.
- The Blue Light Youth Driver Navigator Programme (BLYDNP) was developed at the national office and funded in partnership by Bay Trust, TECT and RECT.
- This enabled a 3 year pilot of the programme to be run in the Bay Of Plenty region by a local co-ordinator.
- The programme helped young people aged 16-24 from disadvantaged backgrounds to gain their full drivers licences, who otherwise might not be able to.
- The BLYDNP encouraged compliance and the end result being safe driving on the road.
- They operate in most colleges throughout the Bay Of Plenty and also work with Sport Bay Of Plenty.
- Sessions were run in the school holidays and qualifying students could self-refer.
- The presentation ended with examples of 'success stories', highlighting the positive benefits of the programme.

In response to questions Ms Robertson advised as follows:

- Referrals from schools and community agencies were processed to ensure students who needed the service received it.

The Chairperson thanked Ms Robertson for her presentation and her work in the community.

Resolved: Councillor von Dadelszen / Member Consedine

THAT the presentation from the Events Support Manager regarding the Bluelight Youth Driver Navigator Programme be received.

JRS9.2 **Minutes of Meeting No. JRS8 of the Joint Road Safety Committee held on 6 November 2018**

The Committee considered the minutes of JRS8 of the Joint Road Safety Committee meeting held on 6 November 2018 as circulated with the agenda.

The Chairperson tabled a copy of the letter sent to the Chief Executive Officer of NZTA (who had since resigned) from the Joint Road Safety Committee on 12 November 2018. It was noted that a reply had not been received to date.

The Chairperson noted in relation to the Belk Road intersection there had been issues with getting consent for the project from the Bay of Plenty Regional Council. The Bay of Plenty Regional Council Sustainable Transport Officer advised she would make enquiries and report back to the next Committee meeting.

It was confirmed that the resolution printed in the tabled document was from the minutes of the previous committee meeting held on 6 November 2018.

Resolved: Councillor von Dadelszen / Member Harvey

THAT the minutes of Meeting No. JRS8 of the Joint Road Safety Committee held on 6 November 2019 as circulated with the agenda be confirmed as a true and correct record.

JRS9.3 **Western Bay Joint Road Safety Operations Meetings Minutes**

The Committee considered the minutes from the Western Bay Joint Road Safety Operations Meetings dated 27 November 2018 and 12 February 2019 as circulated with the agenda.

Resolved: Members Mack / Consedine

THAT the minutes from the Western Bay Joint Road Safety Operations Meetings dated 27 November 2018 and 12 February 2019 be received.

JRS9.4 **New Zealand Police Report**

The Committee considered a report from the New Zealand Police dated February 2019 as circulated with the agenda. Senior Sergeant Pakes spoke to his report and noted there had been one fatality – a motorcyclist on Cambridge Rd. It was noted the New Zealand Police were focusing on speed and driving distraction.

In response to questions Senior Sergeant Pakes advised:

- Police have limited tolerance with regards to the use of cell phones and various methods were used to monitor this, including observation and stationary cameras at intersections. They were proactively working with schools to get the message across.
- There was no legislation requiring for motorcyclists to have their lights on full beam and some drivers found this distracting.
- Motorcycle riding will be focused on later in the year.

Resolved: Members Pakes / Bedford

THAT the New Zealand Police report dated February 2019 be received.

JRS9.5

Accident Corporation Compensation Report

The Committee considered a verbal report from Nigel Kapa, Senior Injury Prevention Specialist from ACC, who made the following points:

- Research showed motorcyclists making slight sideways movements as they drove, were more easily seen than those who drove with their headlights on. This was taught in the ACC'S 'Ride Forever' programme along with other safety manoeuvres. Course participants were 27% less likely to be involved in an accident.
- Shiny Side Up events took place nationally for motorcyclists and motorcycle enthusiasts together. Shiny Side Up events were used to get people enrolled into the Ride Forever Programme. The last major Shiny Side Up event will be held at Hampton Downs as part of the Mike Pero Motorfest.
- Motorcycle Clothing Assessment Programme (MotoCAP) provided the motorcycling community with information regarding safety clothing.
- ACC and NZTA provided a programme to assist onto their full driver's licences. A Community Toolkit was developed which helped young drivers learn the Road Code in an interactive way. These had already been distributed to local driving instructors and community groups and there were more available.

In response to questions Mr Kapa advised the following:

- Motorcyclists in the older age group were a high percentage of those who had accidents. Mr Kapa had participated in two Ride Forever events and had found they had made him a much safer motorcyclist.

ACC is trying to prevent injuries before they occur.

Resolved: Members Kapa / Bedford

THAT the Accident Compensation Corporation Representative's verbal report be received.

JRS9.6 Travel Safe Programme Leader Update

The Committee considered a report from the Travel Safe Programme Leader dated November 2018 to February 2019 as circulated with the agenda.

In response to questions Mr Consedine advised:

- Outcomes of New Zealand Transport Agency Report to Road Safety Action Plan Meeting on page 57 of the agenda were noted.
- Travel Safe adhere to NZTA's guidelines.
- Travel Safe have recruited a new person to join their team.
- Mr Consedine advised he wasn't aware of cyclists having been educated not to ride on the white line in Carmichael Road. A cycleway was being developed to connect with the Omokoroa cycleway.

Resolved: Councillors Murray-Benge / von Dadelszen

THAT the Travel Safe Programme Leader's report for the period November 2018 to February 2019 be received.

JRS9.7 Transport Agency Update

The Committee considered a report from New Zealand Transport Agency's Regional Road Safety Advisor dated February 2019 as circulated with the agenda.

The Committee made the following comments:

- The Hairini Link speed limit was still temporarily 50 kilometres per hour and the slip lane was not operational. Concern was raised about signage which indicated cyclists should carefully cross two lanes of traffic, instead of being redirected to the underpass.
- NZTA should reconsider the priority of the works in the Tauranga to Omokoroa corridor, as this would have a greater impact on the safety of those using the road.
- A suggestion was made that bus lanes could be used for other traffic during non-peak hours. It was noted that cyclists and motorcyclists can legally use bus lanes, and currently use them during non-peak times. It was important that any decision to change bus lane traffic did not affect their safety.
- Tauranga's bus service was not widely used.

Regarding cycling through the Hairini Link, Ms Davison advised it was difficult to get a consensus on where it was best for people to ride. Commuting cyclists preferred the road, therefore signage was necessary for their safety but school aged children used the underpass. She noted NZTA was reviewing T2 and T3 lane options throughout the country.

Ms Davison suggested that the letter sent to NZTA from the Joint Road

Safety Committee meeting held on 6 November 2018 be resubmitted, as there had been a change of Chief Executive Officer, and note the points raised by the Committee at this meeting.

Resolved: Councillors Murray-Benge / von Dadelszen

THAT the Committee's letter to NZTA dated 12 November 2018 be re-submitted to NZTA noting the following points:

- *Request that safety works on the Tauranga to Omokoroa corridor be prioritised;*
- *Request that non-peak hour bus lane use be considered for other vehicles.*
- *The scheduled toll increase would impact on road users and community buy in.*

Resolved: Member Davison / Councillor von Dadelszen

THAT the New Zealand Transport Agency Regional Road Safety Advisor's report dated February 2019 be received.

JRS9.8

Road Safety Action Plan

The Committee considered a report from the Bay of Plenty Regional Council Sustainable Transport Officer dated 31 January 2019 as circulated with the agenda. Ms Mack spoke to her report and advised the following:

- The report was organised by focus areas.
- Bay of Plenty Regional Council manages billboards, along with NZTA.
- Advertising campaigns aimed at young drivers included the following messages; be sensible; don't distract your driver and be sober as there's zero tolerance of young drivers and their drinking.
- Radio advertising over the long weekend had included messages of taking a rest and swapping drivers.
- The Bay of Plenty Regional Council supported ACC's Ride Forever Programme, including the Shiny Side up event. Scooter training had been trialled in schools in an effort to reduce scooter injuries.
- Young people travelling between Rhythm and Vines in Gisborne and Bay Dreams in Tauranga, were targeted in radio and Facebook campaigns. The radio campaign promoted the importance of taking rests and administration fees were waived for young people who attended driver safety courses.
- No further updates had been received from Central Government. The draft Rooding Strategy was not yet available and it would provide information on regional action and safety plans.

In response to questions, Ms Mack advised that this Committee did not report to the Regional Transport Committee, but could refer issues through to them.

Resolved: Member Davison / Councillor Murray-Benge

(a) THAT the Bay of Plenty Regional Council Sustainable Transport Officer's report dated 31 January 2019 be received.

(b) THAT the letter to New Zealand Transport Agency also be copied to the Regional Transport Committee.

The Chairperson asked Justine Wilton of Westlink to provide an update to the Committee. Ms Wilton advised the following:

- Opus had been purchased by a company called WSP and was now known as 'WSP Opus'.
- Safety engineers throughout New Zealand had met and discussed Vision Zero. Their goal was to achieve no deaths in road accidents.
- They assessed at a local level how much could be spent on projects to reduce the number of, or eliminate different types of crashes.
- Recent training looked at road design to help manage crashes, in an attempt to make them more survivable.

Ms Davison advised the Standard Safety Intervention Toolkit was available through New Zealand Transport Agency's Highway Information website. It was a "living" document that would be constantly updated and provided information about safety installations like roundabouts and rumble strips for safety engineers and planners.

Paul Howard from Westlink noted the dangers of 'summer ice', the slippery layer which had built up on the road after the extremely long dry spell.

The meeting concluded at 11.50am.

Confirmed as a true and correct record.

Councillor Margaret Murray-Benge
Chairperson

Date

JRS9