



Stepping forward

Implementing New Zealand transport sector reform

Newsletter December 2008



Season's greetings



The NZ Transport Agency would like to wish all our transport partners and readers a merry Christmas, happy holidays and a pleasant, safe new year.

Thank you for your participation, support and feedback throughout this interesting year. 2009 holds challenges and priorities for all of us and we are looking forward to continue working with all our partners in achieving the positive outcomes for New Zealand we are all committed to.

Proposed state highway activities released

The NZ Transport Agency (NZTA) has released a list of proposed state highway activities for the period 2009/10 to 2011/12 to regional transport committees and the Auckland Regional Transport Authority (ARTA). They need this information, together with information from other approved organisations, to prepare regional land transport programmes (RLTPs).

NZTA Chief Executive Geoff Dangerfield has written to chief executives of regional councils and ARTA to inform them that the information is available on LTP online and that the NZTA's regional directors and other key staff can provide them with additional detail to support their understanding of state highway activities.

For more information contact your local NZTA regional office.



Three-year planning, programming and funding

Joint working group looking at N and R funding

A working group comprising representatives from the NZTA, Ministry of Transport and Local Government NZ have had two meetings to explore issues relating to N and R funded* activities for the 2009/12 National Land Transport Programme (NLTP).

The group have identified different perceptions and understanding of the application of N and R funding, and have progressed well towards a common understanding of the issues and preferred options for moving forward.

A report is being prepared for consideration by the central and local government partners.

* N funds are the main source of funding within the NLTP. R funds are those raised by the extra 5c/litre introduced in April 2005 and distributed on a regional basis. The collection and allocation of R funds was limited to the 10-year period ending 2014/15. The policy for allocating N and R funds was developed by Transfund in 2004 in consultation with local government. Under this policy:

- N funds are allocated to the highest priority activities on a national basis
- R funds are allocated to activities that are not of sufficient national priority to be funded from N but have sufficient regional priority.

2009/12 regional land transport programmes - prioritising of projects

Regional transport committees (RTCs) and the Auckland Regional Transport Authority have been developing and signing off processes they are choosing to use for the prioritisation of their projects. Some RTCs may want to use the processes suggested in the NZTA's *Regional land transport programme (RLTP) guidelines and Planning, programming and funding manual*.

In developing an RLTP and a funding plan, RTCs (with the exception of Auckland) are reminded that while the programme includes all activities, they only need to focus on large projects. They don't have to prioritise local road maintenance, local road renewals, local road minor capital works and existing public transport services within their RLTP.

Users are also now able to extract and manipulate information from LTP online through an updated spreadsheet incorporating changes requested by users. Instructions on how to extract lists of activities and use them in the drafting of RLTPs are available on the Smartmovez website <http://www.smartmovez.org.nz/>.

NZTA guidance material suggests that regional advisory groups may choose to develop a proposed prioritised list for consideration by their RTC, perhaps during a workshop with the RTC.

2009/12 RLTPs - Proforma underway

The NZTA has, in response to a request made during a forum held by Local Government NZ, prepared generic text that regional transport committees (RTCs) could use in the preparation of their regional land transport programmes (RLTPs). If RTCs decide to use this content to introduce their regions' programme, or amend it to suit their circumstances, it may simplify the production of their RLTP document.

The proforma will be made available to RTCs in due course.

2009/12 National Land Transport Programme - implementation project launched

The focus of the NZTA to date has been on processes and systems to support the regional land transport programmes (RLTPs). Planning is now underway to develop the three-year 2009/12 National Land Transport Programme (NLTP). The project working group to adopt and publish the 2009/12 NLTP will engage with regions and regional transport committees to develop their draft RLTPs by the end of February 2009.

For more information, contact Bob Alkema 04 894 6158.

Know how guide update

The Ministry of Transport has been leading the development of a know how guide for the Land Transport Management Act 2003 (as amended 2008).



This is a substantive document (108 pages) designed to provide guidance to land transport users and providers but with particular relevance to local government, including regional transport committees. The guide will be available from the Ministry's website on 19 December. Printed copies will be available early in 2009.

For more information, contact Rosemary Barrington at Ministry of Transport: 04 439 9314.

Domestic Sea Freight Development Fund



Those who applied for funding from the 2008/09 round of the Domestic Sea Freight Development Fund should hear before Christmas whether their application was successful.

A variety of funding proposals were received by the NZTA for the \$6 million available. The list of successful funding applicants is expected to be made public in early 2009.

The 2009/10 round of the Domestic Sea Freight Development funding will be held in February 2009 with \$10 million in funding available. Public and private sector organisations can apply.

The aim of the Domestic Sea Freight Development Fund is to help the sea freight sector prepare to play a greater role in New Zealand's freight system.

More details on the Domestic Sea Freight Development Fund can be found at <http://www.landtransport.govt.nz/sea-freight/>.

Procurement review update

Roadshow ends

The procurement review roadshow is now finished and the NZTA would like to thank all participants for attending the presentations. All 10 roadshow presentations around the country had great attendance and there has been very useful feedback and information provided by the participants.

To share with others some of the discussion and feedback provided at the presentations, the NZTA is putting together a list of questions and answers that were raised. It will be posted at <http://www.landtransport.govt.nz/funding/procurement/index.html>.

Piloting the interim *Procurement manual*

The fourth workshop for the approved organisations involved in the piloting of the interim *Procurement manual* was held recently in Wellington. This workshop focused on the use of specific delivery models and supplier selection methods. Participants had the opportunity to discuss the application of these procurement procedure components with the project team. Further pilot workshops will be held in the new year.

Together with the information gained through the formal feedback process, the views and experiences of the pilot participants will help shape the final version of the *Procurement manual*.

Formal feedback process continues

Formal feedback on the NZTA's new *Procurement manual* continues, with copies of the interim *Procurement manual* and feedback document downloadable from www.landtransport.govt.nz/funding/procurement/index.html.

The feedback process runs until the end of March 2009. Following analysis of feedback, the manual will be refined and formally released in mid-2009.

For more information on the procurement review visit www.landtransport.govt.nz/funding/procurement/index.html.

Public transport

Public Transport Management Act imminent



The Public Transport Management Act (the Act), designed to empower regional councils by giving them the tools to develop public transport systems that better meet the needs of their communities, comes into force on 1 January.

The Act includes a number of provisions relating to the preparation of regional public transport plans (previously regional passenger transport plans) including a two-phase consultation process. The NZTA has prepared guidelines for the development of these plans so they not only meet the new statutory requirements, but also reflect best practice. These will be posted on the NZTA's website (www.nzta.govt.nz) early in the New Year.

The Act also allows regional councils to access information about commercial services and gives them the ability to establish controls through their regional public transport plans that commercial services must comply with. Controls could include quality and performance standards, integrated ticketing, and 'bundling' requirements. In addition, regional councils will be enabled to require that any or all public transport services in a region be provided as contracted services. Any councils wanting to utilise this provision would need to include any contracting requirement in their Regional Public Transport Plan.

As this is 'enabling' legislation, it will be up to each regional council whether or not they adopt any controls or contracting requirements. However if they do, commercial public transport operators will need to comply.

To help regional councils gain better general understanding of the Act, the Ministry of Transport (MoT) has prepared a series of fact sheets which will be available in the new year. The NZTA and MoT are also planning on taking a roadshow on the Act and the preparation of regional public transport plans around the regions in early 2009.

How to subscribe to this newsletter

If someone in your organisation wishes to receive this newsletter by email, please advise them to email nltp3@nzta.govt.nz with the word 'SUBSCRIBE' in the subject line and their name, position, organisation and contact details in the message body.

The information in this newsletter was accurate at the time of printing.