



MINUTES

WRC Transport Committee Meeting

Tuesday, 4 August 2026

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Waikato Regional Council
WRC Transport Committee Meeting
OPEN MINUTES

Date: Tuesday 4 August 2026, 9.30am
Location: Council Chambers
Waikato Regional Council
Level 1, 160 Ward Street, Hamilton

Members Present: Cr Angela Strange – Committee Chair
Cr Chris Hughes – Committee Deputy-Chair
Cr Robert Cookson (virtually via Teams from 9.34am until 10.15am, back at 10.21am until 11.50am, back at 11.56am)
Cr Ben Dunbar-Smith (from 10.11am)
Cr Keith Holmes
Cr Warren Maher (from 11.10am)
Cr Gary McGuire (until 11.34am, back at 11.55am)
Cr Jennifer Nickel
Cr Garry Reymer
Cr Noel Smith
Cr Liz Stolwyk (until 10.23am, back at 10.30am)

Staff Present: Phil King – Director, Regional Transport Connections
Jess Hood – Democracy Advisor

The contents of these minutes meet all legal requirements and include a full set of decisions.

An audio-visual recording of the open session of the meeting is available on Waikato Regional Council's public website.

Recording	Document ID #	YouTube Link
Open Recording #1	38115154	https://youtu.be/XsTcSFei32E
Public Excluded Recording	38113557	
Open Recording #2	38114270	https://youtu.be/n7OslbHruCQ

1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA

Item commenced in open recording 1, at start.

The Democracy Advisor (Jess Hood) opened the meeting with a karakia.

2 APOLOGIES

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 1 minute 4 seconds.

APOLOGY**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WRCTC26/21**

Moved: Cr Gary McGuire

Seconded: Cr Jennifer Nickel

That the apologies received from Cr Warren Maher and Cr Ben Dunbar-Smith for lateness be accepted.

CARRIED**3 CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA**

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 1 minute 28 seconds.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WRCTC26/22

Moved: Cr Liz Stolwyk

Seconded: Cr Keith Holmes

1. That the agenda of the WRC Transport Committee Meeting of 4 August 2026, as circulated, be confirmed as the business of the meeting.
2. That the order of items follows the order set out in the minutes.
3. That the meeting may sit longer than two hours continuously and continue longer than six hours including adjournments.

CARRIED**4 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 1 minute 44 seconds.

No interests were disclosed pertaining to items on the agenda or interests not already recorded on a relevant register.

5 PRELIMINARY ITEMS

5.1 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 1 minute 56 seconds.

No members of the public were present for public participation.

6 PUBLIC EXCLUDED ITEMS

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 2 minutes 50 seconds.

RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WRCTC26/23

Moved: Cr Liz Stolwyk

Seconded: Cr Keith Holmes

- That in accordance with section 48(1) of the *Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987* (Act) and the interests protected by section 6 or 7 of that Act, the public is excluded from the following parts of this meeting. The general subject of the matters to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds for excluding the public are set out below:

Meeting item no. and subject	Grounds for excluding the public	Reason for excluding the public
8.1 - Te Matatini Event Transport Plan	s7(2)(b)(ii) of the Act - To avoid unreasonable prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information s7(2)(i) of the Act - To enable Council to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)	section 48(1)(a)(i) of the Act - the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7
8.2 - Public Transport Branding Refresh Outcome	s7(2)(j) of the Act - To prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage	section 48(1)(a)(i) of the Act - the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7

2. That Aleita Waitoa and Porsha Wharakura of Waikato-Tainui remain in this meeting after the public have been excluded because of their knowledge pertaining to item 8.1. Te Matatini Event Transport Plan; likewise Heath Lowe of Special Group remain in this meeting after the public have been excluded because of his knowledge pertaining to item 8.2. Public Transport Branding Refresh Outcome. This knowledge, which will be of assistance in relation to the matters to be discussed, is relevant to those matters because of its specialised nature and the benefit to be gained from expert advice.

CARRIED

9.34am – The meeting moved into public excluded session.

10.41am – The meeting moved back to open session.

7 GENERAL ITEMS

7.1 DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Item commenced in open recording 2, at start.

Presented by the Manager, Transport Strategy and Delivery (Lorraine Cheyne) and Manager, Public Transport Operations (Trudi Knight).

Action: Members requested that options for public transport to Hamilton Airport be included in future Director's Reports.

11.10am – Cr Warren Maher entered the meeting.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WRCTC26/27

Moved: Cr Chris Hughes

Seconded: Cr Keith Holmes

That the *Director's Report* (WRC Transport Committee, 4 August 2026) be received.

CARRIED

7.2 FARES POLICY PROJECT UPDATE

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 29 minutes 50 seconds.

Presented by the Team Leader Transport Planning (Katherine Simpson).

11.34am – Cr Gary McGuire left the meeting.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WRCTC26/28

Moved: Cr Chris Hughes

Seconded: Cr Jennifer Nickel

That the report *Fares Policy Project Update* (WRC Transport Committee, 4 August 2026) be received.

CARRIED**7.3 REGIONAL LAND TRANSPORT PLAN UPDATE**

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 56 minutes 30 seconds.

The report was taken as read.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WRCTC26/29

Moved: Cr Liz Stolwyk

Seconded: Cr Jennifer Nickel

That the report *Regional Land Transport Plan Update* (WRC Transport Committee, 4 August 2026) be received.

CARRIED**7.4 COMMUNITY TRANSPORT ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT**

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 56 minutes 55 seconds.

Presented by the Team Leader, Portfolio Delivery (Tofeeq Ahmed).

11.50am – Cr Robert Cookson left the meeting.

11.56am – Cr Robert Cookson entered the meeting.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WRCTC26/30

Moved: Cr Ben Dunbar-Smith

Seconded: Cr Liz Stolwyk

That the *Community Transport Accountability Report* (WRC Transport Committee, 4 August 2026) be received.

CARRIED**7.5 RTC SUBMISSION ON THE BAY OF PLENTY DRAFT REGIONAL PUBLIC TRANSPORT PLAN (RPTP)**

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 1 hour, 10 minutes 40 seconds.

The report was taken as read.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WRCTC26/31

Moved: Cr Liz Stolwyk

Seconded: Cr Jennifer Nickel

That the report *RTC Submission on the Bay of Plenty Draft Regional Public Transport Plan (RPTP)* (WRC Transport Committee, 4 August 2026) be received.

CARRIED

7.6 PUBLIC TRANSPORT OPERATIONS REPORT

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 1 hour, 11 minutes 11 seconds.

Presented by the Network Monitoring Analyst (Melissa Smith) and Team Leader, Contracts and Insights (Vincent Kuo) .

Action: Members requested that a report on how organisations such as Auckland Transport encouraged large employers to incentivise staff use of public transport be added to the next committee agenda.

11.55am – Cr Gary McGuire entered the meeting.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WRCTC26/32

Moved: Cr Warren Maher

Seconded: Cr Chris Hughes

That the report *Public Transport Operations Report* (WRC Transport Committee, 4 August 2026) be received.

CARRIED

7.5 RTC SUBMISSION ON THE BAY OF PLENTY DRAFT REGIONAL PUBLIC TRANSPORT PLAN (RPTP)

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 1 hour, 29 minutes 10 seconds.

There was additional discussion on this item. No additional actions or resolutions were recorded.

8 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 1 hour, 31 minutes 6 seconds.

The Director, Regional Transport Connections (Phil King) closed the meeting with a karakia.

12.12pm – The meeting closed.

APPENDIX ONE: DECISIONS MADE IN PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION REPORTED INTO OPEN

8.1 TE MATATINI EVENT TRANSPORT PLAN

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WRCTC26/24

Moved: Cr Jennifer Nickel

Seconded: Cr Angela Strange

1. That the report Te Matatini Event Transport Plan (WRC Transport Committee, 4 August 2026) be received.
2. That the decision be released into the open session of the meeting.

CARRIED

UNCONFIRMED