

## Safe and Sustainable Transport Forum meeting minutes

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2014,

11.00am – 1:30pm Committee Room One, Wellington City Council

### Present:

- Councillor Foster
- Wellington City Council: Paul Barker, Kelly Rumens, Steve Spence, Emma Hope, Charles Kingsford, Kim Young
- NZ Police: Richard Hocken
- Greater Wellington Regional Council: Simon Kennett and Vanessa Rushton
- Cycle Aware Wellington: David Laing and James Burgess
- Rational Transport Society: Kent Duston
- Living Streets Aotearoa: Ellen Blake & Paula Warren
- Youth Council: Tim Rutherford
- ACC: Jo Vilipaama
- Kapiti Coast District Council: Bruce Johnson

### Agenda:

1. Welcome (Cllr Foster)
2. Apologies and Introductions (Cllr Foster)
3. Previous meeting minutes (Cllr Foster)
4. Membership (Anna)
5. Minor Road Safety Schemes 2014-15 – update (Charles Kingsford)
6. Report from WALK21 and 2Walk2Cycle conference (Living Streets)
7. Shared Pathways campaign (Emma)
8. Agency updates (All)
9. Safe and Sustainable transport education updates on current main projects (Anna and Emma)
10. General business

### Minutes:

1. **Welcome:** Councillor Lester welcomed the group.
2. **Apologies:** Alex Gray (AA), Jeff Scoringe (NZTA), Paula Booth (Accessibility Advisory Group), Bikers Rights Organisation NZ: Byron Cummins, Anna Blomquist (WCC)

3. **Previous meeting minutes:** The minutes were accepted as true and correct. Moved by Ken Duston, seconded by Ellen Blake.

4. **Membership (Paul)**

Paul advised members of the recent name change from Safe and Sustainable Transport Reference Group (SASTRG) to Safe and Sustainable Transport Forum (SASTF) and that the way the new 'forum' determines its membership now needs to be updated. An example, in the past, for members to be removed from the group this had to go to the Strategy and Policy Committee.

Discussed and agreed that the Terms of Reference should be updated and tabled with the membership rules.

*Action: Council to talk with Democratic Services, and determine the requirements for a Forum and get a draft updated Terms of Reference ready.*

5. **Minor Road Safety Scheme (Charles)**

Charles provided an update on the Minor Road Safety Scheme for 2014/15. There is \$1 million set aside to deliver the 30 schemes on the programme, 18 of which relate to crash/speed reduction and 14 are around pedestrian and school safety.

Kent Duston asked where do the proposed schemes come from? Charles advised they the list is determined from the prioritisation matrix which considers various criteria such as speed/crash data, risk, vulnerable user groups, best standards.

Kent asked how the get on the list in the first place? Steve advised the Area Traffic Engineers receive approximately 150 enquiries each month (2000 p/yr.) from members of the public, via email, phone calls through ward councillors, the mayor etc. Some of these, such as new sign or broken yellow line requests are actioned, others that require more substantial change and investment are put on the list of potential pieces of work that then go through the matrix each year.

Charles provided a more detailed breakdown of the spend.

- Crash reduction / Speed reduction:	\$330,000
- Pedestrian/School Safety:	\$290,000
- Electronic Signs:	\$ 70,000
- Speed Limit Reduction	\$ 80,000

Kent Duston asked if the criteria and list is publically available on the Council website? Charles advised the communications team are currently working through a list of frequently asked questions the area traffic engineers receive that will go on the website and provide guidelines on how to request various changes, traffic calming, parking etc.

Kent suggested if people know what has been proposed, rejected, why, what is on the list etc. it may help with transparency. Paul replied that yes the list, with those that didn't make the scheme, and the criteria can be made available.

Ellen Blake advised she would be interested in seeing the matrix, as well as the 30 that are proposed for this year, particularly given this is the only budget relating to pedestrian safety. She also wanted to know how to get Living Streets suggestions included in the master list, for example they have many in various submissions. Paul advised any suggestions for pieces of work through directly to the team.

## 6. Report WALK21 (Paula Warren)

Paula provided an update on the international walking conference WALK 21 she recently attended. The conference is held bi-annually, usually in the northern hemisphere. This year it was held in the southern hemisphere for the first time since 2006. Paula advised she was happy to provide briefings to Councils on the content and discussions.

The messages were seriously dominated by health, the major message being that lack of activity is the new tobacco, and was looking at ways to get movement and build walking into people's daily lives through two main avenues:

- 1) Behaviour change: walking groups, greenways
- 2) Infrastructure: walkability of cities

In Sydney, 92% of recorded journeys are walking, yet almost all of the funding is still going into cars and traffic. They are going to have a big rethink.

Ken Duston asked about attendance. Paula advised about 40% were local government, 40% health professionals, and a small number of walking advocates. In total there were 500+ attendees.

Simon Kennett asked if there was any talk about sharing space in the uphill direction only? Paula advised no.

Paula there were papers on why people are cycling which gave examples of building good cycle facilities and shared paths the demand ended up so high they then had to build more. The message, build it and they will come and do it right the first time.

## 7. Shared Pathways Campaign (Emma)

Emma advised they regularly receive complaints about the waterfront, pedestrians wandering everywhere, cyclists going to fast etc. Council have put together a courtesy campaign to try and improve users attitudes towards each other. There will be a large art installation (3m x 20m) in front of Frank Kitts Park, as well as three pop-ups. The idea behind it is not to tell people what the can/can't do, but rather getting them to look at the different ways people use the waterfront and behave accordingly.

## 8. Agency updates:

### Wellington City Council (Paul Barker)

#### Cycling:

- General: 10 staff now, including two communications specialists and two new engineers.

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- Island Bay: has been given approval to proceed and will kick off in February 2015, the first of its kind, just shy of \$2 million investment.
- Berhampore/Newtown: Looking at consulting in March/April 2015.
- Kilbirnie Reserve: Due to be finished in February 2015
- Thorndon Quay/Hutt Road: initial investigation kicking off shortly.

Johnsonville Triangle: Key project aspects are - new signals at Fraser Ave/Johnsonville Road, new signals by the mall entrance/exit onto Moorefield Rd and the new bridge, all of which now includes adequate cycle provisions. Great outcome from the initial plans which had no provision at all.

Bus Rapid Transport/Public Transport Spine: Need to work out how to make this fit from the railway station to the hospital. Andy Foster advised the plan was to engage around BRT and Cycling at the same time.

Ellen Blake commented not to forget public transport users are primarily pedestrians. Andy Foster noted the four new pedestrian crossings as part of the Island Bay cycleway.

Crash Analysis System: (CAS) is now more user friendly and has been opened up to allow more public access.

Coroners Enquiry: Paul has been appeared at two coroners hearings on behalf of Council, Vanessa Green (Wills St) and a cyclist death (Miramar)

## **NZ Police (Richard Hocken)**

Alcohol Limits: Police had been unsure how the new lower limits would go. Across the district there had been 33 infringements so far, which was not bad. The under 20's generally showed good compliance.

Summer Speed Campaign: Has been receiving lots of publicity, somewhat negative, but this is expected when trying to influence behaviour change.

Red light cameras: 1<sup>st</sup> trial at Karo/Victoria intersection has run into a small glitch with funding but is getting there. The box is currently in place and ready. In terms of a wider spread rollout, cameras at every intersection is just not likely. A second camera will be a few years away, and a 3<sup>rd</sup> likely to be 10+.

Simon Kennett asked if the camera we have could be moved around different intersections. Richard advised no, it is too difficult.

Intersections: this is still be big focus area.

Councillor Foster asked if people were actually being ticketed? Richard advised yes.

Kent Duston asked now that speed and alcohol breaches are coming down, what is next? Richard advised this was not decided at his level, and would need to wait to see the impact of recent changes before any decisions were made.

Simon Kennett mentioned a big piece of work Ministry of Transport are doing on appropriate speed limits.

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Kent Duston asked about how to deal with behavioural change, i.e. inappropriate passing which is harder to enforce. Richard advised more and more such behaviours are being reported to \*555.

## **Cycle Aware Wellington (James Burgess):**

Go by bike day: trying to fund it, but struggling. It is a great opportunity to get safety messages to cyclists.

Victoria St Memorial Park Alliance: Pleasé have agreed to trial a cycle lane on the block (Vivian – Abel Smith St) where it was missing. The team had no expertise in cycling infrastructure and didn't seek engineering assistance from the Council, but have been willing to listen.

Johnsonville Triangle: A thank you for the re-design work. There had been a mix of inputs from various members of society, and a great outcome has been achieved.

Waterfront Courtesy Campaign: CAW are supporting this with their own activities

## **ACC (Jo Vilipaama):**

They have created a practice online learning tool for learner drivers. There is also a series of videos, an advertising campaign starting 20 December and NZTA are doing a media release too around this.

The Ride forever motorcycle program summer campaign emphasis is to attract returning drivers for a refresher course.

There will be scooter training too, provided by Roadsafé, the same as WCC use.

Kent Duston asked about the tourist driving space. Jo was unable to say what was happening there due to an internal restructure.

## **Cycle Safety Panel (Simon Kennett):**

The report is out and available this week. It contains 30 recommendations, better infrastructure, safer speeds, passing gap of 1 metre in speeds 10km and over.

E-bikes: European standards have a 250W limit, you must pedal to get power at all and it cuts out at 25km/hr. These restrictions need to get sorted sooner rather than later, plus have a minimum age limit.

Research rural cycle safety: want to run a trial, dutch style, single lane wide shoulders, ideally somewhere with more cyclists than motorists.

## **Greater Wellington Regional Council (Simon Kennett):**

The draft strategic map is out and showed significant cycle and walking infrastructure gaps.

GWRC held a recent workshop with bus drivers in Kilbirnie. It will be good to see Broadway widened, less squeeze points.

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Ellen Blake asked about the focus of the bus driver training. Simon confirmed it was just on cyclist safety, a targeted issue being addressed due to the high bus/cyclist crash rate.

Pedal ready is fully booked. It is hard to meet the demand for bike/scooter skills.

Activate Day: is coming up, registrations open 5 January 2015.

## **Youth Council (Tim Rutherford):**

Speed Limits: The proposal to reduce speed limit in the city was good, would help make the city more pedestrian and cycle friendly which they believe is what young people want.

Bus fares: increased earlier this year. Compared with other parts of Europe the costs are just too high, keeping the cost down is a priority to keep young people using it.

Moped use: It is not compulsory for drivers to sit a practical test.

## **Bikes in Schools (Emma Hope):**

The trial involved three schools and a range of tracks. Work has started in Johnsonville, Miramar have received their bikes, bike shed and training, with the track work commencing in January and Karori is still in the planning stage.

## **Greater Wellington Regional Council (Vanessa):**

Vanessa advised she has been bought onboard to assist with NZTA funded road safety campaigns around intersections, young drivers, cyclist safety, motorcycle safety.

Project 1: Lower North Island Cycle Track map, going to be available at i-sites, shops, clubs, and eventually there will be an online version too, embedding google maps

Cycle safety: extension of the shared space, share the road messages. Have taken photos of 12 Wellingtonians in trusted professions, nurse, firefighter, vet etc. will roll out in February 2015 on bus backs, online radio, petrol stations. And the second part of it will be a photo booth at Go By Bike Day, also in February. The idea is to photograph everyone holding up a sign with who they are and then take out a full page add in the Dominion Post publishing all of the pictures in a collage.

## **Living streets Aotearoa (Ellen Blake):**

There are national campaigns trying to change the law around turning vehicles giving way to pedestrians.

So far in 2014, there have been 41 pedestrian deaths, an increase on 2013. Wellington has a high number of pedestrian injuries, more people walk.

With the parking wardens being brought in house at Council they were expecting them to have more power to police/enforce the footpath space: riding on the footpath, sandwich boards etc.

*Action: Councillor Foster unsure and to follow up with the parking wardens.*

Pleased to be part of the recent TRAFINZ workshop and believe if everyone just follows the pedestrian planning design guidelines there won't be any new issues.

Councillor Foster referred to the audits from the TRAFINZ workshop from the pedestrian guidelines point of view. Ellen pointed out Living Streets too run regular community street reviews.

*Councillor Foster, Paul Barker and Simon Kennett left the meeting at 1:20pm*

James Burgess mentioned Adam Nichols who can access funding and resource to carry out audits from the infrastructure/engineering point of view. He also talked about how Journey Manager can undertake safety audits for walkers and cyclists alongside the state highway.

Walk to Work Day: Will be Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2015. Lower Hutt and Upper Hutt are doing something, The Mayor will be doing something, Kapiti are not on board yet.

## **Kapiti Coast District Council (Bruce Johnson):**

KCDC are trying to collect stats at the moment. Bike shops are saying their biggest sales at the moment are granny bikes with lots of the elderly population taking up cycling as their mode of transport. This creates issues with sharing.

The other issue is around mobility scooters a) their lack of consideration for other shared path users and b) the infrastructure. And example, the Coastlands carpark is not great. Bruce advised he is working with Jo from ACC.

Richard Hocken mentioned a new mobility scooter design he had seen with bigger bike wheels, more like the old wheelchair designs. James Burgess mentioned electronic skateboards too, noting he followed one up the step part of Ghuznee St going 20-25km and couldn't keep up with him.

The new expressway will have an exclusive shared pathway running the full length, eventually linking all the way to Otaki.

## **Rational Transport Society (Kent Duston):**

Has looked at the Convention Centre, in particular the intersection around it with two busy roads. Where is Council are such discussions going to be taken? Steve Spence advised he is involved in the transport capacity.

And with the Wakefield Street side of convention centre – there is no easy pedestrian crossing in this block. Steve advised there is already a project manager and team involved from the urban design perspective.

## **9. Safe and Sustainable transport education updates on current main projects (Emma Hope)**

### **Restraints**

We have been responding to the occasional requests for information through the NZTA certified restraints technician web page.

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## Motorcyclists

- Scooter/Moped rider training was provided on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of November to three attendees
- Within the region motorcycle rider training has been provided on the 28<sup>th</sup> of September, 11<sup>th</sup> of October, 30<sup>th</sup> of November and 7<sup>th</sup> of December to 40 participants.

Seven Police education checkpoints were conducted through September and October with 199 riders stopped and spoken to. Helmet and licence compliance continues to be high although high-visibly gear is still low and safety gear in general is lacking on moped riders.

We continued the roll out of our urban explorer resource through the university and on street. We also funded a film student to create a small video on scooter safety in Wellington which has received 200 views.

## Pedestrians

The next roll out of our safety campaign will be delivered in February and March next year, this will feature the same graphics with one re-shoot which will have a more summer look to it. We are also scoping the development of a video to further promote this message.

Anna attended and presented at the 2Walk2Cycle conference in October this year on both the Pedestrian Safety and the Friendly Cyclist campaigns.

## Intersections

Stop on Red messaging was promoted during the advanced stop box education campaign. The next intersection campaign will roll out in May and June next year.

## Distraction

We are currently discussing how to best use national collateral to deliver something locally and whether we would tie this in with April school holidays (driving with kids) or May national Police tasking.

## Speed

The NZTA speed campaign was delivered locally (billboards and bus backs) during September and October this year.

## Alcohol

We developed a localised version of the National "Catch – know when to go – Legend" campaign. This was to support the same messaging coming out from NZTA at this time as well as promoting the new drink driving limits.

Anna attended the 2nd International Drug Driving symposium in November.

## Young Drivers

This campaign is still in development.



## School Travel Plans

This calendar year has been another busy year for schools, with projects or activities being undertaken at 14 schools in Wellington City this year. Activities have ranged from assisting with the development of walking school buses, parent volunteers on crossings, walking/scootering promotions and other behaviour change activities, as well as addressing road safety engineering concerns at four schools. Anna Blomquist will be the key contact for school related issues in 2015.

## Orange Day

The Date for the 2015 Orange Day Parade is to be confirmed but looking like 7 August at this stage.

## 'Speed Trailer' deployment

The speed trailer is a trailer fitted with a driver speed feedback sign which shows drivers speeds as they pass it. This resource is in constant deployment, to a different school every week, and then on the weekends to community streets where speed has been identified as an issue. The sign shows a vehicle's speed up to 60kmh, and after that displays the words "Slow Down". While the trailer doesn't gather data, it does appear to be a valuable tool to quickly address speed concerns, and can be followed up with more permanent measures if necessary. Due to the success of this resource there are plans to purchase an additional unit in 2015.

## Cycling

Some education for drivers about the purpose of the advance stop boxes was delivered by Police in October.

A courtesy campaign encouraging users to share the waterfront space safely will be rolled out shortly.

## Bikes in Schools

The Bikes in Schools programme is well underway in Wellington. Three schools have been selected to receive this programme in 2014/15 financial year, these are: Holy Cross School (Miramar), West Park School (Johnsonville) and Karori West Normal School. Work has commenced on the tracks at West Park School and both West Park and Holy Cross schools have received their bicycles, helmets and bike sheds. Construction work on the Holy Cross site is expected to commence in January 2015. Work is continuing with Karori West Normal School to confirm their plans, with work expected to commence sometime in early 2015. The schools have received cycle skills training through the regional Pedal Ready programme, including training up parents and teachers.

## Staffing

Emma Hope will be on parental leave from mid-January 2015. Anna Blomquist, Kim Young and Libby Callander will be sharing the role between them.

10. **General Business** was conducted over a light lunch.

Meeting closed @ 2:30pm.