

SAFE & SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT REFERENCE GROUP MEETING

MINUTES

WEDNESDAY 19th MAY 2010 11.00am

COUNCIL CHAMBERS
Wellington City Council
101 WAKEFIELD STREET

PRESENT:

Paul Barker (WCC – Transport Planning)
Anna Blomquist (WCC – Transport Planning)
Joelene Noble (WCC – Transport Planning)
Emma Hope (WCC – Transport Planning)
Alex Gray (AA)
Mike Mellor (Living Streets)
Simon Kennett (GWRC)
Richard Hocken (NZ Police - Traffic)
Aaron Dann (NZ Police – Police Education Officer)
Andrew Hill (ACC)

AGENDA:

- 1. Welcome Paul Barker
- 2. Apologies/Introductions
- 3. Previous meeting minutes
- 4. Agency updates
- 5. Transport safety education update on current main projects (Anna Blomquist)
- 6. Sustainable transport update (Emma Hope)
- 7. General business

Minutes:

1.	Welcome: Paul Barker	Action:
2.	Apologies: Councillor Hayley Wain, Steve Spence (WCC), Stuart Bullen (WCC), Roy Hitchcock (NZTA)	
3.	Minutes of last meeting (17th February 2010) and matters arising	
	Anna is to circulate the NZTA documents on behalf of Roy around the	AB
	changes to the demand management and community programmes.	AD
	Richard Hocken is still to get the statistics for the child restraints checkpoints	RH
4	to see how many tickets have been issued after the 14 day compliance is up.	
4 .	Agency updates:	
	Andrew Hill (ACC):	
	➤ Working with WCC on the Stop, Look, Live campaign.	
	Working with WCC on the upcoming intersection campaign which starts next month.	
	➤ Police and ACC are planning to target drink driving in Porirua, working out a way to try and catch repeat offenders. To be trialled in Porirua first and if it is successful will look at doing in other areas. The trial has not yet started.	
	➤ Met with regional Road Safety Coordinators last week and discussed doing regional campaigns and what the focus areas should be. Agreed on pedestrians, cyclists, motorcyclists and drivers. Also going to work together and share messages across the region where possible. Pete Baird is looking at the governance structure to see how we can all work together more.	
	➤ Speed drones — these are still available for loan. ACC need to know before the end of the financial year if they are to be utilised. Andrew suggested putting them on rubbish trucks or on contractor vehicles such as Works Infrastructure. Paul Barker advised WCC have briefly looked into installing them on buses around Wellington. Paul is to follow this up and talk to Andrew more about it.	PB
	➤ 2020 Strategy – ACC will continue to focus on motorcycles.	
	➤ ACC ran a motorcycle workshop last weekend and had 20 people attend. Looking at having a regional motorcycle day. Discussions taking place with the Police and Councils at the moment. If it is to go ahead it will be in the next financial year.	
	➤ Andrew asked Alex Gray if he would be interested in circulating the motorcycle information to the AA membership. Alex advised it would be worth contacting Peter King to see if he would be willing to include something about motorcycles/mopeds in the next newsletter.	
	Richard Hocken (Police):	
	Richard advised his group is a little understaffed at the moment so they are doing the best with the resource they have.	
	➤ Police have been carrying out cycle light and child restraint check points with WCC. Currently still in the education phase with the cycle lights but will beginning the enforcement phase shortly. There is still a problem with cyclists having no front lights.	
	➤ Repeat drink drivers — Richard advised there are logistics around when and where you need to be to catch these offenders and are looking at ways to achieve this. Also been looking at the top ten demerit point holders.	

Action:

4. Aaron Dann (Police):

- Aaron advised they have gone from having three full time Police Education Officers to one full time and one part time. Position has been advertised to help with the road patrol training. There may be someone coming in from Upper Hutt to help out with this but it hasn't been confirmed yet. If not, Aaron will spend the whole of term four training all of the schools, it will be a big job but achievable.
- ➤ Paul mentioned cycle training in schools there is reliance on Police to facilitate these, up to 10 a year. Can look at getting some expert trainers to work along side Police. Discussed cycling on footpaths and if this was becoming a real issue around Wellington. There seems to be a perception that a lot of people are cycling on the footpath. Paul advised there is a proposal to provide a cycle lane on the Birdwood Street footpath (uphill only) that is due to go the Council's Strategy and Policy Committee in the next couple of weeks. If approved we will trial this and if successful we will investigate other areas around Wellington where these could be implemented.
- Cars around school gates are still a real issue. Aaron advised he would like to have 5 minute parking or allocated drop off zones. Hataitai School has one which works really well. At Miramar North School the parking was changed to 15 minutes which has reduced congestion and resolved the issues here. Karori West School has advised they have a bridge at the back of the school where they would like to encourage parents to drop off children. There is a gap of three cars there that they would like turned into a drop off zone. Paul advised he doesn't believe that drop off zones and short term parking is the answer for every school, each school has its on unique needs and need to be dealt with on a case by case basis. WCC are working on getting schools around Wellington to sign up to the school travel plan process, which assesses a range of issues specific to each school and works to create solutions to resolve them. WCC has an aim of reaching 10 new schools per year. Aaron advised that parents have the perception that speed around schools is a real issue, which is compounded by seeing Police at the school gate. Aaron believes this is why lots of parents don't let their children walk to school.
- ➤ Aaron asked who was responsible for Kea crossings for Kilbirnie and other schools. Paul advised that Stuart Bullen is the contact person for these.

Simon Kennett (GWRC):

- ➤ The crash car was launched a couple of weeks ago at Parliament. It started being used out in Upper Hutt last week. It will be in Wellington in August and September.
- ➤ Active a2b is drawing to a close. 893 participants signed up in total. Of them there was a core group of 213. The surveys carried out have found that the number of single occupancy vehicle trips reduced from 82% to 61% which is really positive. Participants were also asked what tools they found useful and advised they thought the E-newsletter, active transport calendar, phone calls, online journey planner and walking and cycling events were all really useful. A full report is to be done shortly.
- ➤ Mind the Gap campaign the artwork for this is currently being done. It is a cycling and car driving campaign at the moment but is thinking about broadening it to include pedestrians as well.
- ➤ NZTA cycling road code NZTA aren't going to be printing these as there are likely to be changes made to it next year. GWRC are going to put together a 16 page mini cycling code aimed more at adults in the mean time and will be looking at giving them away to schools and shops.

> GWRC are looking at purchasing new cycle lights and testing their brightness from 100 metres away to find out which brand is the best

- brightness from 100 metres away to find out which brand is the best quality and then will publish on their website. It was also discussed that the information should be passed on to Consumer magazine.
- ➤ Simon also updated the group on Cycle Aware Wellington's current waterfront courtesy campaign "Cruise the Waterfront". There is a video on YouTube that is worth watching. If this is successful then they will look at doing something similar for the Mount Victoria Tunnel.

Alex Gray (AA):

- ➤ Alex advised the over weight and over length rule changes came into effect on 1 May. Routes of concern are Port to Seaview route and also concerns up Kapiti way with the over 55 tonne vehicles.
- ➤ Mount Victoria Tunnel AA has spoken to the Tunnels Alliance and they may be closing it for repairs/maintenance for three weeks over Christmas this year. There is also discussion about having a separate tunnel for pedestrians and cyclists. There is however personal safety issues around this that will need to be taken into account.
- ➤ Basin Reserve AA are waiting to see the proposed schemes, they have been delayed at the moment. Hoping for an announcement in the budget tomorrow. If enough money is approved then the underground option will go out for consultation, if not they will be relooking at the fly over options.

Mike Mellor (Living Streets Wellington):

- ➤ Walk2Work Day Mike thanked WCC for their support in this event.
- ➤ Have been attending meetings with the Tunnels Alliance regarding the tunnels upgrade.
- ➤ Cobham Drive ongoing pedestrian issues meeting held which Alex Gray from AA facilitated. Currently looking at the introduction of traffic lights at roundabouts, these would be ideal for Cobham Drive.
- ➤ Have been busy making submissions on consultations that have been open to WCC and GWRC.
- ➤ Registrations for the Walking Conference are going well. The conference is on 2nd & 3rd August. Early bird registration closes soon. Information and registrations are available on Living Streets website.

5. Accident statistics in Wellington city for vulnerable road users (Alex Gray):

➤ Alex circulated statistics comparing accidents involving vulnerable road users in Wellington, Auckland and Christchurch, also a copy of their submission to WCC on the draft annual plan and a copy of NZTA's briefing notes. On a population basis Wellington is by far the worst performing city for vulnerable road user accidents. Alex also mentioned the 17 pedestrian injury accidents recorded at Taranaki/Courtenay Place/Manners St in the 2004-2008 period is one of the highest for any intersection in NZ that he is aware of. In Auckland City over the same period the worst intersection for pedestrian injury accidents is Queen St/City Road which had 12 injury accidents.

Similarly with cycle injury accidents. Thorndon Quay had 26 injury accidents and Hutt Road 21 accidents over the same 5 year period. The only Auckland site which comes close to this number of accidents is Tamaki Drive which had 24 accidents. The AA's submission to WCC is requesting Council put more money into fixing black spot areas.

Paul Barker advised that when that information came through from NZTA, WCC worked with GWRC, who undertook a study looking at vulnerable road users. This information has been fed into the Regional Road Safety

5.	Strategy. Politicians are also well aware of this issue. NZTA has a communities at risk register which has identified and broken down crash areas and types. Cyclists were involved in 20% of reported crashes, and 25% included pedestrians.	
6.	Transport safety education update (Anna Blomquist):	
	➤ See attached report.	
7.	Sustainable Transport update (Emma Hope):	
	➤ See attached report.	
8.	Community funding grant (Paul Barker & Anna Blomquist)	
	A handout was circulated to the group, showing what WCC have bid for from NZTA. These are all linked to the Safer Journeys key priority areas. Paul advised that a quarter of this year's funding will roll over to the next financial year. WCC won't know if the funding has been approved until 6 September 2010. Part of the funding is proposed to go to community groups, who will be able to apply to WCC via an application process. Anna is talking to the WCC grants team to work out the process. Paul advised that the SASTRG would be an appropriate group to process the applications and approve funding. However, as there could be conflicts of interest, these will be dealt with as they arise. An invite will be going out for expressions of interest in the near future.	
9.	General business:	
	 Brief discussion held to see if the group was still happy having a light lunch at the beginning of the meeting or if they would rather stop half way through. Group advised they are happy with how it happens now. 	

Next Meeting: To be confirmed