

**SAFE & SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT
REFERENCE GROUP MEETING**

MINUTES**WEDNESDAY 21st September 2011
11.00am****COMMITTEE ROOM 1
Wellington City Council
101 WAKEFIELD STREET**

PRESENT:

Councillor Bryan Pepperell (Chair)
Paul Barker (WCC – Transport Planning)
Anna Blomquist (WCC – Transport Planning)
Emma Hope (WCC – Transport Planning)
Joelene Noble (WCC – Transport Planning)
Stuart Bullen (WCC – Transport Network Operations)
Aaron Dann (NZ Police – Education Officer)
Richard Hocken (Police – Wellington Traffic Unit)
Byron Cummings (Bikers Rights Organisation NZ)

Simon Kennett (GWRC)
Jessica Fleet (NZTA)
David Laing (Cycle Aware Wellington)
Jane Melburn (Regional Public Health)
Willemijn Vermaat (Living Streets Wellington)
Alex Gray (NZ Automobile Association)
Alan Royal (Accessibility Advisory Group)
Morgan Watkins (WCC Youth Council)

AGENDA:

1. Welcome – Councillor Bryan Pepperell
2. Apologies/Introductions
3. Previous meeting minutes
4. Shared path on the corner of Hutt Road and Westminster Street (Simon Kennett)
5. “Look both ways” safety video (Simon Kennett)
6. Footpath clutter obstructing view of road especially on inner city bus routes (Alex Gray)
7. Refugee community safety day (Anna Blomquist)
8. Community grants update and recommendations (Anna Blomquist & Emma Hope)
9. Agency updates (All)
10. Transport safety education update on current main projects (Anna Blomquist)
11. Sustainable transport update on current main projects (Emma Hope)
12. General business (All)

Minutes:

1.	Welcome: Councillor Pepperell welcomed the group.	Action:
2.	Apologies: Rosemary Cole (Accessibility Advisory Group), Mike Mellor (Living Streets Wellington)	
3.	<p>Minutes of last meeting (22nd June 2011) and matters arising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Representation from NZTA from the funding side of business. Jessica advised it is being discussed at the moment who will represent NZTA at these meetings and also the Road Safety Action Plan meetings. ➤ The lack of tactile pavers on lower Cuba Street has been dealt with. These have been installed recently and Alan Royal advised they work well. ➤ Facebook page – Anna advised that she has spoken with WCC’s Communications and Marketing team and they believe it isn’t the right tool for this group at the moment. It is also extremely time consuming to have. They recommended possibly using Google group instead. The outcome is we will be shelving the facebook idea for now but possibly look at using it in the future for individual campaigns. <p>Group comments: Alan Royal agreed with the possible use of Google group. David Laing believes facebook is a valuable tool and is a way of improving communication. Simon Kennett advised GWRC are looking at setting up a facebook page for road safety campaigns. It was discussed last week at the Regional Road Safety Coordinator’s meeting. Morgan Watkins advised that facebook is a good tool for group conversations, it is easier than email.</p>	
4.	<p>Shared path on the corner of Hutt Road and Westminster Street:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Simon Kennett advised that already on this section of shared path there is a bus shelter. Three weeks ago a Real Time Information pole has been put there as well. The original issue for this location is that the adshel bus shelter blocks commuter’s vision of cyclists coming towards them. This issue was raised at a recent meeting with Paul Barker to look at the possibility of changing the adshel to a clear panel. Paul Barker is to follow up and report back. ➤ Richard Hocken asked if we had talked to Adshel to see if we can combine the Real Time Information signs with theirs. Simon Kennett advised that they don’t want to combine infrastructure. 	PB
5.	<p>“Look both ways” safety video:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Simon Kennett advised that the final cut of the “Look both ways” clip will be ready in a week. It has been produced by a small company and is a short clip about an accident in Woburn where a pedestrian was hit by a ute while crossing a pedestrian crossing. It uses CCTV footage of the actual crash which has been provided by Hutt City Council. Simon will send the link out to the group when it is ready. ➤ Alan Royal asked if there would be captions on the video as well as audio. Simon advised there wouldn’t be but the key message at the end would be in print and there will be a graph as well. 	SK
6.	<p>Footpath clutter obstructing view of road especially on inner city bus routes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Alex Gray provided the group with some pictures of footpath clutter around the CBD. Specifically the new Metlink Real Time Information (RTI) sign on Courtenay Place. 	

<p>6.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Paul Barker advised that he has asked Greater Wellington for comment on these. There is no guideline on how far signs etc need to be set back from the kerb. There is a setback guideline for street furniture. Paul commented what the probability of pedestrians actually crossing the road there is as there are crossings close by. ➤ Willemijn made comment that shared spaces make places safer, vehicles will go slower if they have less visibility. The recent street furniture and bollards that have been installed are good from Living Streets' point of view. ➤ Alex wants the bollard by the pedestrian crossing on Courtenay Place to be removed. It obstructs pedestrian's views. ➤ Paul advised that Wellington City Council is in the process of undertaking a review of the Golden Mile and street furniture and signs will be taken in to consideration during this process. ➤ No more RTI signs are to be installed until after the Rugby World Cup. WCC will be talking with Greater Wellington and their contractors to make sure we are happy with the locations of the remaining signs to be installed. ➤ Paul asked the group if the signs can't be on poles then what do they see the safe distance is from the kerb. Alex Gray advised that where the sign is now is the best spot for it but it would be better on poles. ➤ Alan Royal advised the Accessibility Advisory Group don't want to see them set back any further in to the footpath as they will create accessibility problems. ➤ Jane asked if we had any idea of how many pedestrian injuries have been caused because of the signs. Paul Barker advised we are currently doing a review and are aware of the issue and as a part of the review we will be looking at street furniture and talking to GWRC about the RTI signs. ➤ Morgan asked why the totem pole as opposed to a flag pole – advised there isn't enough room for a flag pole. 	<p>Action:</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Refugee community safety day:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Anna advised there is a refugee community safety day being held at St Anne's Church on 19 October. Anna will have a stall there for road safety and Aaron Dann has provided some resources to hand out. There will be a range of groups attending the day including Police, Fire services and Regional Public Health. It is being organised by refugee services. 	
<p>8.</p>	<p>Community Grants update and recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Three community groups received grants in the last round. Frocks on Bikes for cycle safety skill building; Drive Aware, Drive Safe for defensive driving for migrants; Karori Lions Club for their car fit programme which is when they fit senior citizens in to their cars correctly. ➤ The next funding round will be closing on 31 October. They are micro grants for people looking to do something that has a sustainable or safety focus. There is more information on WCC's website if anyone is interested. 	
<p>9.</p>	<p>Agency updates:</p> <p><u>Richard Hocken – Police</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Rugby World Cup focus at the moment. ➤ Significant crashes – the recent car vs. pedestrian crash on Willis Street is under investigation. ➤ Undertaking secondary school visits around lunch time and after school to check licences and also some random breath testing as well. <p><u>Jane – Regional Public Health</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Submissions – have been working on submissions for the traffic resolution for the bus lanes with the main focus being on pedestrians 	

Action:

9.

and cyclists. Also for the Basin Reserve improvements including comments on the quality of the environment for having a new separate tunnel for pedestrians and cyclists. Also made a submission on the Regional Public Transport plan which will be accompanied by an oral submission.

- Working on an information paper on congestion as well.

Byron Cummings – BRONZ

- Submissions – have been working on submissions for motorcycle parking and the bus lane traffic resolution.
- Ulysses mentoring programme. Jim Ferno is working on this and is coming up with a rider of the year or challenge for Wellington. Paul B advised that this is something that BRONZ could apply for a grant for.
- BRONZ has had a president change; Paul Allen has now taken on the role.
- Daylight savings – will be undertaking unaccompanied learner rides out in the hut valley.

Paul Barker – WCC

- Safer Journeys – we are looking at undertaking work towards safer speed areas and putting together a black spot programme. We are planning a citywide consultation for lower speed limits which involves contacting all of the affected property owners and residents. We plan to do this through the next rates mail out and by letter dropping every household in Wellington.
- Consultation starts 1 November and closes 9 December. We are proposing a 40km/h speed limit on local streets and 30km/h in shopping areas.
- Putting together a programme to roll out advanced stop boxes this summer for cyclists.
- Simon Kennett asked about the progress of the Tawa shared pathway. Paul advised the section from Tawa College to Redwood is open. Currently building around the swimming pool to Linden Park. The level crossing is expected to be completed in May 2012.

Alan Royal – Accessibility Advisory Group

- The Accessibility Action Plan has been completed and an easy read version, when completed, will go out to the public.
- A review of the older person policy is being done.
- World Health Organisation document with checklist for age-friendly cities. It is well worth a look. Alan will pass the reference on to Anna to forward out to the group.
- Commented on lower Cuba Street shared space design. It isn't a friendly development and suggested moving the concrete slabs back in to the footpath more. The tree pits are a hazard with the drops of 7 – 10cm for visually impaired people, they tend to stay shop side so they can't fall in.

Willemijn Vermaat – Living Streets Wellington

- Have been making submissions on RoNS and the bus lane changes.
- Recently presented at the Greens and Labour Smart Conference.
- Funding has been cut so Living Streets doesn't have any funding so currently have no staff.
- Commented on lower Cuba Street shared space – believes there has been an oversight of how it should work. As it is now it still looks like a road and there are separate walking and driving spaces. Believes we have missed an opportunity and it hasn't been done well.

Alan R

<p>9.</p>	<p><u>Jessica Fleet</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Recently completed the third year of their three year programme which balanced out to \$0. Currently planning the next three year programme. ➤ H & O NZTA have changed how minor safety and retro fit works are funded. Fatal and serious crashes are being prioritised on a national ranking system which would mean a lot of money would go to the Waikato region. <p><u>David Laing – Cycle Aware Wellington</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Working on submissions. ➤ Working on Share the Waterfront campaign. ➤ Stop on Red campaign seems to be reasonably well received. ➤ Moving Planet 350 big campaign this weekend. <p><u>Morgan – WCC Youth Council</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Involved in making a submission on the motorcycle parking, the Basin Reserve flyover and shared tunnel. They would like to have the tunnels separated, youth don't want to walk there the way it is. ➤ Youth Councils role is an advisory role and they pass information back to Council. ➤ Commented on public transport prices – tertiary fares are fair enough. ➤ Paul asked if the Youth Council has much focus on transport issues. Morgan advised all of the members have portfolios and there are a couple assigned to transport. <p><u>Alex Gray – Automobile Association</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Putting together a submission on the Basin Reserve. ➤ Working on a submission for Tunnel Gully. ➤ Attending the monthly vulnerable road user group meetings which are proving to be useful. ➤ Troy Street – have discussed this with NZTA. They have advised they get funded for the maintenance road kerb to road kerb. The Council is funded to maintain the footpaths. ➤ Karo Drive/Willis Street – AA has received a response from NZTA but is not happy with it. <p><u>Simon Kennett – Greater Wellington Regional Council</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Spring to the streets is starting next week. There has been approximately 1600 people sign up so far. ➤ Working on new regional cycling maps which are expected to be completed and printed late October. ➤ Last Choice Crash Trailer – the past year it has spent approximately half of its time in storage. Looking to employ a minder to look after the car when it is public places so it will hopefully get more use over the next year. ➤ Lower Cuba Street – commented when you cycle down and get to the red light it is hard to work out where to place your bike to trigger the lights. <p><u>Aaron Dann – Police Education Officer</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Rugby World Cup focus recently so there hasn't been a lot of time spent at schools. ➤ Term four is shortened so school patrol training has started earlier in term three. ➤ Doing bike safety at some schools for years five and six. ➤ Road safety with younger children. Some concerns around Miramar North School as parked cars have increased a lot because of WETA studios. 	<p><u>Action:</u></p>
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9.	<u>Stuart Bullen – WCC</u> ➤ Focussing on looking at changes when the give way rule change comes in to effect. There is 18-20 sets of traffic signals that will need changes made to them.	Action:
10.	Transport safety education update on current main projects: ➤ See attached report.	
11.	Sustainable transport update on current main projects: ➤ See attached report.	
12.	General business:	Emma H
12.1	<u>NZTA briefing notes:</u> ➤ Anna Blomquist handed out a copy of the briefing notes to the group. They are being produced in a regional format now. ➤ The areas of concern are guiding the planned work for Anna and Emma; the areas in red are high priority. ➤ Restraints aren't on here but we will be arguing for funding with the statistics we have collected from our checkpoints over the past two years. ➤ Paul advised this will be used to apply for funding for 2012 – 2015.	
12.2	<u>Kilbirnie sports centre open day:</u> ➤ Alan asked if there had been any traffic problems at the open day. Mike Mellor has brought to Council's attention that the bus shelters, footpath etc still aren't in and they said they would be when the centre opened. Paul Barker advised that the centre isn't officially open yet. Council is looking in to Mike's comments and are in contact with him regarding them.	
12.3	<u>Pedestrian crossing central islands:</u> ➤ Aaron Dann has asked Council if we can remove the central islands at school crossings at Miramar North, Holy Cross and Cashmere Avenue schools as he feels they are dangerous and confusing for the children. ➤ Paul advised we have no intention of removing these. They were put in originally for safety reasons and we have seen an improvement. ➤ Emma Hope has been working with Miramar Central School and is going to get in contact with them to discuss the possibility of having children led crossings to show them how to use them correctly and remind them always to stop at the central island instead of walking straight across.	

Meeting closed: 1.35pm
Next Meeting: 14 December 2011, 11am - 1:30pm, Committee Room One

Safe and Sustainable Transport Reference Group Report September 2011

Road Safety Anna Blomquist, Transport Safety Education Coordinator

Child restraints campaign

WCC and Police are continuing to run weekly child restraint checkpoints throughout the city (staff availability and weather permitting). Location selection is based on feedback from our police colleagues and local knowledge. Drivers with incorrectly restrained children are given tickets with 14 days to comply where appropriate. The main issue continues to be incorrect installation or no tether strap in use. Since our last meeting we have checked 42 vehicles with an average of 48% compliance. This low number of checks is due to inclement weather and staff on leave. These checkpoints require significant commitment from Wellington police, and we wish to extend thanks to the Wellington STU for their on-going support.

Motorcycles

On the 17th of September we had our first beginner moped/motorbike training for this financial year – we have another three planned for the rest of the calendar year and then will plan for four more to the end of the financial year. The first course was well attended with 11 confirmed participants. These training sessions are charged out at \$20 per hour (upon agreement with ACC who funds 50% of the costs).

Intersection campaign – It's Your Call

The 'it's your call' intersection campaign will begin again this November accompanied by the billboards which are up at the moment and radio advertising. We will also look to revisit the spotter letter writing campaign. In March next year we will look to utilise any national collateral as well as develop our own to promote the changes to the give way rule.

Pedestrians

The results of a post-campaign survey are back:

- There was 64% net awareness of the campaign.
- Bus shelters were the most recalled form of media.
- 67% of people who recalled the campaign though it was fun and effective (i.e. they liked the campaign but did not love it).
- 60% who recalled the campaign said it reminded them to take more care.
- 27% said they actually are taking more care.
- 60% of respondents see public safety campaigns as having at least reasonably strong influence on crossing behaviour.

The company that did our research said that the results that were gained were good for the budget that we had and showed a high level of awareness.

Alcohol

The 'Safe in the City' campaign will not be running this summer, therefore we will look to develop a Christmas drink driving message – this is in the planning stage and all suggestions are welcome.

Young Drivers

The Coca Cola Careers Expo and the Last Choice display went well – many thanks to District Police for assisting with getting the trailer in and out of the TSB arena. We used this as an opportunity to promote the practice programme. The crash trailer has been booked by two schools in Wellington for use later this month.

I have also met with the Youth Council and we are looking to engage with them on a youth safe driving project for Wellington City.

Older Drivers

I am currently working with Porirua, Kapiti Coast and Hutt councils on a 2012 edition of the older drivers roads safety calendar which we hope to have available in November this year. Thank you to the members of the AAG who provided useful feedback on its format.

Orange Day

The parade was held on July the 1st and was a continued success with approximately 1150 student attending (or biggest number yet). Participating schools were sent an electronic feedback survey which netted 17 respondents – this is down from the paper surveys of previous years. On those respondents all rated the day as good or excellent. WCC would like to thank Pak'n'Save Kilbirnie and Transfield for their sponsorship of this event.

I will be attending the refugee safety day on October the 19th to promote general road safety and the driver licensing.

On the 29th of this month Sgt. Richard Hocken and I will be making a presentation on road safety in New Zealand to the new migrants group at council.

Sustainable Transport Emma Hope, Sustainable Transport Coordinator

Waterfront Cycle/Pedestrian Courtesy Campaign

This campaign development is slowly progressing. The design for the decals has been developed, with assistance and feedback from a small panel including Living Streets Aotearoa and Cycle Aware Wellington representatives. Due to a backlog of other work related to the Rugby World Cup, these have not yet been printed and installed. This is now more likely to occur after RWC has ended. This is still a pilot campaign; once the decals are installed an evaluation will take place. Further development will depend on the outcome of this evaluation.

School Travel Plans

This project continues to make good progress. Brooklyn and Hataitai schools have undertaken one year follow up surveys, which will provide valuable feedback on the project. At of September 2011, there are 19 schools involved with the project, with Hampton Hill School and Mt Cook School both coming on board.

In August 2011, four of the School Travel Plan schools presented findings from research they had undertaken during the previous term to Wellington City Council Councillors and key staff and other stakeholders. This event gave the students a great opportunity to present their findings to a relevant audience, and also gave us some interesting perspective from a student voice. The student findings are now being followed up and investigated by the Council.

I have been working with Kah Chan, a media design lecturer for the School of Design, who is getting students in his computer game development course to develop games suitable for late primary school aged children relevant to sustainable transport. These games are being pretested with students from Brooklyn School, and possibly Khandallah School also.

Organisational Travel Plans

We have purchased one additional bicycle for the fleet, a step-through bike suitable for riding with a skirt.

Walking and Cycling Policy Implementation

Cycle Skills Training Courses

Training of six Recreation Wellington staff (who currently undertakes outreach swimming lessons at schools) will begin this weekend. These staff will be available for school and adult training classes, with the course outlines currently being finalised with the aid of Marilyn Northcotte, a NZQA accredited cycle skills trainer and assessor.

Beijing Bikes

The 99 bicycles donated to the city of Wellington by the City of Beijing have arrived in the country. They are currently in a process of clearing customs and being assembled. A formal launch/receipt of the bikes will take place on Sunday 30th October. Plans for the use of these bikes is still being confirmed, however is likely to include some being used through City Housing projects.

Walk2Work Day 2012

Preliminary planning has already been undertaken for Walk2Work Day 2012, which will be held on Wednesday 14 March 2012. Due to changes in the funding requirements, this may likely be the last year that this event is held in its current format.