



MINUTES

WRC Transport Committee Meeting

Wednesday, 22 April 2026

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Waikato Regional Council
WRC Transport Committee Meeting
OPEN MINUTES

Date: Wednesday 22 April 2026, 9.31am
Location: Council Chambers
 Waikato Regional Council
 Level 1, 160 Ward Street, Hamilton

Members Present: Cr Angela Strange – Chair
 Cr Robert Cookson
 Cr Ben Dunbar-Smith
 Cr Keith Holmes
 Cr Warren Maher
 Cr Gary McGuire
 Cr Jennifer Nickel
 Cr Garry Reymer
 Cr Noel Smith
 Cr Liz Stolwyk (until 12.06pm)

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	35671650	https://youtu.be/C8oc9mrw7LY
Open Recording #2	35677557	https://youtu.be/Y6sDH8wAwx4
Public Excluded Recording	35677360	–
Open Recording #3	35680873	https://youtu.be/87g2YTqUOuE

1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 15 seconds.

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

Following the karakia, the committee observed a minute of silence to formally acknowledge the passing of former Council Chair, Alan Livingston.

2 APOLOGIES

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 1 minute 32 seconds.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WRCTC26/10

Moved: Cr Gary McGuire

Seconded: Cr Liz Stolwyk

That the apologies of Cr Chris Hughes and Cr Kataraina Hodge for absence be accepted.

CARRIED

3 CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 1 minute 58 seconds.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WRCTC26/11

Moved: Cr Liz Stolwyk

Seconded: Cr Jennifer Nickel

- 1. That the agenda of the WRC Transport Committee Meeting of 22 April 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 2 minutes 16 seconds.

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

5 MINUTES FOR CONFIRMATION OR RECEIPT

Nil

6 GENERAL ITEMS

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 2 minute 28 seconds.

6.1 PUBLIC FORUM

There were no items presented for the public forum.

6.2 DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 3 minute 58 seconds.

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

Action: That staff provide updates and data on patronage figures are tracking during times of high fuel costs, as well as information on the increase of costs to running services due to fuel prices rising.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WRCTC26/12

Moved: Cr Jennifer Nickel

Seconded: Cr Keith Holmes

That the *Director's Report* (WRC Transport Committee, 22 April 2026) be received.

CARRIED

6.3 FARE POLICY

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 35 minute 15 seconds.

Presented by the Manager, Transport Strategy and Delivery (Lorraine Cheyne) and Team Leader, Transport Policy (Katherine Simpson).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WRCTC26/13

Moved: Cr Warren Maher

Seconded: Cr Noel Smith

That the report *Fare Policy* (WRC Transport Committee, 22 April 2026) be received.

CARRIED

6.4 COMMUNITY TRANSPORT GRANT FUND 2026 RESULTS

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 54 minutes 3 seconds.

Presented by the Manager, Transport Strategy and Delivery (Lorraine Cheyne) and Team Leader, Portfolio Delivery (Tofeeq Ahmed).

10.48am – The meeting adjourned.

10.58am – The meeting reconvened.

Item continued in open recording 2, at start.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WRCTC26/14

Moved: Cr Noel Smith

Seconded: Cr Warren Maher

1. That the report *Community Transport Grant Fund 2026 Results* (WRC Transport Committee, 22 April 2026) be received; and
2. That the WRC Transport Committee refers to Council that the remaining unallocated balance of \$8,972.94 is allocated to the next funding pool.

CARRIED

6.5 CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC TRANSPORT NETWORK TECHNICAL WORK

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 46 seconds.

Presented by the Manager, Transport Strategy and Delivery (Lorraine Cheyne) and Team Leader, Transport Policy (Katherine Simpson).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WRCTC26/15

Moved: Cr Liz Stolwyk

Seconded: Cr Noel Smith

That the report *Cambridge Public Transport Network Technical Work* (WRC Transport Committee, 22 April 2026) be received.

CARRIED

6.6 TOTAL MOBILITY

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 3 minutes 35 seconds.

Presented by the Manager, Transport Strategy and Delivery (Lorraine Cheyne) and Accessible Transport Lead (Maurice Flynn).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WRCTC26/16

Moved: Cr Noel Smith

Seconded: Cr Ben Dunbar-Smith

1. That the report *Total Mobility* (WRC Transport Committee, 22 April 2026) be received.
2. That the committee supports Option 3 that is a maximum subsidy of \$22.75 per ride regionwide (65% of up to \$35) and recommends this change to Council as part of the 2026/27 Annual Plan approvals in May 2026.

CARRIED

6.7 PUBLIC TRANSPORT OPERATIONS REPORT

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 24 minutes 45 seconds.

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

Action: Members requested a working group comprising councillors be urgently formed, to address concerns around special events operations enabling collaboration with territorial authorities.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WRCTC26/17

Moved: Cr Angela Strange

Seconded: Cr Noel Smith

That the *Public Transport Operations Report* (WRC Transport Committee, 22 April 2026) be received.

CARRIED

7 PUBLIC EXCLUDED ITEMS

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 57 minutes 3 seconds.

RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WRCTC26/18

Moved: Cr Ben Dunbar-Smith

Seconded: Cr Warren Maher

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
7.1 - Community Transport Policy	s7(2)(g) of the Act - To maintain legal professional privilege	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

CARRIED

11.56am – The meeting moved into public excluded session.

12.27pm – The meeting moved back to open session.

No decisions or documentation from the public excluded session were released into open.

8 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA

Item commenced in open recording 3, at start.

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

12.28pm – The meeting closed.

UNCONFIRMED