



# **MINUTES**

**Project Planning & Monitoring  
Committee meeting**

**Tuesday, 17 September 2024**

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**MINUTES OF TAURANGA CITY COUNCIL  
PROJECT PLANNING & MONITORING COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD AT THE TAURANGA CITY COUNCIL, GROUND FLOOR MEETING ROOMS 1 & 1B, 306  
CAMERON ROAD, TAURANGA  
ON TUESDAY, 17 SEPTEMBER 2024 AT 9.30AM**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Cr Rod Taylor, Cr Rick Curach, Cr Hautapu Baker, Cr Glen Crowther, Cr Steve Morris, Cr Marten Rozeboom, Cr Kevin Schuler, Mayor Mahé Drysdale

**ALSO PRESENT:**

**APOLOGIES:** Cr Jen Scoular

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:** Cr Mikaere Sydney

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Marty Grenfell (Chief Executive), Paul Davidson (Chief Financial Officer), Barbara Dempsey (General Manager: Community Services), Alastair McNeill (General Manager: Corporate Services), Nic Johansson (General Manager: Infrastructure), Mike Naude (Director of Civic Development), Mike Seabourne (Head of Transport), James Woodward (Manager: Performance, Monitoring, Risk & Assurance), Amanda Davies (Manager: Spaces and Places Project Outcomes), Alison Law (Manager: Spaces & Places), Kelvin Hill (Manager: Water Infrastructure Outcomes), Ceilidh Dunphy (Manager: Community Relations), Karen Hay (Team Leader: Cycle Plan Implementation), Cameron Barnes (Portfolio Manager – Transport Infrastructure), Shawn Geard (City Centre Infrastructure Lead), Emily McLean (Programme Lead: City Development), Coral Hair (Manager: Democracy & Governance Services), Anahera Dinsdale (Acting Team Leader: Governance Services), Aimee Aranas (Governance Advisor)

## **1 OPENING KARAKIA**

Cr Baker opened the meeting with a Karakia

## **2 APOLOGIES**

### **APOLOGY**

### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION PPM1/24/1**

Moved: Cr Rick Curach

Seconded: Cr Marten Rozeboom

That the apology for absence received from Cr Jen Scoular be accepted.

Notes that Cr Mikaere Sydney is on leave of absence.

**CARRIED**

### 3 PUBLIC FORUM

#### 3.1 Bethlehem Road Footpath - Margaret Murray-Benge, Kay Sirkku, and Martin Heart

- Margaret Murray-Benge, Kay Sirkku, and Martin Heart spoke about their concern for the eastern side of Bethlehem Road's footpath, between Bethlehem Shores and the Carmichael Road intersection.
- The submitters noted they had petitioned on behalf of their community to request a footpath along that section of grass and for part of Bethlehem Road to be curbed and channelled.
- They provided testimonies demonstrating the dangerousness of the road such as the lack of visibility, where a recent collision had occurred between a reversing car exiting from their driveway and a child riding their bike past the property.
- They requested the Committee to keep their community updated on any further progress or any decisions made.
- Chairperson Rod Taylor agreed to keep the submitters informed.

### 4 ACCEPTANCE OF LATE ITEMS

Nil

### 5 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS TO BE TRANSFERRED INTO THE OPEN

Nil

### 6 CHANGE TO ORDER OF BUSINESS

Nil

### 7 DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

### 8 BUSINESS

#### 8.1 Projects Update July 2024

**Staff** Nic Johansson (General Manager: Infrastructure),  
Mike Naude (Director of Civic Development),  
Mike Seabourne (Head of Transport),  
James Woodward (Manager: Performance, Monitoring, Risk & Assurance),  
Amanda Davies (Manager: Spaces and Places Project Outcomes),  
Alison Law (Manager: Spaces & Places),  
Kelvin Hill (Manager: Water Infrastructure Outcomes),  
Cameron Barnes (Portfolio Manager – Transport Infrastructure),  
Shawn Geard (City Centre Infrastructure Lead)

#### **Summary**

##### General Requests from Councillors

- To have the total funding costs for projects supplied in future updates.

Requested a further information session be held to understand the capital programme budget.

### **Capital Programme Update – James Woodward**

- The Capital Programme had developed significantly over the last three years. The types of assets and programmes that had been delivered were broad and moved towards vertical infrastructures like community assets by the Spaces and Places or the Civic Development teams.
- The procurement model had also changed over the last three years to reflect, at a national level, that the supply chains requested 'pipeline certainty' and to receive confirmation that projects would go ahead.
- The 2023/24 Financial Year (FY23/24) actual spend came to \$418.43m. That programme experienced an acceleration of spending towards the end of the year.
- The distribution of the FY23/24 programme showed that the majority of the budget was spent by Transport, Civic & City Centre, and Waters.
- The 2024/25 Financial year's actual spend to July 2024 was \$29.78m. The distribution programme had become more consistent with Transport delivering 22%, Civic & City Centre 27% and Waters 20% of the projects.
- It was forecasted by year end that the Council would have spent \$560.17m. That result would be monitored closely through gateway processes.
- As projects moved through their life cycles and phases staff reviewed spending to ensure that the projections aligned throughout the remainder of the year and that they were within their financial limits.

### Requests from Councillors

- A comprehensive break down on what projects had influenced and the metrics used to yield the results for the Capital Programme Budget and Spend FY24/25 graph.
- The financial breakdown to be divided into projects completed, those currently in progress, future and carried-forward projects.

### **City Development Highlights – Mike Naude**

- Staff gave an overview of projects completed and delivered from the last financial year.
- Staff updated the Committee on the progress of the Cameron Road indoor courts. The tender for the project included the design and delivery of the site.
- It was confirmed that the Queen Elizabeth Youth Centre would not be demolished until after the Cameron Road indoor courts were completed. It was expected that the project would be slightly over budget because of the additional seismic work needed.
- It was requested that all spending towards getting the Memorial Park Aquatics Facility site ready be halted as the project was not yet confirmed. Committee members were not satisfied with the projected cost of \$4m to prepare the site.
- It was confirmed to the Committee that a comprehensive report would be provided in February 2025

### Requests from Councillors

- To provide a breakdown of the additional costs of the geotechnical work on the project.

### **City Centre Highlights – Emily McLean and Shawn Geard**

- A key precinct in the City Centre Investment Plan were the Monmouth Redoubt Banks as they needed restoration.
- The new bus shelters would be of a quality to protect travellers from some weather events but were not such to encourage the spaces to become dwelling spaces.
- The proposed bus stops along Durham Street faced backlash from surrounding stakeholders who were concerned with the intensity of the bus traffic in the inner city. New plans for future

bus stops were being designed and would be presented back to the Committee.

#### Requests from Councillors

- For future reports to include amounts not yet committed by external funding.

At 11:20am the meeting adjourned.

At 11:30am the meeting reconvened.

#### **Spaces and Places – Amanda Davies and Alison Law**

- Blake Park was inundated with visitors prompting netball to relocate to a new centre where they would have the priority use, followed by community sports and then events.
- Transport use around the Baypark had been considered and found not suitable for public transport as there was no ideal turning area for buses. A proposed new entrance off Truman Lane would create a new bus lane and turning bay which would encourage public transport usage. There were also plans to link up the new cycle way and a staircase installed with assistance from Waka Kotahi outside of Baypark.
- The Spaces and Places team had around 150 projects to deliver over the 2023/24 financial year. Some projects would be extended for completion in the 2024/25 financial year.

#### Requests from Councillors

- To provide information on the external funding contributions for the development of the Merivale Community Centre.
- To supply information around developments to upgrade and improve accessibility around the Waipuna Park facilities.

#### **City waters – Kelvin Hill**

- Developments around projects were progressing well.
- Asbestos had been located at the Opal Drive Pumpstation causing a two day delay in the construction.
- Some piles were incorrectly placed in the Bioreactor 2 in Te Maunga Wastewater Treatment Plant. There were three solutions being discussed between staff and the contractors.

#### Requests from Councillors

- Provide a high-level breakdown of the waters budget within the Long Term Plan

#### **Transport – Mike Seabourne and Cameron Barnes**

- The development of the transport network by Tauranga Crossing would result in a network that could cope with peak demands to improve the reliability of the bus network and the predicted future demands within the area. There was still some uncertainty with the operation of that network as a section of it varied on a day-to-day basis.
- There were several misplaced powerpoles in the Arataki bus interchange that needed to be moved. A manhole cover and sewer pipe had not been identified in the design process which had resulted in the ground being too unstable for the powerpoles.

#### Requests from Councillors

- To provide the maintenance schedule for upkeeping pedestrian crossings painted.
- To provide financial details for the series of works on the pedestrian crossing at Levers Road including the initial cost of installation, the unstalling, the reinstallation and then the final unstalling of the pedestrian crossing.

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION PPM1/24/2**

Moved: Cr Rick Curach

Seconded: Cr Marten Rozeboom

That the Project Planning & Monitoring Committee:

- (a) Receives the report "Projects Update July 2024".

**CARRIED**

**Attachments**

1 PPMC 20240817 - Project Performance End of July 2024

At 1:15 pm the meeting adjourned.

At 1:45pm the meeting reconvened.

**8.2 Links Avenue Update**

**Staff** Mike Seabourne (Head of Transport)  
Karen Hay (Team Leader: Cycle Plan Implementation)  
Ceilidh Dunphy (Manager: Community Relations)

**Key Points**

- Staff acknowledged the amount of work that the Panel Members had undertaken within the community around the formation of the outcomes they were seeking. It was considered that the community had become burnt out with the longevity of the project and were no longer wanting to be a part of discussions with staff, resulting in being cautious with any proposed changes and wanting to effectively communicate the 'why' to residents.
- The project had reached a point where it was now necessary for the Council to form a decision on the cul-de-sac in Links Avenue and staff were seeking early feedback to provide the necessary details to help the Council formulate their decision.
- Once the trial had concluded, the implications of B to B opening and what that demand had on the network would be measured and studied. There would be an opportunity for the road to revert back to the pattern that was upheld in the operating framework.
- The concrete blocks separating the cycle path from the road was meant to be a temporary fix which would be rectified when funding become available and the Links Avenue corridor would then be looked at more strategically, including the development of a wider shared footpath for walking and cycling.
- The traffic management that had been installed was to dissuade the corridor from becoming a rat-run again and any future changes should note this as it was what the community wanted.  
The Links Avenue closure was an attempt to change the behaviour of motorists that were using it as a through route instead of using the state highway.

At 2:35pm, Cr Hautapu Baker left the meeting.

At 2:36pm, Mayor Mahé Drysdale left the meeting.

- Staff would not recommend setting up community panels for this type of project in the future as it lacked a scope of change. Links Avenue had too many technical constraints that made it difficult to deliver what the community panel were seeking. However, staff reiterated that the community panel had done a fantastic job putting in many hours trying to find a suitable solution that would cater to as many people as possible.

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION PPM1/24/3**

Moved: Cr Glen Crowther

Seconded: Cr Rick Curach

That the Project Planning & Monitoring Committee:

- (a) Receives the report "Links Avenue Update".
- (b) Notes that a report on the future of the cul-de-sac is to be tabled at the Councils November 2024 meeting.

**CARRIED**

**8.3 Outline Work Programme for Project Planning & Monitoring Committee for the 2024/25 Financial Year**

**Staff** Nic Johansson (General Manager: Infrastructure)

**Key Points**

- It was proposed from an earlier request that the actual versus revised budgets be brought back to either Project Planning and Monitoring Committee or to the Accountability, Finance and Risk Committee. The decision would be discussed between the Chairs of each of these committees.
- The procurement strategies on how the Council generated value for money, along with the process of interaction with NZTA to obtain a 50% contribution would be provided to the Committee.
- To ensure that future projects were fully understood, information on the project lifecycle and stage gates would be provided to the Committee.
- Staff explained that a baseline of project management capabilities was created several years ago and was constantly being reviewed to determine how staff were performing and how that had resulted in better delivery of the projects.

**Requests from Councillors**

- Provide an overall Durham Street bus interchange project financial breakdown and laneway information.



**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION PPM1/24/4**

Moved: Cr Glen Crowther

Seconded: Cr Rick Curach

That the Project Planning & Monitoring Committee:

- (a) Receives the report "Outline Work Programme for Project Planning & Monitoring Committee for the 2024/25 Financial Year".
- (b) Notes the outline work programme for the Committee as per Attachment One of this report
- (c) Requests staff to report back informally to elected members on the Durham Street bus interchange project including any opportunity to revisit the decision and consequences of delaying the project.
- (d) Delegates to the Chief Executive to make the decision on the continuation or not of the Durham Street bus interchange project based on feedback from the elected members.
- (e) Notes that the Chief Executive will report back to the next relevant Committee meeting on this decision.

**CARRIED**

**9 DISCUSSION OF LATE ITEMS**

Nil

**10 CLOSING KARAKIA**

**The meeting closed at 3:45pm.**

**The minutes of this meeting were confirmed as a true and correct record at the Project Planning & Monitoring Committee meeting held on 21 October 2024**

.....  
Cr Rod Taylor  
**CHAIRPERSON**