

RLTP Consultation

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Board members with a broad outline of the consultation programme for the Regional Land Transport Programme (RLTP).

Executive Summary

Auckland Transport is required to prepare an RLTP by April 2012 in order to recommend a three year funding programme to the NZ Transport Agency (NZTA).

In addition to the statutory requirements, this will be the first regional transport planning process since Auckland Transport's inception. It is therefore important as a positioning opportunity for Auckland Transport as part of establishing our commitment to delivering on the potential of Auckland's new governance arrangements. It also potentially signals Auckland Transport's openness and willingness to engage with stakeholders across Auckland.

The RLTP should reflect both Government and regional policies and strategies, and included the transport activities of NZTA, Auckland Council and Auckland Transport itself. The RLTP is the method by which funding assistance is obtained for transport activities in the region, including State Highways and Network Operations.

Statutory Requirements and Consultation Framework

As part of the preparation of the RLTP, Auckland Transport is required to carry out consultation in accordance with both the Land Transport Management Act, and the Local Government Act.

Main points from the legislation are:

- Auckland Transport (AT) must consult in accordance with the consultation principles of and using the special consultative procedure in the Local Government Act. This includes specific requirements for the notification and treatment of public submissions, including the opportunity for submitters to be heard at a public hearing, and for the responses to submissions to be publicly available.
- AT may carry out the RLTP consultation in conjunction with Auckland Council's Long Term Plan (LTP) or Annual Plan.
- There are extra requirements for consultation with Maori

While consideration was given to include consultation on the RLTP with the Auckland Council consultation on the long term plan, for a variety of reasons (including deadlines for submitting the funding programme to NZTA) it was decided to consult separately on the RLTP but collaborate with the Auckland Council consultation as much as possible – for example in areas such as printing and advertising.

This may also include, for example, joint stakeholder meetings where appropriate.

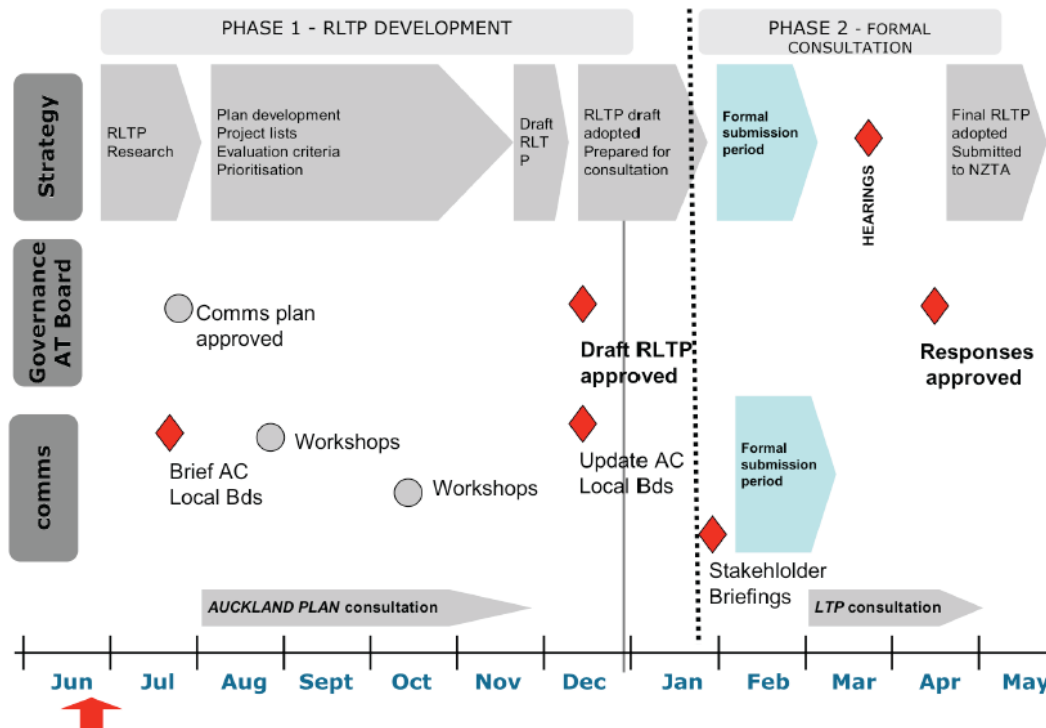
In acknowledging that consultation for the RLTP is the first and most comprehensive exercise of its type undertaken by Auckland Transport, staff are developing a plan underpinned by the following key objectives:

- To fulfil and indeed exceed the statutory requirements of a special consultative procedure (Local Government Act) and to engage with key stakeholders as required in the Land Transport Management Act 2010
- To provide meaningful input from stakeholders to inform the region's funding priorities

The engagement plan will clearly define the stakeholders and their roles, with the expectation that engagement will be targeted to three broad categories of stakeholders:

- Funders – including NZTA, the Auckland Council governing body and Local Boards
- Stakeholders – special interest groups including Maori
- Community – general public of the region

It is proposed that this will be a two-stage exercise. A broad project plan is below, with engagement effectively beginning in late January.



Hearings Process

Auckland Transport has not yet been required to manage a formal hearings process, although it is common in local Government and ARTA managed the last process in 2009. Auckland Transport's consultation and engagement team are consulting with Democracy Services specialists at Auckland Council to ensure correct procedure is followed including:

- Public notification channels
- Availability of draft RLTP for review by submitters
- Availability of submission forms, both on-line and hard copy
- Specific address for submissions (email and hard copy)
- System for lodgement of submissions, notification of receipt to submitters
- System for recording submission issues, collating staff responses
- Selection of hearings panel
- Logistics for hearings (possibly up to 2 weeks), including venue, scheduling and notification of submitters
- Minutes and recording of any proposed changes
- Process for recording decision and managing the hearings panel report

Channels and Tools

It is clear that differing communications tools are required for differing demographics in a region the size of Auckland.

The table below outlines a suggested alignment of communication channels and tools with stakeholder groups:

Communications Channels	Communities & Public	Structured Multi Sector	Treaty Partners	Targeted Partners (incl. Auckland Politicians)	Local Board Members	Councillors	Staff and CCOS
Predominantly Targeted at General Public							
Auckland Transport Website	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Auckland Council website & media	✓	✓		✓			✓
Social media – facebook, twitter	✓						
Radio Ads							
E newsletter	✓	Potentially, newsletter or update		Potentially, newsletter or update			
E mail updates	✓				✓		✓
Auckland Council newsletter	✓						
Bus Advertising	?						
Media Releases and Media pack –	✓						
Online discussions/ engagement	✓						✓
Structured feedback forms	✓	✓		✓			✓
Predominantly Targeted at Other Stakeholders							
Meetings		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Forums			✓				
Workshops	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Letters		✓	✓	✓	✓		
Intranet							✓

Recommendation

That this report be received.

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<p>RECOMMENDED by</p>	<p>Peter Clark Corporate Manager Strategy & Planning</p>	
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