

Stepping forward

Implementing a three-year transport planning and funding cycle

Newsletter August 2008



Important manual and guidelines released

The NZ Transport Agency (NZTA) has just released two important documents for use by all approved organisations: the first edition of the **Planning, programming and funding manual** (PPFM) and the **Regional Land Transport Programme guidelines** (RLTP guidelines).

Hard copies of the PPFM will be distributed to all registered holders by mid-September, while the RLTP guidelines will go to approved organisations and regional transport committees. The PPFM is also downloadable in parts from the NZTA website (www.nzta.govt.nz) in PDF format, while the HTML version will be made available on both the NZTA and Smartmovez websites in September. The RLTP guidelines are also available as a PDF download from the NZTA website.

The **PPFM** will guide the 2009/10–2011/12 RLTPs and the National Land Transport Programme (NLTP) - the first three-year transport programmes. It sets out policy and procedures for the development and management of the RLTPs and NLTP during those cycles.

The PPFM has been designed to assist approved organisations in preparing and planning projects and activities for which they are seeking funding from the NZTA. It has been restructured and reformatted to make it much more user friendly.

The purpose of the **RLTP guidelines** is to provide direction and specific guidance to anyone involved in the preparation of RLTPs for 2009/10–2011/12. It also provides the vision for RLTPs for 2012/13–2014/15, the second cycle of these three-year programmes.



The guidelines should be used in tandem with the PPFM. Both documents will help regional transport committees and the Auckland Regional Transport Authority (ARTA) (for the Auckland region) to meet their legislative responsibilities in preparing their region's RLTP. The guidelines contain good practice on the development of strategies and packages that link land use and transport planning.

Some sections are appropriate for regional transport committees and others for officers undertaking technical roles. It also provides some guidance on how the NZTA can assist in the process.

The NZTA's regional offices are planning training events for approved organisations on the content and use of the PPFM and guidelines.

MoT/NZTA running roadshows country wide

The Ministry of Transport (MoT) and the NZTA are currently running regional Stepping Forward roadshow events - a joint initiative to explain to our regional partners and approved organisations the recent changes to the transport sector (eg Land Transport Management Act, New Zealand Transport Strategy, Government Policy Statement).

The event comprises an overview of the new arrangements, the introduction of the NZTA and a technical workshop on the introduction of a three-year planning and funding cycle, and the development of a regional land transport programme by regional transport committees.

To date, the MoT and the NZTA have run eight events: Tasman DC and Nelson DC, followed by Greater Wellington RC, Northland RC, Auckland RC, Gisborne DC, Hawkes Bay, Environment Bay of Plenty and Otago RC.

The rest of the schedule is as follows:

West Coast	28 August	Environment Canterbury	5 September
Environment Southland	29 August	Taranaki Regional Council	8 September
Environment Waikato	1 September	Marlborough	18 September
Horizons Regional Council	2 September	ARTA	24 September

Events are hosted by regional and unitary authorities - approved organisations and other stakeholders are encouraged to attend.

Waikato capability-building workshop a huge success

The NZTA is committed to supporting and advising approved organisations on the new regional approach to land transport planning, programming and funding.

The NZTA's Midlands region was first off the mark when they presented a workshop in Hamilton on 30 July. It was well attended by about 60 people, representing 13 councils and a number of consultancies.

As it was new territory for NZTA regional staff as well, some staff were asked for their impressions of the event.

'I was delighted with the willingness of all participants who attended to take ownership of the exciting opportunities provided by the new legislation. The work will be done against tight timeframes and there was an understanding that a collaborative effort will be needed.' **Rosalie Orr, Partnership Manager Midlands**

'The workshop was a success due to the enthusiasm of the representatives to engage in the new framework for the delivery of transport solutions for the region. There is clearly local ownership.' **Andrew McKillop, Manager Programmes Midland**

'It was gratifying to see Bay of Plenty and Waikato regional staff taking ownership of the process they will be responsible for implementing with their partners. It was great having a broad spectrum of people in attendance, because NLTP projects will be a collaboration process.' **David Darwin, NLTP Development Manager, National Office**

Smartmovez

This long-awaited land transport information one-stop website for approved organisations goes live on 1 September. More about this in the next issue.

For more information, go to www.landtransport.govt.nz/funding/stepping-forward/index.html. You can send questions to nltp3@nzta.govt.nz.