

# Submission form

## **Have your say!**

**We would like to know your views on the DRAFT Regional Public Transport Plan.**

Please use this form to write your submission and send it to:

**Freepost - Environment Waikato  
Attention: Transport Policy  
Waikato Regional Council  
PO Box 3038  
Waikato Mail Centre  
HAMILTON 3240**

Or Fax your submission to: **07 859 0998**

Submissions can also be emailed to [transport@waikatoregion.govt.nz](mailto:transport@waikatoregion.govt.nz). However please make sure you include the information and contact details requested on the submission form.

All submissions received will be acknowledged and be considered in the development of the final Regional Public Transport Plan (PT Plan). Please note that submissions are to be **received** by Environment Waikato by **4pm, Monday 8 August 2011**.

Submissions will be heard over one or more days from Thursday 18 August 2011. The number of days required will depend on the number of submitters who indicate they wish to be heard. Please indicate whether you wish to present your comments to the Hearing Committee in person. If you indicate you wish to present your submission in person, you will be contacted to confirm the time and date of your appearance in front of the Hearing Committee.

The full DRAFT Regional Public Transport Plan is available for viewing at local libraries, district council offices and Waikato Regional Council offices. The summary of the strategy and the full strategy are also available on Waikato Regional Council's website [www.waikatoregion.govt.nz](http://www.waikatoregion.govt.nz) or by ringing the Council's Freephone on 0800 800 401.

## **Submissions close at 4pm on Monday 8 August 2011**

Please include the following information as part of your submission.

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***Please tick the box if your would like to speak at a hearing:***

Yes  ✓

Demaine.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

## Your submission

- Please write your submission clearly in black ink as it will be photocopied.
  - Please clearly indicate which section or page number of the PT Plan you are referring to in your submission
  - Add extra pages if required.
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This is a submission by the Future Proof Implementation Committee (“FPIC”) in support of the draft Waikato Regional Public Transport Plan 2011-2021 (“RPTP”). The FPIC is the governance group responsible for implementation of the Future Proof Growth Strategy. FPIC includes representatives from the Future Proof sub-regional councils of Hamilton City, Waipa and Waikato Districts, Waikato Regional Council as well as the New Zealand Transport Agency and Tāngata Whenua .

The FPIC would like to commend the Waikato Regional Council on producing such a comprehensive draft plan. Future Proof particularly supports the emphasis on integrated planning and the importance of servicing new growth areas. Public transport is an integral part of the Future Proof Strategy as it will help to support the aim of achieving a more compact urban form.

It is important that the Future Proof Strategy, the Regional Policy Statement (“RPS”), the Regional Land Transport Strategy (“RLTS”) and the RPTP are all in alignment. It is our view that the RPTP gives effect to the RLTS as well as supporting the Future Proof Strategy and the RPS through its integrated planning approach.

Future Proof has recently completed some investigations aimed at addressing the impact of rural and urban residential land use policies on the Waikato Expressway. This work has concluded that forecasted residential growth is likely to cause serious peak time congestion and safety issues on the Waikato Expressway between the Tamahere and Hamilton South Interchanges. The key finding of this work is that there is a need to achieve a 25% reduction in local trips on the Waikato Expressway between Tamahere interchange and Hamilton South interchange by using a hierarchy of intervention approach. There are some elements of the recommended package that need to be included in the RPTP, in particular the provision of public transport for satellite commuters, especially for commuter trips between Cambridge and Hamilton. The Future Proof report has recommended that:

- The Waikato Regional Council undertake long term strategic planning (30 year) for passenger transport services as part of the current Regional Public Transport Plan review
- Coordination of service planning with bus priority infrastructure investigation
- Investigation of options for coordinating school travel with commuter travel

Future Proof would like to see these actions carried through into the RPTP and we have made some specific suggestions in the detailed submission which follows. We would also like to see some consideration given to increasing public transport (both service and infrastructure provision) between Cambridge and Hamilton for commuters. We understand the current financial constraints but it is important to try and encourage greater use of public transport between the two centres in order to ensure that the Waikato Expressway project is not compromised.

The Future Proof Strategy contains an action for the Waikato Regional Council to review the Regional Public Transport Plan to align it with the Future Proof Strategy and to determine what level of public transport is needed to support Future Proof growth areas. Public transport is an integral part of the Future Proof settlement pattern. The draft RPTP goes a long way towards giving effect to this action, however we believe that further work needs to be done in order to properly understand the level of public transport infrastructure and services needed to support the Future Proof settlement pattern. This work could be completed as part of the Long-term Strategic Planning action recommended by Future Proof.

Overleaf we have provided some key areas of the draft RPTP that Future Proof are in support of as well as making some suggested changes or additions to the draft document. We hope that they are helpful.

## Future Proof Submission

RPTP Reference	RPTP Section / Topic	Future Proof Submission
General	Integration / growth management and Future Proof Growth Strategy references	Future Proof commends the draft RPTP on the links it has made throughout the document to the relationship between land use and transport planning. The references in the document to the Future Proof Strategy are strongly supported as it is essential that Future Proof, the RPS, RLTS and the RPTP are in alignment.
Chapter 2, Section 2.1, page 18 (last paragraph)	Giving Effect to the Waikato Regional Land Transport Strategy	Correct the last paragraph as it currently states that the RLTS policy directives are in Appendix 1 when they are in Appendix 2. Amend the last paragraph as follows: <i>“Appendix 4 <u>2</u> contains a list of the relevant...”</i>
Chapter 2, section 2.1, Table 1, page 18	RLTS Public Transport Policy Approach	Future Proof supports the inclusion of the RLTS public transport policy approach as this aligns with our objectives for public transport in the Future Proof sub-region.
Chapter 2, section 2.1, page 19	Priority Interventions for Public Transport in Hamilton	Future Proof supports the priority interventions, in particular the reference to land use planning as set out in Future Proof and the RPS. These linkages are a key part of integrating land use and transport planning and supporting a more compact urban form.
Chapter 2, section 2.3.1, page 21	Integrated Planning Approach	Future Proof supports this section. We would also suggest making reference to the importance of growth strategies in terms of supporting the integrated land use and transport planning approach at regional level.
Chapter 2, section 2.3.2, page 22	Proposed Waikato Regional Policy Statement	Add both the NZTA and Tāngata Whenua as Future Proof Strategy partners in the last paragraph as follows: <i>“...the Future Proof strategy which is a partnership between Hamilton City, Waikato and Waipa District Councils, <del>and</del> the Waikato Regional Council, NZTA and Tāngata Whenua.”</i>
Chapter 2, section 2.3.3, page 22	Future Proof Growth Strategy	Future Proof is strongly supportive of this section of the draft RPTP. Having good linkages between the Future Proof Strategy and the RPTP is key. The Future Proof Strategy is predicated on achieving a more compact urban form and an integrated approach to land use and transport. Public transport is an essential part of the Strategy given its aim to encourage more sustainable modes of travel by ensuring that land use is planned in such a way that these modes are supported.
Chapter 2, section 2.3.5,	Waipa Integrated Growth Strategy	Amend the title from Waipa Integrated Growth Strategy to Waipa

page 23		<i>Integrated Transport Strategy.</i>
Chapter 4, section 4.1, page 35	Growth in Population and Travel Demand	The information provided in the growth in population and travel demand section is supported given that this is a key driver as well as a challenge for public transport. Of particular relevance to Future Proof are the challenges of future population growth and demographic change, which put pressure on the transport system. Future Proof supports the references to development taking place in a way that supports public transport and active modes. This aligns with the Future Proof guiding principle to have development planned in a manner that supports efficient public transport provision and reduced motor vehicle dependence.
Chapter 5, section 5.2, page 41	Public Transport Objectives	Future Proof strongly supports the first objective to strengthen integration. The way that developments are planned, where land use is located and the type of land use policies promoted can have a strong influence on public transport usage. It is important that land use and public transport are carried out in a coordinated manner.
Chapter 5, section 5.3, pages 42 - 43	Public Transport Growth Targets	Future Proof supports the public transport growth targets as outlined in the RLTS and carried through into the RPTP.
Chapter 6, section 6.1, pages 45 - 46	Key Focus Areas	Future Proof strongly supports the key focus areas of integrated planning and serving new growth areas. These are of fundamental importance to the Future Proof Strategy.
Chapter 6, section 6.2, pages 45 - 46	Service Optimisation	It is important that the RPTP recognises that the funding constraints facing public transport may only be a short term issue. It is essential that the region continues to build on its solid public transport base and that medium to longer term plans are put in place that will aim to continue growing public transport. It is essential that a long-term and strategic view of public transport is taken.
Chapter 7, Actions	Actions (in general)	The actions contained in the RPTP may benefit from having some timeframes attached to them so that they can then be prioritised. With 86 actions it will not be possible to complete all of them straight away – they will need to be prioritised with the most important / strategically significant being completed first.
Chapter 7, section 7.2.2, pages 51-52	Hamilton Urban Services	Future Proof supports the policies and actions for Hamilton urban public transport services, in particular, the provision of public transport services to areas of new urban development. The criteria contained in policy 2 should however be clarified as it is not clear whether all of these need to be met

		before services will be extended or whether only one has to be met. It is assumed that all of the criteria should be met so we would suggest adding the conjunctive 'and' so that there is no ambiguity.
Chapter 7, section 7.2.2, page 52	Hamilton Urban Services	Future Proof views the provision of public transport in Hamilton as key to meeting its compact urban form and planned development objectives. In particular, public transport is necessary to support residential intensification in Hamilton. We note the RLTS and Access Hamilton target, which is also reflected in the RPTP, that public transport will account for an increasing percentage of journey to work trips within Hamilton. There is a need to make sure that the RPTP has made provision for this to be achieved through the policies and actions for Hamilton urban services.
Chapter 7, section 7.2.2, page 52 – Action 6	Hamilton Urban Services	Future Proof supports the action to undertake a strategic network review for Hamilton urban public transport services. We would like the opportunity to contribute to this review.
Chapter 7, section 7.2.3, pages 53 - 54	Satellite and Rural Areas	Future Proof supports the policies and actions contained in this section. The provision of public transport between Cambridge and Hamilton is of particular concern to Future Proof given the impact that commuting trips will have on the Waikato Expressway. It is essential that greater use of public transport is actively encouraged and provided for between these two centres.
Chapter 7, section 7.2.7, page 56	Future Rail and Water Transport Services, Action 34	Future Proof is of the view that action 34 could be stronger than what it currently is. The Regional Council also has a role in this action through the RPS. Key public transport corridors should be protected through identification in the RPS and designations in District Plans. The Proposed Waikato RPS currently includes significant transport corridor maps. <sup>1</sup> These should be added to where appropriate so that important public transport corridors are protected. The RPTP should indicate that key routes will be identified in the RPS.
Chapter 7, section 7.5, page 61	Infrastructure	Future Proof supports the infrastructure policies contained in this section.
Chapter 7, section 7.5, page 61	Infrastructure	Amend the last paragraph to reference A6 (which is the action to undertake a strategic network review) instead of A5.
Chapter 7, section 7.8,	Funding	Future Proof supports the need to explore alternative funding sources

<sup>1</sup> Proposed Waikato Regional Policy Statement (Notified Version, November 2010), Section 6B at pages 6-25 – 6-26

page 66		<p>outlined in this section. This aligns with the Future Proof Strategic Theme of affordable and sustainable infrastructure, part of which is to use innovative funding methods to bridge the gap between cost and affordability.<sup>2</sup></p> <p>Given the current financial constraints for public transport it is essential that other sources of revenue are found in order to ensure that public transport is adequately provided for. A significant amount of work has gone into building up a public transport system in the Waikato and it is very important that this momentum is not lost. If public transport is not continually improved then we will not achieve the type of modal shift that we need. Future Proof supports all of the possible funding sources outlined. We also strongly support policy 41 (promoting a strong central government funding contribution) and will work with the regional council to ensure that this policy is implemented.</p>
Chapter 7, section 7.9, page 67	Integrated Planning	<p>Future Proof supports the integrated planning section. We would like to see an additional policy added as follows:</p> <p><u><i>Ensure that there is alignment between public transport and the land use pattern set out in the Waikato Regional Policy Statement.</i></u></p>
Chapter 7, section 7.9, page 67	Integrated Planning (new action)	<p>Future Proof has recently undertaken detailed work funded by the NZTA which has examined the effect of rural and urban residential land use policies on the Waikato Expressway. The primary issue is that forecasted residential growth is likely to cause serious peak time congestion and safety issues on the Waikato Expressway between the Tamahere and Hamilton South Interchanges. The key finding of this work is that there is a need to achieve a 25% reduction in local trips on the Waikato Expressway between Tamahere interchange and Hamilton South interchange by using a hierarchy of intervention approach. Future Proof has identified a package of activities to assist in achieving this reduction. A key part of this package is the provision of public transport for satellite commuters, in particular for commuting trips from Cambridge to Hamilton. The findings of this work has recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Waikato Regional Council undertake long term strategic planning (30 year) for passenger transport services as part of the current</li> </ul>

<sup>2</sup> Future Proof Strategy 2009 at page 18

		<p>Regional Public Transport Plan review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordination of service planning with bus priority infrastructure investigation</li> <li>▪ Investigation of options for coordinating school travel with commuter travel</li> </ul> <p>The last two appear to be well covered in the draft RPTP. The first one needs to be added to the document. Action 83 partly covers the recommendation but it needs to be wider and have more of a long term focus. Future Proof would like to see the following new action added in order to give effect to this recommendation:</p> <p><u><i>Council, in collaboration with strategic partners, will undertake long term (30 years) strategic planning for public transport services.</i></u></p> <p>Future Proof is also of the view that further work needs to be undertaken on what level of public transport is needed to support the Future Proof growth areas.<sup>3</sup> This could be undertaken as part of the long-term strategic planning action suggested above. This is necessary in order to fully understand the level of service and infrastructure provision required to have a public transport system that aligns with the Future Proof land use pattern and achieves modal shift.</p>
Chapter 8, section 8.2, page 72	Services to Satellite Towns	<p>Future Proof would like to see the potential for increased public transport services for commuters between Cambridge and Hamilton signalled in this section. While it is understood that it may not be possible to fund an increased level of service straight away this still needs to be considered and if funds do become available then services should be increased. This will be an important part of achieving the 25% reduction in local trips on the Waikato Expressway.</p>
Chapter 9, section 9.1, page 77	Key Performance Indicators	<p>Under the integration objective the following RLTS targets should be added:</p> <p><u><i>Development occurring in identified growth management areas serviced by</i></u></p>

<sup>3</sup> Future Proof Strategy 2009, Action 8.24.4(4) at page 141

		<u>public transport</u> <u>Increasing the percentage of the population within 400m of a bus route within Hamilton City</u>
Appendix 1, pages 80 – 81	Policy Context	<p>The following documents should be added to this section:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Waikato Regional Policy Statement</li> <li>▪ Waikato Regional Land Transport Strategy - unless it is assumed that this is fully covered in Appendix 2</li> <li>▪ Government Policy Statement on Land Transport Funding</li> <li>▪ National Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy</li> <li>▪ KiwiRail Turnaround Plan</li> </ul>