



# Notes from forum held 13 June 2022 Via Zoom

**Facilitator & note taker:** Sarah Gibb, Community Waikato

**Attendees:** Amantha Bowen, Sarah Gibb, Marnie Goodman, Anne Gummer, Bridget Doran, Cllr Angela Strange, Julie Taverner, Greg Morton, Nicky Patterson, Peter Boyce, Rose Stokes, Sheryll FitzPatrick, Tom Rowland, Tracy Boyd, Vicki Tannahill, Jeremy Hall, Lu Scanlon, Deb Hill, Daina Brown, Alicia Leef, Maurice Flynn. **Apologies:** Cllr Jennifer Nickel

- 1. Welcome:** This session taking place via Zoom.
- 2. Confirmed Community Transport Symposium** to be held 27 September at Claudelands  
Information on the programme and opportunity to register will be sent out in July.  
The programme will be free but there will be a charge for lunch as Claudelands is contracted for catering.  
Any suggestions/requests for content, please contact [sarah@communitywaikato.org.nz](mailto:sarah@communitywaikato.org.nz)
- 3. WRC Community Transport Fund update**  
Some distribution will happen in the 2022/23 financial year but it is hoped the fund will be grown before this. Also a funding framework needs to be developed to ensure the fund is distributed fairly across the providers.
- 4. Waikato Community Transport Collaboration and Strategy**  
Sarah updated the forum on the overall strategy and advisory group for Community Transport in the region. The group, who has been working behind the scenes for some years, will support Amantha Bowen in her role as Community Lead, based at Waikato Regional Council. The people are: Sarah Gibb (Community Waikato), Bridget Burdett (MR Cagney), Greg Morton (WDHB), Julie Taverner (St John), Trudi Knight (Waikato Regional Council) and Sheryll Fitzpatrick (Whitianga Social Services & Forum Transport provider)
- 5. Taumarunui Health Bus initiative**  
Greg updated on this service that will now be available to anyone using a BEE card, to stop at Te Kuiti hospital, Otorohanga and Hamilton Travel Centre before reaching Waikato Hospital. The cost will be in line with WRC regular bus fares for that zone. The service begins July 11.
- 6. Proposed Waikato RC public transport bus services** (Thames Coromandel) update –  
Amantha Waikato Regional Council will be rating as a regional council for Thames-Coromandel, Matamata-Piako, and Hauraki. WRC did not manage to get funding from Waka Kotahi for the proposed expansion of transport services, so will not be going ahead with the new services at this stage. To be revisited when we start crafting the 2024-34 LTP.
- 7. Waikato Regional Council's draft Regional Public Transport Plan (2022-2032)** (the Plan) is going out for **public consultation (5-29 July)** – refer Waikato Regional Council website.  
The Plan retains policy related to community transport services support and two examples are provided below:

#### *Policy 16*

Provide support for community transport services where:

- a. there is a demonstrated need for a transport service in the community

- b. there is willingness by members of the community to set up, operate and maintain a Trust or similar structure to oversee governance of the service, and for people to volunteer to be drivers
- c. there is sufficient funding available to support the establishment and administration of the Trust and the purchase of vehicle(s)
- d. the establishment of the Trust has the support of the relevant territorial authority.

*Policy 17:*

Support for community transport services will be assessed on a case-by-case basis and may include:

- a. council staff assistance to establish a Trust or service in a new area where a request is received from the relevant local authority, community board or residents' group
- b. financial grants towards vehicle purchase/replacement and operation, and Trust administration costs, subject to availability of funding
- c. provision of necessary supporting technology to help make community transport services easier to manage and more accessible for users, subject to availability of funding.
- d. where possible leverage council's purchasing ability to obtain best value for community vehicle/hoist purchase, and/or other professional services such as driver training.

The Plan also includes new policy which has a link to community transport. For example:

*Policy 6 – Within urban areas:*

Subject to funding availability and demonstrating value for money, council will seek to enable provision of shared transport solutions for people of greatest need within regional towns. Each solution will be tailored to the needs each community and will be determined on a case by case basis with community stakeholders. Solutions may include one of more of the following:

- fixed route scheduled public bus service(s);
- public demand responsive ride-sharing services;
- community transport initiatives;
- any other service or solution that the can benefit people of greatest need and that is cost effective for funders and passengers

## 6. Dates for the upcoming Waikato DHB /Health NZ community health forums (public forums)

– the majority are face to face but some are being facilitated online:

- Waitomo/Ōtorohanga: 30<sup>th</sup> June (11.00am-1.00pm); Te Kuiti Hospital Rotary Room
- Waikato Regional Disabled Persons Forum: 4<sup>th</sup> July (4.00-6.00pm). Online forum (contact Helena Tuteao [Helena.tuteao@mylifemyvoice.org.nz](mailto:Helena.tuteao@mylifemyvoice.org.nz) for a Zoom link), hosted by 'My Life, My Voice'
- Hauraki/Thames Coromandel: 6<sup>th</sup> July (10.30am-Noon); Richmond Villas, Richmond Rd, Thames. NB participants must be double vaccinated (Covid) to participate as this is a policy of the venue
- North Waikato: 7<sup>th</sup> July (10.00am-Noon). Online forum (contact Norma Taute [norma.taute@waikatodhb.health.nz](mailto:norma.taute@waikatodhb.health.nz) for MS Teams link)
- Matamata Piako: 11<sup>th</sup> July (11.00-12.30pm); Silver Fern Farms Events Centre, Stanley Ave Te Aroha
- Raglan: 14<sup>th</sup> July (10.00-12.00pm); Raglan Town Hall, Raglan
- South Waikato: 22<sup>nd</sup> July (11.00-12.30pm); South Waikato Sports and Events Centre, Mossop Rd, Tokoroa
- North Ruapehu: 26<sup>th</sup> July (12.30-1.30pm, following on from Ngā Kaumātua o te Mauri Atawhai Network hui); Senior Citizens Hall, Morero Tce, Taumarunui
- Hamilton: 27<sup>th</sup> July (10.00-11.30am); Western Community Centre, 46 Hyde Ave, Hamilton
- Cambridge: 3<sup>rd</sup> August (10.00-11.30am); Venue still to be determined – contact Norma Taute for more information ([norma.taute@waikatodhb.health.nz](mailto:norma.taute@waikatodhb.health.nz))

## 5. Availability of KN95 masks

Community Waikato have some KN95 masks available to providers. Let Sarah know if you would like some for your volunteers and provide a postal address.

## 7. 2022 Forum dates

Please email through any agenda item suggestions to Amantha Bowen

[Amantha.Bowen@waikatoregion.govt.nz](mailto:Amantha.Bowen@waikatoregion.govt.nz)

Tuesday 27 September Symposium

Monday 5 December 1.00 – 3.00pm