

**Date: Tuesday 23 August 2022 at 4.27 PM**  
**Venue: Council Chambers, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford**

### Present

The District Mayor N C Volzke (the Chairman), the Deputy Mayor A L Jamieson, Councillors G W Boyde, R W Coplestone, P S Dalziel, J M S Erwood, A K Harris, V R Jones, M McKay, W J Sandford and G M Webby.

### In attendance

The Chief Executive – Mr S Hanne, the Director Community Services – Ms K Whareaitu, the Director Assets – Mrs V Araba, the Committee Advisor and Executive Assistant – Mrs E Bishop, the Communications Manager – Mrs G Gibson, the Roading Asset Manager – Mr S Bowden, the Projects Engineer/Manager – Mr S Taylor, two members of the public, and two members of the media (Stratford Press and Taranaki Daily News)

#### 1. Welcome

The District Mayor welcomed the Chief Executive, Councillors, staff, and the media.

##### 1.1 Opening Karakia D21/40748 Page 6

The opening karakia was read.

##### 1.2 Health and Safety Message D21/26210 Page 7

The District Mayor reiterated the health and safety message and emergency procedures.

#### 2. Apologies

Apologies were noted from the Director Environmental Services – Mr B Sutherland and , the Director – Corporate Services – Mrs T Radich

#### **Recommendation**

THAT the apologies be noted.

ERWOOD/HARRIS  
Carried  
CL/22/88

#### 3. Announcements

The District Mayor noted that the Decision Report – Transport Choices Package Project incorrectly referred to the Policy and Services Committee. The second recommendation would be amended to read:

THAT ~~Council the committee~~ approves for submission to the Central Government Transport Choices Package an application for \$7.8M covering six projects.

#### 4. Declarations of Members' Interest

The District Mayor requested Councillors to declare any real or perceived conflicts of interest relating to items on this agenda. There were no declarations of interest.

## 5. Attendance Schedule

The Attendance Schedule for Ordinary and Extraordinary Council meetings was attached.

## 6. Decision Report – Transport Choices Package Projects

D22/29960

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### **Recommendations**

1. THAT the report be received.

VOLZKE/McKAY  
Carried  
CL/22/89

2. THAT Council approves for submission to the Central Government Transport Choices Package an application for \$7.8M covering six projects.

3. THAT the application seeks a funding assistance rate of 80% from central government.

BOYDE/DALZIEL  
Carried  
CL/22/90

### **Recommended Reason**

The opportunity to have projects externally funded will reduce the rating impact for ratepayers.

The Director – Assets noted the following points:

- On 3 August 2022 an email was received by staff from Central Government advising that this fund was open for funding applications with a close date of 2 September. An extraordinary meeting was called to ensure the correct process was followed and Council had the opportunity to approve the application.
- Projects for this funding application were discussed with Council during a workshop as although council was aware of the projects they had not been discussed in this level of detail before. The projects were then refined down to six in total and revolve largely around safety improvements and projects within the walking and cycling strategy.
- Council will need to decide how much funding assistance we will be seeking from Central Government. Currently the FAR rate is 61% but officers felt that an 80% assistant rate was an appropriate rate.
- There are only two options –either approve the projects and application or not, due to time constraints.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- The District Mayor noted part of the criteria for this application a supporting statement from the Chief Executive that Council would be able to achieve these projects within the timeframes and building requirements in terms of resources. The Chief Executive clarified he would be comfortable making that statement, but acknowledged the notable strain that has been felt by staff over the past couple of years, however the team would not want to miss an opportunity that would be of benefit to our community.
- It was clarified that if Council approved the funding assistance of 80% that this result in a reasonably small impact on council finances and rates as any difference would be debt funded.
- The Deputy Mayor noted his support for the safety improvements and the potential for these to be 80% funded. However he questioned the design of the projects suggested, particularly the street design in front of St Joseph's Primary School as he felt narrowing the street, adding trees and removing parking needed some debate. The Roading Assets Manager clarified that this picture was an example and the designs were not set in stone. If funding was received then a discussion would need to be had regarding the engagement of traffic engineers and landscape architects and designs could be discussed with council at this time.
- Councillor Boyde noted that this funding stream was the emission reduction fund and therefore felt funding would be allocated to the larger urban areas. Mr Hanne noted that officers had asked if there

was a fair and reasonable chance that Council may be successful, he also advised to be aware that all projects may not be successful, but one or two may be selected.

- Mr Bowden noted that if the funding is successful then some of the projects would only require fine tuning before being implemented, such as fine tuning the design of a traffic light controlled pedestrian crossing similar to the one recently built in Inglewood.
- Councillor Jones noted he had no problems with any of these projects but felt the funds from Central Government could go towards fixing the damage to the main highways and through the middle of town. The District Mayor noted the upcoming visit from the Associate Minister of Transport in a few weeks, he encouraged Councillor Jones to ask that question during this visit.
- It was clarified that the application will be made for the total costs of \$7.8 million.

## 7. Questions

There were no questions.

## 8. Closing Karakia

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The closing karakia was read.

*The meeting closed at 4.42pm.*

N C Volzke  
**Chairman**

Confirmed this 13<sup>th</sup> day of September 2022.

N C Volzke  
**District Mayor**