



NEXT STEPS UPDATE

30 October 2007



A word from the Steering Group Chair

The Land Transport Management Amendment Bill implementing the recommendations of the *Next Steps Review* and introducing regional fuel tax has now been introduced into Parliament.

It is expected the Bill will be heard by the Transport and Industrial Relations Select Committee and the Committee will be asked to report back on the Bill by 25 March 2008.

The first reading of the Bill began in Parliament on 25 October 2007. There is a reasonable expectation that submissions will be called for shortly after the first reading is completed, and submissions may close before Christmas. If you are interested and expect to make a submission, you can find a copy of the Bill at http://www.parliament.nz/en-NZ/PB/Legislation/Bills/3/f/8/00DBHOH_BILL8328_1-Land-Transport-Management-Amendment-Bill.htm and might consider starting work on your submission now. You should also watch out for the public advertisements of submissions in November. These will appear in daily newspapers and on Parliament's website, <http://www.parliament.nz/en-NZ/SC/SubmCalled>

The Minister of Transport issued a media statement when the Bill was introduced. This can be found at <http://www.transport.govt.nz/home/> and includes questions and answers about the Bill.

The legislation will:

- introduce a Government Policy Statement setting out government's high level priorities for land transport
- introduce three-yearly Regional Land Transport Programmes that will identify all land transport activities in a region
- change the constitution of Regional Land Transport Committees
- make the National Land Transport Programme three-yearly
- enable the creation of the New Zealand Transport Agency which will be formed primarily by combining the functions of Land Transport New Zealand and Transit New Zealand
- introduce full hypothecation (dedication) of fuel excise duties to the National Land Transport Fund meaning all fuel excise duty obtained from motorists will be reserved for land transport purposes
- introduce the option of regional fuel taxes (not part of *Next Steps* but included in this legislation).

The legislation will primarily comprise amendments to the Land Transport Management Act 2003 but will also include amendments to the Customs and Excise Act 1996 and the Land Transport Act 1998.

Kind regards

Alan Thompson

Implementing Next Steps Steering Group Chair
Ministry of Transport Chief Executive