

# **Forth Estuary Transport Authority**

**South Queensferry, 27 April 2007**

## **Present:-**

**The City of Edinburgh Council** – Councillors Marshall (Convener), Grubb and Henderson.

**Fife Council** – Councillors Cameron, and Rumney.

**Perth and Kinross Council** – Councillor Barnacle.

## **1 Minutes**

- 1) To approve the minute of the Forth Estuary Transport Authority of 23 February 2007 as a correct record.
- 2) To note the minute of the Appointments and Appeals Committee of 5 April 2007.

## **2 Feasibility Study for the Replacement or Augmentation of the Main Cables**

WA Fairhurst had been appointed to carry out a feasibility study to replace or augment the main suspension cables. The tender had indicated a thirteen month study period with completion in November 2007. The revised programme showed an April 2008 completion date.

### **Decision**

- 1) To note the report on the progress of the study and the revised completion date of April 2008.
- 2) To hold a meeting of the Authority on 1 June 2007 to consider a qualified high level report.
- 3) To note that the qualified high level report would be available for the Scottish Executive thereafter.
- 4) To note that a fuller report would be available for members at the end of 2007.

(References – Forth Estuary Transport Authority 25 August 2006 (item 2); report by the General Manager 27 April 2007, submitted).

### **3 Replacement/Refurbishment of Joints and Replacement of Bearings – Consultancy Services**

Eleven tenders had been submitted on a 70% quality and 30% price basis for consultancy services associated with the replacement/refurbishment of joints and the replacement of bearings on the bridge.

Following the quality evaluation eight of the bids failed to meet the minimum quality threshold and the priced tenders were returned unopened. A cost evaluation was carried out on the remaining tenders.

Following evaluation, the tender submitted by Atkins scored the highest combined mark in terms of quality and price.

#### **Decision**

To accept the tender of £817,509.65 by Atkins for consultancy services for the replacement/refurbishment of joints and the replacement of bearings on the bridge.

(References – report by the General Manager 27 April 2007, submitted).

### **4 Replacement of Toll Collection Equipment**

Transroute UK Ltd (TUK) had been appointed as the main contractors for the replacement of toll collection equipment, the construction of a new toll plaza with canopy and an extension to the administration building.

Live trials of the electronic tolling system had been delayed and final testing had not started until February 2007. A revised programme had been agreed with full completion by the end of May 2007.

#### **Decision**

To note the information.

(References – Forth Estuary Transport Authority 29 October 2004 (item 5); report by the General Manager 27 April 2007, submitted).

### **5 Waterproofing and Resurfacing of Northbound Carriageway 2007**

Resurfacing works on the main and side spans of the northbound carriageway had started on 13 April 2007 and the first phase would last until 18 June 2007.

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During the first two weekends, a total of 10 of the deck panels had been completed from a total of ninety-nine.

Traffic volumes were down by up to 30% over these weekends but delays of up to 90 minutes had still been experienced.

**Decision**

To note progress on this project.

(References – Forth Estuary Transport Authority 23 February 2007 (item 3); report by the General Manager 27 April 2007, submitted).

## **6 Analysis of Bridge Traffic and Revenue**

The General Manager gave an analysis of the traffic and revenue from January 2006 until March 2007.

**Decision**

To note the information.

(References – report by the General Manager 27 April 2007, submitted).

## **7 “Tripshare” Liftshare Scheme**

Endorsement was sought for SESTRAN’s “Tripshare” liftshare scheme. This would allow scheme members to share car journeys and also to choose to share taxi journeys, and to cycle or walk together. It was proposed that the Authority should lend its support in promoting and publicising the scheme by providing a direct link from the website and in the distribution of promotional literature.

**Decision**

- 1) To endorse the “Tripshare” liftshare scheme; and
- 2) To promote the scheme as appropriate, subject to the General Manager being satisfied with the protection measures for vehicle occupants.

(References – report by the General Manager 27 April 2007, submitted).