

Environment and Sustainability Forum
Tuesday 5 June 2018, 9:30 - 11:30am
The School House, Historic Village, 17th Avenue

Forum Members Present	Bill Wasley (SmartGrowth Independent Chair), Eddie Orsulich (Aongatete Forest Restoration Trust), Paul Hickson (Surf Break Protection Society), John Garwood (Fruit Growers Association), Julian Fitter (Maketu Ongatoro Wetland Society), Mary Dillon (Envirohub), Gray Southern (Carbon Action Group), Glen Crowther (Sustainable Business Network)
SmartGrowth	Megan Rumble (Minutes)
Other	
Partner Staff	Steph Macdonald (BOPRC), Joel Peters (TCC)
Apologies (forum members)	Dean Tully (Toi-Ohomai Institute of Technology), Jo Wills (Sustainability Options), Buddy Mikaere (CTWF)
Previous 3 April 2018 minutes and matters arising	<p>Bill Wasley was present to chair the meeting with Mary Dillon to take over upon Bill's departure at 10:10am.</p> <p>Bill noted in terms of the position of forum chair, the role will not be filled at this point until the SmartGrowth Leadership Group (SLG) have considered the forum 'Health Check' review which is likely to be done in August. This will provide more clarification in terms of next steps regarding the SG Forums.</p> <p>One amendment made to the previous 3 April minutes: the forum felt that it might be difficult for some to express their opinion in the Tauranga City Council (TCC) Long Term Plan 'have your say' survey due to the questions being kept minimal and often closed.</p> <p>Point raised around there been a lot of discussion in the TCC space with not a lot of mention of Western Bay or BOP Regional Council at present. Is this due to actions sitting with TCC? Bill noted this is a fair point to raise and was raised at the joint Forums Hui last week around the need for more balance within the FDS to reflect all relevant partner matters and matters around transport. It does come down to the focus of the particular issues at the time but it is something to be mindful of. The Future Development Strategy (FDS) will fill some of the gaps. Steph noted all three councils are meeting this Thursday to discuss the FDS.</p> <p>No other matters arising. All previous actions or are being addressed today.</p>

		Megan to make agreed amendment to previous minutes.
Tauranga City Council Waste Minimisation Strategy	UPDATE	<p>Joel Peters provided an overview on behalf of Rebecca Maiden. The TCC Waste Management and Minimisation Plan was adopted which included action CS1: to investigate solutions to minimise waste. Last week during LTP deliberations Mayor and Councillors resolved to provide an interim rates funded glass collection service to residential properties from October 2018 and to provide a Council-led kerbside waste and recycling service to residential properties, commencing in 2021.</p> <p>The implementation plan moving forward still needs to be agreed. The forum noted that public consultation is important and public like to be involved and involved early in the process. Joel noted implementation will also be dependent on what is physically possible i.e. facilities and physical vehicles, will council need to invest in rubbish trucks for example.</p> <p>Mary noted it would be good to find a way forward that works in with the Productivity Commission work as this looks at all waste including farm waste. It is essential to look at the best possible outcome rather than focussing on reducing cost.</p> <p>Joel noted Rebecca will have a much more in depth update at the August E&S meeting.</p> <p>It was requested that when Rebecca speak to the forum could she relate TCC's Waste Management Strategy/Policy to the Productivity Commission's report on a Low Emissions Economy. Megan to follow up.</p> <p>Gray noted the Carbon Reduction Group is in the process of putting submission in to productivity commission also.</p> <p>It was queried what is the expectation for food waste in the Regional Waste Minimisation Strategy? Stephanie Macdonald reported back and noted that while it does not set specific food waste goals, the <u>Regional Waste Minimisation Strategy</u> does aim to reduce waste to landfill and work with other organisations to reduce waste. Most of the implementation for a regional strategy happens at city or district level. As a result of the strategy, the WRAG (Waste Resource Advisory Group) has allocated three years of funding to Good Neighbour to reduce food waste.</p>

	ACTION	Megan to follow up with Rebecca Maiden and note the request around relating TCC's Waste Management Strategy/Policy to the Productivity Commission's report on a Low Emissions Economy
Tauranga City Council Environment Strategy update	UPDATE	<p>Joel Peters provided an update. Joel has recently taken over from Celia Walker working on the TCC Environment Strategy – more info here. Joel was most recently working in Western Australia implementing the Kimberley Science and Conservation strategy. Learn more here.</p> <p>The Environment Strategy process has four stages as below - stage one has been completed with State of the Environment report.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Understand 2. Create a strategy 3. Develop action plans 4. Implement and monitor <p>Stage two has now begun and the team have held two workshops with the goal to create vision and outcomes. The first workshop was to discuss priorities and vision for Tauranga over the next 20 years. The second workshop was testing to check council had the flavour right, looking to desired outcomes as well as opportunities and challenges.</p> <p><u>Next steps:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet with key groups, Tangata Whenua Collective, Youth, Maori (The team will also have stalls set up at the upcoming Matariki Festival). • Draft the strategy and action plan framework • Release the draft for consultation <p>Joel feels it is best to consult first and then write the draft strategy and action plan, rather than the other way around therefore, there is approx. a two week delay on original timeline.</p> <p>Questions and discussion followed. The strategy is the overarching document for vision and outcomes. Need to look at what action plans are needed and what we can and can't do. Joel noted it is key is to focus on the implementation.</p>

		<p>Queries were raised around how the Environment Strategy links in with other strategies e.g. the Future Development Strategy. Also the Western Bay of Plenty District Council strategy.</p> <p>Joel advised the draft strategy will be loaded to the website for consultation – Celia’s original engagement list will remain so it will be brought back to this group.</p> <p>Mary thanked Joel for his time and insight on behalf of the forum. Joel will continue to provide updates.</p>
	ACTION	
3 April 2018 Housing in Greenfield Workshop with TCC City Transformation Committee overview		<p>John Garwood provided an overview. At the 3 April City Transformation Committee meeting the Council received the suggestions emanating from the Greenfield Housing Workshop in February. Comments were made and the TCC staff will come back with recommendations at the City Transformation Committee meeting this afternoon. The recommendations included, from an environment point of view, having trees planted before development, intensification and less car dependency.</p> <p>Post note: these recommendations were accepted, however though staff recommended they be a requirement for the Tauriko West and Te Tumu Urban Development Areas the council decided against that and left it as a matter of negotiation between Council staff and the developers.</p> <p>Consultation is coming up in July/August for the Future Development Strategy.</p>
General Business	UPDATE	<p>Indicator list update: there is currently no further funding to progress the indicator work. There hasn’t been an increase in the partnership funding so it is a matter of focusing on the five priorities at this stage. Bill noted he is discussing opportunities with DHB and NZTA also.</p> <p><u>The five priorities for 2018 as agreed by SLG are:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Future Development Strategy – has to be with central government by 31 Dec 2. Transport in its various forms 3. Housing across spectrum

		<p>4. Infrastructure funding 5. Advocacy and leadership role of SmartGrowth with central govt.</p> <p>The notes from the 29 May SmartGrowth Joint Forum Hui will be circulated shortly. It is important for the SLG to see them in terms of credibility but also in terms of any matters raised being considered.</p> <p>Discussion was had around the Sub-regional Transport Strategy vision. It was noted this will include a range of modes. The forum discussed Tauranga to Rotorua rail and the need to put a strong case forward by 30 June for funding.</p> <p>Clarification was sought around points in the partnership bi-monthly report.</p> <p>Forum members asked for an explanation of the following statement regarding the Regional Coastal Policy statement in the SSG Update report, pg 1 "<i>High Court natural heritage decision has the potential to create a significant impediment to the upgrade of existing, and provision of new, regionally significant infrastructure.</i>" Answer: The High Court decision says that the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement means there should be no adverse effects from activities on areas of significant indigenous biodiversity value identified in the Proposed Regional Coastal Environment Plan. This means that upgrades of existing infrastructure, such as State Highway 35 (Ōpōtiki-East Coast), may not obtain resource consent. New infrastructure activity would need to avoid such areas. BOPRC has been in discussions with Forest & Bird (as the appellant) and other parties involved in the court proceedings, including Tauranga City Council, NZTA and Transpower about seeing if a set of provisions can be agreed to put to the Environment Court. Those discussions are confidential to the parties involved.</p> <p>Regionally significant infrastructure is defined in the operative Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement and includes wastewater treatment plants. The Environment Court and High Court decisions were not specific to sites or types of infrastructure.</p> <p>Forum members noted the three recent Stuff.co.nz articles on Methyl Bromide. There was a focus on Port of Tauranga. Read the articles here.</p>
	ACTION	Steph Macdonald to report back re: page 33 High Court decision <u>post note: included in notes</u>

Key message for SmartGrowth Leadership Group		Nothing to note
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Meeting closed 11.30am. Next meeting Tuesday 31 July 2018 1.30-3.30pm, School House, Historic Village, 17th Avenue.

Environment and Sustainability Forum Outstanding Actions

June	Megan to make agreed amendment to previous minutes.
June	Megan to follow up with Rebecca Maiden and note the request around relating TCC's Waste Management Strategy/Policy to the Productivity Commission's report on a Low Emissions Economy
June	Steph Macdonald to report back re: page 33 High Court decision post note: included in notes