

STAFF REPORT

TO: GB Community Board
FROM: Service Centres Manager
REFERENCE: E855
DATE: 28th July 2005
SUBJECT: August 2005 Report

July Follow-ups

Levy on Plastic Shopping Bags

The matter of a bylaw for a levy on plastic shopping bags was raised at the Managers' meeting and the Chief Executive is looking at getting a legal opinion. He feels it is likely that a bylaw may not be possible because you cannot have a bylaw that imposes a form of tax or restricts an otherwise lawfully permitted commodity.

Rate take / Expenditure for Golden Bay

This matter was discussed thoroughly with both David Ward and Murray Staite; the structure of TDC is such that neither income nor expenditure can be identified on a ward by ward basis.

Planning Accreditation

I have been in touch with Ministry of Environment staff on this matter and have a contact to follow up as to what funding may or may not be available. Courses for this year have now been completed so more places would not be available until the New Year. The Chief Executive Officer noted that if a letter was required to assist in accessing funding through the Ministry for the Environment he could see no problem with that.

Bikes on Footpaths

This problem is being discussed with Kirsty Barr (Road Safety Co-ordinator) and a number of options have been looked at. I have also spoken with Harrie Wells and discussed some possible initiatives with him as well. This is an ongoing issue that will involve a number of different parties and I will ensure the Board is kept up to date with progress. Possibly we may be able to use Golden Bay as a trial 'guinea pig' for a positive educational approach to this issue.

Integrated Arts and Cultural Centre

This issue has been raised with other departmental managers and the Corporate Services Manager is currently dealing with a small focus group to consider this initiative.

Having discussed the matter thoroughly with several key staff members, including the Property Manager and Chief Librarian, the following points possibly need to be considered.

1. Community input needs to be considered whether the concept of an Integrated Golden Bay Arts and Cultural Centre is one that they want to see realized and how such a complex should/could be funded.
2. There could certainly be a positive synergy between the proposed components of the centre including the Library, however the way in which the components would relate to one another needs to be considered carefully.
3. The site required for the proposed complex would need to be quite large and requires careful consideration. It is believed that the current site for the library would only be able to accommodate that building together with required carparking.
4. The Takaka Memorial Library is in urgent need of extension or replacement. The Tasman Futures/Community Outcomes Telephone Survey indicated strong support in the community for this to happen, as did several submissions to the Annual Plan 2005-2006.
5. Whilst the options put forward have merit for discussion it would be hoped that any delays do not adversely affect the outcome of the library project.
6. Lloyd Kennedy returns on 1 August and his consideration of the options needs to be considered.

Logging at East Takaka

The concerns raised at the last Board meeting were viewed subsequent to the meeting and have been responded to. Board members who raised the query received a follow-up note from Monitoring Officer, Colin Michie.

General

I attended Council's web site launch on Thursday 21st July and was impressed by the work that had gone into providing an interactive, comprehensive media source for internet users. I believe that the web site will provide a much greater source of valuable information for those residents who live in remote areas who otherwise find either getting to a service centre or other means of communication, difficult.

Zone 5 Community Board Meeting

Arrangements are well in hand for the Community Board Zone 5 group meeting to be held on Saturday 13th August at Seifried's Winery, Richmond. A draft agenda will be circulated as soon as it is available; Board members and councillors are welcome to attend this meeting which will provide an excellent opportunity for networking with other community groups to shares ideas and visions.

Vehicle Licensing and Plates

Hopefully LTSA vehicle licensing and plates will commence in August from the GB Service Centre, which will be a significant customer service for Golden Bay residents.

Fonterra Decision

Although there was some disappointment that the Fonterra factory was not being brought back into full production, it was pleasing that Council involvement in the current rebuilding projects has been done professionally and expediently to ensure that rebuilding and therefore plant production could commence as soon as possible.

Bob Askew