

Report No:	RMCB12-02-02
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<i>Decision required</i>	

Report to: Motueka Community Board
Meeting Date: 14 February 2012
Report Author: David Ogilvie
Subject: **Community Board Chair's Report (RMCB12-02-02)**

1. Welcome

Welcome to the first Community Board formal meeting of 2012.

The two brief informal meetings (10 January and 24 January) may demonstrate the need for a mid-January formal meeting. It is, after all, nine weeks since the December 2011 meeting.

Notwithstanding, this is going to be a very busy year with projects, service and communication to our residents and ratepayers as priorities.

The Long Term Plan and the Local Government Commission's Re-organisation Scheme will be major focal points in the first half of this calendar year. I would recommend strongly, despite the detail in each document, that Board members consider carefully the implications of these significant reports.

Currently, a number of Motueka Ward projects are proceeding. 2012 should be successfully productive with the completion of these local activities, as well as the beginning for others.

The agenda reflects an increasing number of diverse topics, and I apologise for its size, a result possibly of the nine-week break. The agenda reflects also, the role that the Community Board is playing within the Council and within the community.

It may be a consequence of the Christmas and summer holidays, but there seems to be a new dynamic and energy locally, which is obvious in the various meetings and community groups that I attend.

2. High Street; Meeting with NZTA

In November/December 2010, the Community Board sought the local Motueka response to the Motueka Transportation Study. Ten of the study's recommendations

were listed and residents were asked to nominate their top four preferences. There was a strong response with the four preferences (in order) being:

- 1) Traffic signals at the High Street/Greenwood Street/Pah Street corner;
- 2) Construct a round-a-bout at the clock tower corner;
- 3) A pedestrian crossing between The Warehouse and New World
- 4) Construct a round-a-bout at the Woodlands Avenue, Whakarewa Street and High Street intersection.

For the Community Board, these were very clear messages from our Motueka residents.

I am most reluctant to move very far from this directive. From my observations, the biggest risk to pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles is definitely at the High Street corner with Pah and Greenwood.

Moving the pedestrian crossings, as suggested by the Study, was required solely to maintain three crossings rather than create a fourth between New World and The Warehouse. An alternative could be to leave the existing crossings but provide pedestrian crossing lights between New World and The Warehouse.

A round-a-bout at the Clock Tower corner needn't be an expensive project. Recently, TDC has constructed a low-cost round-a-bout at Mapua; although a mountable round-a-bout similar to the one at Salisbury Road/Queen Street in Richmond might be preferable.

The Annual meeting of NZTA and the Motueka Community Board to discuss mutual issues is due in each March 2012. Last year's meeting was worthwhile and an opportunity for both parties to discuss the various matters. Our Motueka Ward, with approximately 35 km of SH 60 from Harley Road to top of the Takaka Hill, recognises the value of this highway.

The issues with High Street are important, but there are further queries regarding the Highway through Mariri, Riwaka and on the Takaka Hill. Longer term a bypass or a designation for a bypass, also needs to be discussed.

Recommendations:

That the Motueka Community Board write to Tasman District Council and the NZ Transport Agency requesting:

- 1) That traffic signals be installed at the High Street, Greenwood Street and Pah Street intersection. This is the Community Board's number one priority;**

- 2) That a low-cost mountable round-a-bout be constructed at the Clock Tower Corner (King Edward Street, Old Wharf Road, and High Street intersection).
- 3) That Pedestrian Crossing Control Lights be installed at the “informal” crossing in High Street between New World supermarket and The Warehouse.
- 4) Should “full-scale” traffic signals at the High Street, Greenwood Street, Pah Street intersection (as per 1) above) be declined, that Pedestrian Crossing Control Lights be installed at this intersection; and That yellow cross-hatching lines be placed across this intersection.

3. Extracts from Council and Council Committee Meetings

3.1 Engineering Services Committee – 8 December 2011

Port Motueka Groyne – Jackett Island Erosion – Speakers at the public forum raised matters re the groyne and its value. A report by Tonkin and Taylor, led to the Committee agreeing to consider nine options relevant to the sandspit, Port Motueka and Jacketts Island and to consult further with the various stakeholders on those options.

A staff report for February/March 2012 on progress with these discussions plus Environment Court matters is scheduled. (A meeting with Jacketts Island residents scheduled for 8 February 2012 in Motueka).

The Transportation Manager reported on a number of Motueka Ward projects (eg Wharf Road walkway, Inlet Road, parking at Kaiteriteri, High Street markings and landscaping, School cycle projects).

River Care Groups are likely to meet February/March 2012. The Manager provided an assurance that the Motueka River stop banks were being maintained at a Q50 height relative to the 1950s river bed levels. (The Rivers report indicated little work on the Motueka Ward rivers, with operations and maintenance on the various headwaters and the Golden Bay rivers being the priority.)

Wastewater and stormwater networks performed well with various blockages being cleared. Kotare Place, Kaiteriteri, stormwater upgrade completed mid-December 2011.

Solid Waste – Mariri project is out to tender. This work will separate recycling and refuse drop-off points, by developing the lower section of the site for recycling.

3.2 Full Council Meeting – 15 December 2011

Long Term Plan 2012 – 22 – much of the meeting involved Council resolving that various policies be confirmed for inclusion in the Draft Long Term Plan; Schedule of Council charges, Policy on Significance, Rating Remissions and Postponements, Fostering Maori Participation in Council Decision-making, General Disaster Fund and Classified Rivers Protection Fund.

Council confirmed the dis-establishment of the Enterprises Subcommittee and the transfer of its functions (eg Motueka Airport) to the Corporate Services Committee.

The Draft Long Term Plan 2012 – 2022 is expected to be available for public consultation on 29 February 2012.

3.3 Community Services Committee – 1 December 2011

Deck's Reserve plaques – over 50% now sponsored. Motueka Quay landscaping to be finished in autumn. Planning for toilet and stop at Sportspark progressing.

SPARC Rural travel Fund allocations included: Motueka High School (\$1,500) and Motueka Touch Academy (\$500) and Motueka Touch Academy (\$500).

NZ Lottery Grant Board have confirmed they will fund the Motueka Museum Conservation Plan (\$11,405 + GST). Ian Bowman will do this work.

The Librarian reported increased issues but fewer visitors. A new Library Management System will improve on-line searches for library users.

Holiday story time sessions popular – in Motueka 70 children attended a musical story teller, Levity Beat.

<h2>4. River Flows</h2>

The heavy rain events over the December – January months skirted Motueka, yet were mainly coastal. There were various stormwater problems as groundwater levels rose and some channels failed to cope.

For Woodstock and Woodman's Bend, flow levels did not reach the annual flood level.

December/January	Low	High	Annual Flood Level
Woodstock	18.19 cusecs 31 January 2012	666.1 cusecs 30 December 2011	966 cusecs
Woodmans Bend	23.49 cusecs 31 January 2012	779.5 cusecs 31 December 2011	887 cusecs

5. Draft, Proposed Long Term Plan

There were some items in the Council's 26 January 2012 agenda which related to the Motueka Ward:

- Library development construction to begin in 2013 – 2014
- Lower Motueka River Stopbank refurbishment to begin in 2017 with completion in 2029;
- Motueka Water reticulation design scheduled for 2020, subject to central government subsidy and support from the Motueka community.
- Increased income from the Motueka Airport
- Swimming pool deferred beyond 2022
- Kaiteriteri walkway/cycleway deferred beyond 2022

As very clearly stated, the announcement on 29 February 2012 will be of a **draft** and **proposed** Long Term Plan. The Community Board will need to use the period to June 2012 to study the Long Term Plan, consult with our residents, and then make strong recommendations to the District Council.

The items noted above, constitute an “entree” to the LTP but the stop bank and swimming pool, in particular, were bewildering recommendations. There has been considerable time, energy, resources and money spent on these, with no hint of deferment. I acknowledge that both have been controversial, but the acceptance of the “refurbishment” option for the stop bank and the results of the High School's recent community survey supporting a pool seemed that both items were moving forward with a favourable majority.

6. Community Board Special Projects

Steve Elkington reported (10 January 2012 correspondence) that the pram crossings project had been completed by Concrete and Metals – 10 crossings, total cost \$7,700.

The Queen Victoria Street path has been awarded to Fulton Hogan at a quote of \$13,156.

The Staples Street path has been estimated at \$41,000 (the Board has \$12,000 available). The residents who responded to the survey letter requested that any path be on the northern side of Staples Street. This is acceptable to the Engineer (Steve Elkington), but the overall cost suggests that the Community Board move to the second preference, ie to widen and seal the path from Te Awhina Marae to Pah Street.

Steve Elkington inspected this site also on 2 February 2012 and estimated the cost at approximately \$8,000.

A copy of the Staples Street letter and the responses are in the correspondence file.

The Community Board will need to decide whether Staples Street (in 2 or 3 stages) or Pah Street is preferred.

Security Cameras – the Council has referred our request for cameras to a local resident, Ken Eccles. He is overseas currently and has asked an associate to assist. (I am waiting for contact.)

7. Council Projects : December 2011 and January 2012

- wastewater pipe renewals programme continues in Moffatt, Grey and Courtney Streets;
- mobile scooter (pram) crossings completed. (ten crossings)
- parking areas at Inlet Road, Kaiteriteri, marked.
- Sealing work throughout; Swamp Road, Motueka Quay, Waiwhero Road, Chamberlain Street, Thorp Street and other areas.
- Motueka Quay levelling over the raised tree roots
- Wharf Road pathway constructed
- Trees/shrubs planted along central High Street, north of Woodlands Avenue/Whakarewa Street intersection.
- Turners Bluff contract held up for roading, but culvert installed.
- Kotare Place, Little Kaiteriteri, stormwater upgrade completed.
- Primmer Lane swept; footpath repairs
- Puketutu subdivision work continues along Old Wharf Road;
- Mariri Resource Recovery Centre development begins. This will separate the recycling area from the general refuse area;
- Lease between the Council and Judith Roper (Motueka Sunday Market) signed. (Copies will be available at the February 2012 Board meeting.)
- Thorp's Bush signage installed and Woodlands Canal walkway upgrade begun.

8. School Travel

A report by Sarah Downs to Council, which coincided with an NZTA report (also on school travel) sparked a concern. I emailed both Sarah Downs and Krista Hobday (TDC) with a proposal to survey how primary school pupils travel to and from school within the Motueka Ward.

(Refer to the emails 23 – 25 January 2012 to Sarah and Krista). This is a safety project which could be undertaken by the Community Board, initially liaising with Council and then with the schools. The information could be helpful to both schools and the Council for transportation factors.

Recommendation:

That the Motueka Community Board support the Chair in investigating the need for a survey of primary school pupils in the Motueka ward as to school travel means. This survey to be developed following discussion with the relevant Council staff and the agreement of the various schools involved.

9. Proposed Kaiteriteri Recreation Reserve Development Plan

This proposed Plan is available for submissions until 29 February 2012.

Should Community Board members wish to make a Board submission, a meeting during the week 20 – 24 February 2012 is suggested.

10. Street Renaming – High Street North

Pre-Christmas 2011, the Community Board noted the confusion between the street numbering for High Street and High Street North.

The preferred option would be to rename High Street North, rather than the full length of High Street.

The process requires a public meeting, an option of three names (dis-similar from Tasman and Nelson street names), and for the Council to inform the various organisations and agencies (approximately 30).

Lindsay Skinner, Council's Asset Information Officer, would supervise the process under the required legislation.

Recommendation:

That the Motueka Community Board consult with Lindsay Skinner and initiate the procedures to rename High Street North.

(Note: Two names suggested have been Holyoake Drive and Kennedy Drive, the first after the Prime Minister and the second after a former Mayor (1970s) as the only Motueka Borough Mayor without a street name. Local High Street North residents could suggest others.)

11. Motueka Weather – Rainfall and Sunshine

My interest in the weather and climate is probably no more nor less than the average New Zealander – until something unusual happens, or a change is indicated. Sometimes the remarkable about our weather also becomes newsworthy. This applies to the December 2011 rainfall totals.

In Motueka, December 2011 registered 295.5mm of rain, outscoring the previous record high for December of 262.2mm. Contrast this with Nelson December 463.8mm (180.7mm previously) and Takaka of 1216.3mm (284.6mm previously). Motueka's annual rainfall for 2011 was 1680.9mm which was 430mm or 34% above the annual average. Nelson's 2011 rainfall totalled 1466.5mm which was 528mm or 56% above average; Takaka had 3223mm in 2011 which was 1083mm or 51% above its annual average.

Our weather details are recorded locally from Brooklyn and include temperature, rainfall, humidity and wind details. They do not record sunshine hours.

Nelson, with 2487 hours was the sunniest place in NZ for 2011. Interestingly the Brooklyn weather station once measured the sunshine hours which usually exceeded those of Nelson. The rumour is that Brooklyn's sunshine hours recording technology was removed because Nelson didn't like being upstaged as the sunniest place in New Zealand!!!

This may be a "story" that Motueka reporters can investigate, with the objective of having Brooklyn once again recording our sunshine hours! In the meantime, we will bask in Nelson's sunshine and reputation.

11. DRAFT RESOLUTION

THAT the Motueka Community Board receives the Chair's Report (RMCB12-02-02).

Meetings and Activities : December 2011

December	
1	Attended Community Services Committee meeting
2	Motueka's Christmas Starlight parade
3	Abbeyfield Motueka Christmas function
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motueka A & P Show • Marahau Residents Association AGM (Craig MacDonald stands down from the Committee; Mitch Mitchell appointed Chair) • Sandy Bay Fire Smart Trust meeting
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active Transport Forum : Rodney Tolley guest speaker "The Pedestrian is the Priority". • Abbeyfield Motueka Management Committee meeting
6	Motueka Toy Library special meeting. Debbie Bowdler honoured with Life Membership.
8	Attended Engineering Services Committee meeting.
10	Motueka Museum Summer Exhibition Opening – "Motueka Airport since 1915"
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our Town Motueka monthly meeting. • Keep Motueka Beautiful monthly meeting
13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with Community Constable Rob Crawford • Motueka Community Board meeting
14	Heavy rainfall – Civil Defence Emergency called to attend to problems in Nelson, Richmond and Golden Bay
29	Heavy rainfall in Nelson, Richmond and Golden Bay

Jan	
3	Met with Tony Elliot and Robert Fry re Staples Street shared path
5	Sandy Bay Fire Smart Trust public meeting in Riwaka Hall
7	Clock Tower Trust at Super Cross (Lower Moutere, Rat Track)
9	Marahau Residents Association meeting
10	Informal meeting of Community Board with Paul Heywood to discuss High Street matters.
11	Met with Motueka Airport Operators and Business Owners to discuss management and governance queries.
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Met with Peter Smale re Motueka Affordable Housing project. • Met with Nathan Faavae, Shane Orpwood (Events promoters) re a special "Motueka Event".
16	Our Town Motueka monthly meeting.
17	Sandy Bay Fire Smart Trust Board meeting.
24	Informal meeting of Community Board re submissions to Council Plans and discuss Reserves Funds Levies expenditure.
25	Festival of Lights Committee re-established.
26	Attended Council meeting on the draft proposed Long Term Plan.
27	Attended meeting at Tapu Bay Reserve involving Council and local residents re beach replenishment and the regarding of the Reserve.
31	Local Government Commission announcement on Amalgamation of Tasman District and Nelson City.