

Report for Motueka Community Board Meeting 11/03/08

Recommendations:

1. That this report is received as read.
2. That MCB write to Lloyd Kennedy to confirm the use of a TDC car for the Motueka Citizens Patrol.
3. That MCB write to TDC Councillor Michael Higgins asking for further information about the public transport he spoke of that would reduce traffic congestion in Motueka.
4. That MCB write to Mr P Heywood, Vice President Nelson Automobile Association, formally offering our support for the installation of pedestrian lights on High Street.

Report:

I've been quite busy between our previous meeting and this one with involvements with the Community Groups I work with as part of Community Board work. This has been much more productive and satisfying than all the work put into responding to this unfortunate "Targeted Rates for Community Boards" attack on Motueka and Golden Bay Communities.

1. Decks Reserve Historical Plaques

Had a productive meeting with Eileen Stewart and Beryl Wilkes, (the first of many!) and we're together working on getting this project completed. Council has said that this project will be completed by June, which unfortunately isn't realistic. There is still a little research, quite a bit of writing, and a lot of technical work needed. I'm aiming for completion of this project by September at the latest, but hopefully earlier.

2. Citizens Patrol

At the November TDC Community Services Meeting it was noted that vandalism in Motueka had risen around 100% over the previous 12 months, so I congratulate Constable Grant Heney from Motueka Police for making efforts to recruit volunteers to participate in a 'Citizen's Patrol' in the early hours of the weekend to reduce violence and vandalism. Any efforts to prevent crime, rather than respond to crime after it's occurred, deserve our support.

Last month Lloyd Kennedy informed me that TDC's only practical support for the similar project recently started in Richmond is to provide a car, and that TDC would offer the same level of support to a Motueka 'Citizen's Patrol'.

3. TDC Bus to Motueka?

At the recent Motueka McDonalds public meeting, in response to concerns about traffic safety on High Street, Councillor Higgins mentioned that Council was working to mitigate problems arising from traffic volumes along High Street, and specifically mentioned buses. I'd like to find out more about this.

4. 'Think District or Targeted Rating?'

Below is article from the Nelson Mail which offers some perspective on how unfair and unbalanced it is to impose a targeted rate on Motueka and Golden Bay wards to pay for their

Community Boards when other so called 'regional projects' in urban areas are paid for by everyone.

“Facilities might add \$2 to rates

The Nelson Mail .Thursday, 28 February 2008

Tasman district ratepayers could pay about \$2 more than last year on rates to fund facilities in the next financial year if a proposed rate is agreed upon.

The Tasman District Council's grants and community facility rate subcommittee on Wednesday set a proposed district facilities rate of \$30.97 and a regional facilities rate of \$39.97 for the 2008-2009 financial year.

The combined rates at \$70.94 is about \$2 more than forecast.

Council community facilities manager Lloyd Kennedy said the main reason for the increase was the council deciding to give the Saxton Fields All Sports Complex a further \$300,000 to help it cover its increasing costs.

The council also agreed to put a further \$250,000 in the draft annual plan for the Headingly Centre Trust for its multimillion-dollar performing arts centre, subject to a heads of agreement document being settled between the council and the trust. This document would set out the conditions for the public using the centre, which will double as the non-denominational Grace Church's base.

The council has already earmarked \$500,000 for the project in this year's draft annual plan.

Deputy Mayor Tim King said he was happy to support the extra funding for the facility, but the crunch point would be the details in the proposed agreement between the trust and council.

He said the new Hope Community Church on Ranzau Road, which the council had supported, was a phenomenal facility which was well used by the community. He did not believe having a church as a party in a joint development was a negative and considered it was a good idea for the council to work with other third parties.

Cr Stuart Bryant said he thought the theatre would become the regional performing arts centre.

Cr Barry Dowler said his litmus test for supporting the centre would be whether it allowed Australian comedian Kevin Bloody Wilson to play there.

Crs Glenys Glover and Brian Ensor said they felt the heads of agreement should have been in place before the project was included in the draft plan.

The council on Wednesday also agreed to earmark \$275,000 for the Brook Waimarama Sanctuary, on condition the project met the criteria for a regional facility.

The rates and proposed funding now go into the draft annual plan for public feedback.”

Duncan Eddy