

Date: Thursday 18 October 2018
Time: 3:30pm
Meeting Room: Council Chamber
Venue: Orewa Service Centre
50 Centreway Road
Orewa

Rodney Local Board Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee

OPEN MINUTE ITEM ATTACHMENTS

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TO ALL RODNEY BOARD MEMBERS

1. BACKGROUND

We are here today to explain our position and simply ask for your support. We are all acquainted with the problems of rapid urbanization of our local communities, such urbanization was forced upon us by both the National Government and the Auckland Council and not by you, our Local Board.

This rapid growth unfortunately has not been matched by good planning in fact, the growth has made us recognise the inadequacy of the present planning documents that are active for our communities. We note that already private plan changes are being considered by developers and land owners. These will no doubt end up in the Environment Court and the Judges will have to judge these on the current Unitary Plan, which in turn threaten the Unitary Plan.

2. MEETING WITH NZTA

Early October we had a meeting with NZTA, AT, Council Planners, Peter Vari & Planners from AT. Greg Mitchell outlined the options they are looking at for local road upgrades and the alternative corridor for Kumeu-Huapai.

Clearly NZTA are slowly catching up with the roading and infrastructure pattern for the Kumeu-Huapai area.

The main outcome was:-

- NZTA will finalise the alternative access alignment by March-May 2019.
- Co-operation was offered from NZTA Officials.

2.

- Auckland Council Planner Peter Vari confirmed that there will be no start to Framework Plan/Structure Plan for 7 years by Auckland Council.
- Submissions close 19th October 2018 to transport proposals.

3. GROWTH WITH NO PLANNING

The indisputable facts are that the growth over the next 5 years will result in 3,830 new sites in Kumeu-Huapai. That is a increase of 10,000 population with no additional roading likely to be completed in that period.

The SHA's forced on the community by the Government promised matching infrastructure with housing. That hasn't occurred and we appear to be 10 years away from a built solution.

No planning solution means that the private sector will start to put pressure on the Council for private scheme changes to liven zoning up earlier. "Failure to plan by the Council means the Council plan to fail".

4. AD HOC RESOURCE CONSENTS

We have been involved in recent cases in the Environment Court supporting local community members that proved the inadequacies of the Auckland Unitary Plan and consenting errors. These cases have caused the Auckland Council to work to change the Unitary Plan to correct the plans inadequacies.

We feel anxious that private uncorordinated and 'ad hoc' challenges to the present 'Future Urban Zone' are rumoured to be starting. If these follow other applications even though the Council may oppose the applications, it is up to the Judge in the Court to interpret the application in terms of the Unitary Plan. For this reason alone we feel we should rapidly proceed to start structure or framework planning to support the Unitary Plan.

3.

It seems to Association that all the organisations involved in the planning for transport and public infrastructure have ignored the fact that they have sanctioned consents and development but chose to ignore the effect the lack of public infrastructure. For our communities the lack of planning and infrastructure is exemplified by the lack of investment in public transport, rail and roads. We simply can't stand another ten years of traffic mayhem which will get worse over the next ten years. Also we feel that no further ad hoc development be allowed until the Council addresses the provision of additional infrastructure to redress the imbalance in our existing and soon to arrive communities. It is simply unfair for our communities to be subjected to undue economic and social stress over the next ten years due to the lack of suitable infrastructure. The delays are also contrary to the principals of local Government.

5. **FRAMEWORK PLAN**

We have used the word 'Framework Plan' deliberately, so there is no confusion with a legally binding 'Structure Plan' to be prepared by the Council.

The Framework Plan needs to have a transparent buy in from the community representatives, the Auckland Council staff, politicians, Central government representatives in NZTA and other Government Departments.

The joint approach will minimise costs, minimise litigation, advance community understanding of how the District will grow and stop the speculative 'ad hoc' application by overseas land owners.

The Auckland Council control the process and only the Council can initiate the change to a live zoning by a Scheme Change.

4.

The Auckland Council have been convinced by Messrs Vari & McLennen, that they don't want to start planning work for another seven years.

The combined approach with all parties in the team is the logical way to move forward.

6. THE FUTURE

Waiting for the Council staff to start in seven years is not acceptable. We believe that there is a need for a 'Framework Team' to be ready and formed by April 2019. That is the time when the alternative corridor for Kumeu is to be released. That will provide the major constraints on what could occur and where in our District.

Of course the Rodney Board itself would be able to directly participate in the proposed planning process. From our meetings with NZTA, AT, & Minister Twyford, we are able to report that they see merit in the approach we suggest. We have also discussed our ideas with Mr. Duguid who wants us to present a proposal to him.

Obviously we would like to have your tentative support as you are the ones who responsible for advising the larger Council of the needs and wishes of our local communities. We want you to be fully involved and to participate and facilitate the desired community outcomes.

It is our opinion that the present consultation and submission process just does not work for communities. Essentially consultation presently means Councils/Consultants presenting formulated ideas and asking for feed back. This is a very low level form of citizen participation.

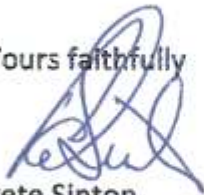
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7. We are asking the following questions of the Board.

We would like a written response to the following specific questions:-

- Do you, as the Rodney Board support the idea of an open partnership approach to planning our communities in Kumeu-Huapai area.
- Are you prepared to support our proposal to the Auckland Council once you are satisfied of its composition and direction of the 'Framework Plan'.
- Are you prepared to advance the timing of the structure planning process with commencement date April – May 2019.

Yours faithfully



Pete Sinton
Chairman

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Pest Free Omaha

A community collaboration

Controlling predators

Staging and layout for the top two
– mustelids, possums and rats:

Traps preferred to bait stations to avoid
conflicts with domestic pets, reduce use of
toxins

Stage 1 Black dots, DoC 200 trap line

Stage 2 Red cross hatch, Traps, Natural area

Stage 3 Blue cross hatch, Traps, Residential area

A plan is also being worked on for rabbits &
hedgehogs



Traps

DOC 200

- a kill trap for rats & mustelids,
- needs to be elevated where ground nesting birds (e.g. fernbird) are present to prevent bycatch



Good Nature A24

- self resetting trap for rats & mustelids,
- a good solution where people may not be permanent residents or don't want to handle a trap and/or dead animals, safe around domestic pets & children



Traps for rats

Victor Professional

- a kill trap
- easy to set & cost effective,
- Must be set in a tunnel/box to avoid bycatch



T- Rex

- quick & easy to set, heavy duty plastic
- good in exposed coastal environments
- Must be set in a tunnel/box to avoid bycatch



Traps for possums

- A range of traps are available
- Possums are generally not present in big numbers other than in Taniko Reserve
- The most effective way of managing them at Omaha is with a professional trapper
- This would enable a cost effective control programme to be put in place



How many do you need?

The Omaha Peninsula is 619ha

- Rats: 2 traps/ha = 1238
- Mustelids: 1 trap/6 hectares = 104 traps



When is the best time to trap?

- ideally all year round but can also trap seasonally.
- Prior to breeding season (land birds - before spring, shore birds – before summer).



Who would do it?



- The community would lead - ideally with a co-ordinator
- A combination of volunteers & experienced contractors is usually the best combination
- People are often supportive of an initiative, they may pay for some traps, be happy for them to be on their land but are busy – contractors can efficiently install & manage networks & reduce work for volunteers who are often stretched.

How could it be funded?

- Community/landowner contributions (buy traps, contribute volunteer time)
- Auckland Council – provide some traps, technical advice
- Sponsorship and environmental funds (e.g. Lotteries, Foundation North)
- Sponsor a trap..... Get in Behind campaign similar to Tawharanui Pest Proof Fence... help the neighbours campaign.....



What are the benefits of pest free Omaha

- Undertaking landscape scale pest control effectively reduces pest numbers over a larger area and reduces reinvasion potential
- Benefits native plants & animals particularly ground nesting birds and species like lizards etc.
- Increases the potential for new species to establish, e.g. kiwi from Tawharanui, kaka, bellbirds
- Gardens, fruit trees, lawns, houses free of rodents & browsing pests
- Community driven projects galvanise people & encourage ownership & responsible management of issues such as wandering domestic pets



What are the benefits of pest free Omaha?

International importance of Omaha spit to Northern NZ dotterel - about 10% of the total population of NZ dotterels in the world at Omaha spit from ~ March to September, as well as a high density of ground nesting pairs that live there all year round



Important for OSPT to continue to be responsible for any trapping and predator control carried out inside the predator proof fence, because this is such a special place for the shorebirds. Some forms of traps & the use of poisons could be detrimental to their survival.



OMAHA SHOREBIRD PROTECTION



What's next?

This is a suggested programme only and is dependant on the outcome of the community pest control workshop:

- Operational Plan completed
 - Cost estimate for undertaking rabbit control
 - Community pest control workshop
 - Obtain funding for pest free programme
 - Commence pest free programme
- Yes
 - Nov 2019
 - mid January 2018
 - Nov 2018 – May 2019
 - Winter 2019

