

WESTERN BAY OF PLENTY DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting No. SG8 of the Smartgrowth Implementation Committee held on 18 February 2009 in the Council Chamber, Barkes Corner, Tauranga commencing at 1:30 p.m.

Present

Environment Bay of Plenty

Councillors: J Nees, A von Dadelszen

Tauranga City Council

Mayor: S Crosby
Councillors: W Moultrie, D Stewart

Western Bay of Plenty District Council

Acting Mayor: R Paterson
Councillor: N Bruning

Tangata Whenua Representatives

P Ihaka, K Smith, M Tapsell

In Attendance

SmartGrowth: K Tremaine (Implementation Advisor), Te Pio Kawe (Tu Pukari Advisor)

Environment Bay of Plenty: M MacLeod (Group Manager Strategic Development), D Phizacklea (Senior Resource Planner)

Tauranga City Council: S Town (Chief Executive Officer), C Jones (Group Manager City Directions)

Western Bay of Plenty District Council: G R Snelgrove (Chief Executive Officer), A E Lane (Group Manager Policy & Planning), F C Sweeney (Team Leader Democracy Services)

Others

Two members of the public, Councillor M Murray-Benge and Councillor J Gravit (Western Bay of Plenty District Council)

Election of Chairperson

In the absence of the Chairperson the Chief Executive Officer of Western Bay of Plenty District Council opened the meeting, noting that the Committee did not have an appointed Deputy Chair, and in accordance with Standing Order 2.3.2 called for nominations to chair the meeting. One nomination was received.

Resolved: von Dadelszen / Acting Mayor Paterson

THAT Mayor Stuart Crosby be elected Chairperson to preside at this meeting of the SmartGrowth Implementation Committee in the absence of the Independent Chair.

1.33pm Mayor Crosby assumed the Chair.

Apologies

An apology for lateness was received from Councillor Stewart, and for absence from Mr Bill Wasley. Chairperson Cronin was not in attendance.

Resolved: Bruning / Moultrie

THAT the apology for lateness from Councillor Stewart and for absence from Mr Bill Wasley be received.

Presentation

SG8.1 Review of Reports on Railway Crossings of Tauranga Harbour

The Committee considered a report by the Group Manager Strategic Development (Environment Bay of Plenty) as circulated with the agenda.

A powerpoint presentation was received from URS Consultants represented by Mr Brian Hodge who was in attendance to speak to the report.

1.35pm Councillor David Stewart entered the meeting.

In response to questions Mr Hodge advised the following:

- He was not aware of any discussions by the Port in relation to relocating the railway lines.
- The line was already the busiest in New Zealand in terms of freight carriage.
- He had had a response from ONTRAK who were not interested in relocating the track.
- His brief was to review work done on this project in the past and he had not been tasked to consider future options.
- There was a designation in Te Maunga to allow movement of the railway track, and otherwise all rail designated land was being used.

Resolved: von Dadelszen / Nees

THAT the Review of Reports on Railway Crossings of Tauranga Harbour Report by the Group Manager Strategic Development be received.

SG8.2 Confirmation of Minutes of the SmartGrowth Implementation Committee SG7

Resolved: von Dadelszen / Smith

THAT the minutes of SmartGrowth Implementation Committee meeting SG7 held on 10 December 2008 as circulated in the agenda be confirmed as a true and correct record.

SG8.3 Bi Monthly Report

The Committee considered a report by the Independent Chairperson and the Implementation Advisor as circulated with the agenda. Copies of minutes of meetings of the Strategic Partners dated 2 December 2008 and 3 February 2009 were tabled to be considered in conjunction with this report. The Implementation Advisor spoke to the report, highlighting issues reported on.

It was requested that in future the Strategic Partners minutes be circulated with the agenda.

Councillor Paterson advised the following resolution from the Western Bay of Plenty District Council:

THAT Western Bay of Plenty District Council SmartGrowth representatives raise at the next Smart Growth Implementation Committee issues relating to delays in progressing regional transport initiatives specifically the Tauranga Eastern Motorway (TEM), Omokoroa, Te Puke and the Katikati Bypass and to seek a joint meeting with appropriate government and Transport Agency representatives.

Mayor Stuart Crosby spoke to the issue raised by Councillor Paterson, and advised of developments arising from the Government's funding of infrastructure and developments from the Regional Transport Committee.

Councillor Nees advised the uncertainty about government funding in relation to the Tauranga Eastern Motorway, and how the government would treat the Regional Transport Committee priorities. She stated that the next meeting of the Regional Transport Committee would be looking at prioritising regional projects.

It was noted that the formal processes were understood but the request was that from a political perspective the issue was raised at Central Government levels as the projects were essential to the sub region and its economic development. It was suggested that a request for a report from the New Zealand Transport Agency may also be helpful.

In response to a question as to how the recent changes in the economic climate would affect the SmartGrowth project overall and in particular issues such as the submission on building sustainable urban communities the Implementation Advisor noted that the plan was written in a 50 year time frame which did help but the potential for effects on the strategy in the short term was under review and would be reported on.

Mayor Crosby noted that the current climate had affected the intensification programme in Tauranga City and it would slow down the achievement of some targets.

Resolved: Acting Mayor Paterson / Nees

1. *THAT the SmartGrowth Implementation Committee Bi Monthly Report from the Implementation Advisor and the Independent Chairperson be received.*
2. *THAT there be a request for a formal update of the New Zealand Transport Agency projects in the sub region to be presented to the next SmartGrowth Committee meeting.*
3. *THAT the submission on Building Sustainable Urban Communities attached as Appendix 1 to the report is confirmed.*

SG8.4

Future SmartGrowth Implementation

The Committee considered a report by the Regional Chair, Mayors and Chief Executives Advisory Group as circulated with the agenda. The Chief Executive of Tauranga City Council spoke to the report and in support of the collaboration achieved through this joint project, advising of the discussion from the Chief Executives group as to the value of SmartGrowth to the subregion.

In discussion of the proposal the following matters were noted:

- The results of the combined actions of the Councils to date had proved of great value at Central Government level.
- The strength of SmartGrowth had been that it focussed on a subregion with exceptional growth.
- A review of consultancy figures may be required.
- Clarification was given of tangata whenua relationships as represented on the Chart showing the governance and management structure.
- Tangata whenua representatives noted funding for tangata whenua input was still low.
- The project should aim to effectively target its spending in the future, and it was noted that the funding proposed was not intended as a target to spend, however the project budget was intended to look at whole of subregional projects to the benefit all of the partners.

Resolved: von Dadelszen / Stewart

1. *THAT the Future SmartGrowth Implementation Report be received:*
2. *THAT it be recommended to the partner Councils that the SmartGrowth Implementation arrangements be extended beyond June 2009 as outlined in the Future SmartGrowth Implementation Report.*
3. *THAT the Committee requests that the Chief Executives Advisory Group provide a paper to the SmartGrowth Implementation Committee in 2009 that would outline the nature and scope of taking a more Bay of Plenty regional focus in respect of growth management.*

SG8.5 Northern Corridor Report

The Committee considered a report by the Implementation Advisor, which includes an update on changes since the December meeting as circulated with the agenda. The Implementation Advisor stated that this was for information and to show what changes had been made as a result of comments arising from the release of the draft.

Resolved: Acting Mayor Paterson / Nees

THAT the Northern Corridor Strategy Report be received.

SG8.6 SmartEconomy Monitoring Report

The Committee considered a report by the Implementation Advisor as circulated with the agenda. The Implementation Advisor spoke to the report and invited questions. In response to questions the Committee was advised that the Global Change Summit had not been affected by the change in the economic climate but was about sustainability. The various job summits had arisen since the financial crisis and details were still emerging on these.

Resolved: Nees / Bruning

THAT the SmartEconomy Monitoring Report: for the period to 31 December 2008 be received.

SG8.7 SmartGrowth Monitoring Report

The Committee considered a report by the Implementation Advisor as circulated with the agenda. It was noted that this was the core monitoring report for the strategy and demonstrated the status of the actions arising from the strategy. It was suggested that the monitoring report only be presented on a six monthly basis with the provision that there be exception reports on any major issues arising in the interim.

Resolved: Moultrie / Acting Mayor Paterson

1. *THAT the SmartGrowth Monitoring Report for the period to 31 January 2009 be received.*

Resolved: Mayor Crosby / Bruning

2. *THAT in future the SmartGrowth Monitoring Report be provided six monthly on the basis that exceptions be reported through the bi-monthly report.*

The meeting closed at 3.00pm

Confirmed as a true and correct record

W Wasley
Independent Chairperson

Date

SG82009