

Greater Christchurch Urban Development Strategy

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE GREATER CHRISTCHURCH URBAN DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

STRATEGIC PARTNERS FORUM

Held at the Convention Centre, Christchurch
on Monday, 13 October 2008 at 10.00 am

FORUM MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bill Wasley	UDS Independent Chair & Forum Chair
Brian Wearing	New Zealand Automobile Association.
Ashley Seaford	Ministry of Social Development
Carolyn Ingles	Christchurch City Council (UDSIMG)
David Corlett	Ministry of Transport
Gloria Weeks	Disabled Persons Reference Group
Graham Reid	New Zealand Fire Service
Hamish Douch	Representative of the Development Community
James Caygill	UDS Implementation Manger (Acting Chair)
John Peet	Sustainable Otago-Christchurch
Karen Banwell	Christchurch City Council (Senior Policy Analyst)
Karin Scheepers	Christchurch City Council
Kelvin McMillan	Christchurch City Council
Lizzie Pearson	Christchurch City Council
Jenny Ridgen	Christchurch City Council
Peter Townsend	Canterbury Employers Chamber of Commerce
Pam Richardson	Federated Farmers
Simon Swaffield	Lincoln University

1. Welcome

James Caygill welcomed all present and apologised for Bill's lateness. Bill's plane had just landed and said that Bill was on his way.

James Caygill presented an overview of the Forum agenda.

2. Minutes

The minutes were corrected as discussed. James Caygill apologised for the error and for the late circulation of the minutes.

There were no other outstanding issues on the minutes.

Transport will not be on the agenda for this meeting. James gave a brief update regarding transport. The transport studies will be held until they can be released publicly.

Regional Economics is on the agenda but Intensification Models will be held for another meeting.

CCC will give a detailed presentation regarding what is being done for Healthy Environment across a range of areas from biodiversity to water and other areas.

3. Healthy Environment

- Jenny Ridgen introduced herself, Kelvin McMillan and Lizzy Pearson to the meeting.
- Jenny discussed the Healthy Environment Strategies being worked on at CCC. The water supply strategy is scheduled to be presented to Council in November.

1.1. Water Supply Strategy – Jenny Ridgen

- Key objective was managing Christchurch and Banks Peninsula's water supply systems in a sustainable manner. Key challenges were the finite resource of water and how this was going to be managed.
- Christchurch City had the highest per capita usage in NZ and quite high compared to other international cities. The reasons for this, amongst others are garden irrigation and because people don't perceive value in the water. There are a lack of incentives to use the water efficiently.
- Looking at the challenge of how to change behaviour and use water efficiently.
- There was a discussion on the various options and ideas of how a household could save water.
- The forum felt it vitally important that every dwelling in Christchurch should have a water meter and should be charged for surplus water usage. There was an agreement that this should be on the council's priority list.
- Another option was to work with those wanting to put in rainwater systems, make it easier regarding resource consents.
- There was a suggestion that 2 to 3 SPF members attend the UDS IC meeting on 17th November and have an opportunity to speak at this meeting to highlight the urgency and importance regarding the above mentioned issues.

1.2. Biodiversity Strategy and Open Space – Kelvin McMillan

- The Biodiversity Strategy was adopted by the council in July 2008.
- Pests (ferrets, weasels, possums etc.) are a major problem for our current biodiversity.
- A survey was done last year on the public's perceptions of biodiversity, 86% thought it was very important and they would like to see the natural environment maintained. They believe biodiversity to be part of our heritage.
- Priorities were to use what funds we have efficiently, prioritise land purchase to get the best return and to encourage land owners and work with them.
- 90% of people thought they wanted private open space. 90% also wanted trees in the vicinity of where they lived. According to the survey, the current number one recreation activity is walking.

1.3. Surface Water Strategy – Lizzie Pearson

- Lizzie discussed the surface water strategy that she is currently working on with a team from CCC.
- Aiming to have a draft strategy by mid 2009.
- A request was raised to discuss the changes made to the old strategy, to make the new strategy more understandable.

A copy of the presentation will be distributed with the minutes.

4. Transport Update

- Mark Yaxley has been appointed as the Regional Director for New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) for Canterbury and Westland.
- Please look at the NZTA website (<http://www.nzta.govt.nz>). They have just started early consultation on Stage 2 of the Southern Motorway. James asked people to get involved at the start of the process.
- We don't yet have regionalised targets out of the New Zealand Transport Strategy that Central Government wants Canterbury to meet in terms of things like changing Modal split but hope to have by the next SPF meeting.
- There is a newly constituted Regional Transport Committee for Canterbury that's under the legislation. There is also the ability for Regions to adopt a Regional Fuel Levy if they so wish.
- The National Freight Demand Strategy has just been released. It gives a good snapshot of what is currently happening around the country.

5. Regional Economic Development

- Will try and arrange for Bill Luff (Chief Executive for Canterbury Development Corporation) to give a presentation early in the new year. He is adopting a whole new approach to Economic Development and the role of the Canterbury Development Corporation.
- John Peet is happy for James Caygill to forward on to the SPF member, his paper called "4 Visions of the Future". This is a Risk Analysis and is a public document.

6. General Business

- 1) UDS SPF – 8th December – 10h00
 - Bill requested the group to think about some issues relating to the Strategic Partners Forum. The SPF currently has a very large organisation representation – there are approximately 40 organisations represented. Bill would like the members to consider the effectiveness of such a large group or if it would be more appropriate to break the SPF down into more sub-sets directly relating to various disciplines e.g. transport. Bill would like to discuss this at the next SPF meeting.
 - There was concerns raised regarding the projections of growth for the UDS. Some members believed there was a rapid slowdown and felt that the numbers for growth should be re-looked at.

FORUM OUTCOME SUMMARY

Actions derived from meeting:	1. Presentation by Bill Luff re Regional Economic Development
Information Requests	1. Intensification Topology information 2. How has previous surface water strategy changed ?
Items for Next Agenda	1. Effectiveness of the SPF as it currently is. 2. Transport Studies - Update 3. Progress on intensification models (topology).
Topics noted for future discussion	1. Timeframe for the Health and Social Services planning project 2. Intensification. 3. Robustness & resilience testing 4. Addressing affordable housing issues and housing affordability 5. Transport strategies and funding including Freight Roading.