



Waitakere City Council
Te Taiao o Waitakere

NOTICE OF MEETING

CITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

I hereby give notice that a Meeting of the City Development Committee will be held on:-

DATE: **Thursday, 8 February 2007** **TIME:** **9.30 am**

VENUE: **Waitakere Central, 6 Henderson Valley Road, Henderson, Waitakere**

to consider the business as set out herein and to take any necessary action connected therewith.

1 February 2007

Stephen McDaid
COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Telephone (09) 836 8000 extn 8170

MEMBERSHIP:

Councillors	PA	Hulse (Chairman)
	LA	Cooper (Deputy Chairman)
	DQ	Battersby, JP
	MFP	Chan, JP
	JM	Clews, QSO, JP
	RI	Clow
	AK	Corban, OBE, JP
	RP	Dallow, QPM, JP
	WW	Flaunty, QSM, JP
	DE	Gilmour
	C	Harding, JP
	JP	Lawley
	VS	Neeson, JP
	CA	Stone
Mrs	M	Te Huia

Mayor RA Harvey, QSO, JP (ex officio)

(Quorum 5 members)

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(The reports and recommendations contained in all agendas are reports and recommendations only and are not to be construed, in any way, as Council policy until adopted.)

**AGENDA FOR A MEETING OF THE CITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE TO
BE HELD AT WAITAKERE CENTRAL, 6 HENDERSON VALLEY ROAD,
HENDERSON, WAITAKERE, ON THURSDAY, 8 FEBRUARY 2007,
COMMENCING AT 9.30 AM.**

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1 APOLOGIES



2 URGENT BUSINESS

Section 46A(7) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 provides that where an item of business is not on the agenda, it may only be dealt with at the meeting if:

- (i) the Committee by resolution so decides; and
- (ii) the Chairman has explained at the beginning of the meeting (when open to the public) that the item will be raised for discussion and decision, why the item is not on the agenda, and why it cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting.

The Committee may make a decision on a matter determined to be urgent.

NOTE: Urgent Business need not be dealt with now and may be delayed until later in the meeting.



3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Meeting Minutes Thursday, 7 December 2006
Reconvened Minutes Tuesday, 12 December 2006

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the Meeting of the City Development Committee held on Thursday, 7 December 2006 and reconvened on Tuesday, 12 December 2006, as circulated, be taken as read and now be confirmed.



4 PRESENTATION - AUCKLAND WAR MEMORIAL MUSEUM

Representatives from the Auckland War Memorial Museum will be present at the meeting to update the City Development Committee on the developments at the Museum over the past year and to discuss the Museum's Draft Annual Plan and the possibility of the City Development Committee making a submission to the Museum's Draft Annual Plan.



5 DRAFT LONG TERM SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORK UPDATE

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of this report is to present the full working draft of the Long Term Sustainability Framework (the Framework) developed by Sustaining the Auckland Region Together (START), which reports to the Auckland Regional Growth Forum.

It requests:

1. That the City Development Committee provide feedback to be presented, along with comments from the other Territorial Local Authorities, in March to the Auckland Regional Growth Forum on the draft Framework;
2. That the City Development Committee endorse the draft Framework for the purpose of further stakeholder engagement and public consultation in March and April 2007.

BACKGROUND

START is a project of the Auckland Regional Growth Forum. The idea of a long-term sustainability framework emerged from the Auckland Sustainable Cities Programme, a joint Local/Central government collaborative programme to test how the various arms of government (both central and local) could work together on a number of demonstration projects that would move the region towards sustainability.

Local Government officers, with guidance from the Chief Executive Officers' Forum (CEO's Forum) sponsors Theresa Stratton and Peter Winder, undertook to work on a longer-term model, provisionally called the Long Term Sustainability Framework. Progress was reported to the CEO Forum over 2005, with the CEO Forum agreeing in December 2005 to the development of a prototype framework to be reported back in March 2006. The prototype and a proposal to develop this further was signed off by the CEO Forum in March, and was then submitted to the councils and the Auckland Regional Council for endorsement during April. The Auckland Regional Growth Forum approved a project brief for further development of the Framework in May 2006. As a collaborative project between the eight councils in the Auckland region and central government, START was initiated to deliver the following outcomes:

1. A shared long-term view of the key transformational actions that will make the Auckland region more sustainable, acting as a touchstone for decision-making and activities;
2. A sustainability framework and tools to assist Central and Local Government and key corporates to make decisions that are more integrated, prioritised, and resilient;
3. Alignment and coordination of efforts to achieve sustainable outcomes, working from the basis of the respective strengths of councils, Central Government and other stakeholders;
4. Future-proofing the Auckland region's development, in particular its built form.

As identified in the original project brief:

“The START project is scheduled to run until March 2007, with the bulk of substantive content developed by December 2006. The short time frame is to allow for the results to feed into other processes currently underway, such as the Regional Growth Strategy review. It is expected that the project will be able to deliver on the direction and high-level content of the Long Term Framework, identify how the Framework impacts on regional decision-making in the short term and develop programmes of action around priority issues over the long term. It will not, however, resolve all identified issues within the allocated time. Rather, the project should deliver a proposal for ongoing engagement and delivery.”

The draft Framework was tabled, with a report, to the Auckland Regional Growth Forum on 6 December 2006. The Auckland Regional Growth Forum resolved to forward the draft Framework to all councils in the region (and Central Government agencies), to request their verbal feedback at the 7 March 2007 Auckland Regional Growth Forum meeting. The Auckland Regional Growth Forum also resolved that following council feedback the draft framework would be sent out for stakeholder and public consultation and that further analysis work would be undertaken.

The Auckland Regional Growth Forum also approved the following next steps for the START project. These are:

1. Stakeholder engagement and consultation in March and April 2007 following council feedback
2. Further development of the details of the Framework
3. Production of a final Framework, which will be reported to the Auckland Regional Growth Forum on 4 July 2007, and then sent for councils' endorsement in July/August 2007.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

The START project sits within the framework of long-term commitments and principles to guide decision-making adopted by the Long Term Council Community Plan Councillor workshops held early 2006. It establishes a discipline about planning for the City's long-term future in a way which addresses resilience, liveability and sustainability. It also provides a high level connection across a growing number of regional and local strategies often narrowly seen as single-issue matters.

Waitakere's continued involvement with the project is strategically important at this time because of the possibility that it will lead to better decision making across the region and nationally, in areas that have major impacts on the wellbeing of Waitakere residents – energy, transport, environmental quality, infrastructure, buildings etc. A successful Long Term Sustainability Framework also has the potential of ensuring that Waitakere City Council's decisions contribute effectively to local and regional activities in a way that furthers sustainable development.

However, it is not clear at the present time whether the draft Framework in its present form will achieve this. Council officers are working to assess and improve this, but Council will need to continue to be vigilant to ensure that the final Framework is suited to this task.

ISSUES

START project deliverables and milestones

Key deliverables of the START project to date are:

1. Detailed analysis of the future impacts of key forces of change impacting the region;
2. Application of the forces to seven key issues in the Auckland region (drawing on the knowledge of expert groups);
3. A three-day workshop on the future of the Auckland region, with 140 participants from different sectors;
4. A proposed framework of a high-level vision, goals, principles and key directions for achieving a more sustainable Auckland region. The proposed framework also identifies critical responses to produce the long term shifts required for a sustainable future.

Officers are seeking political feedback on the proposed draft Framework, particularly on the proposed vision, goals, key directions, and high level responses.

Proposed draft Framework

A1-A51

The proposed draft Framework is presented in the attachment at pages A1 to A51. It sets out a vision, principles, goals, key directions and a set of high level responses for moving towards a more sustainable Auckland region. It is expected that the Framework will function in two ways:

1. As a framework for decision-making - setting a consistent structure for local and regional-level decisions and providing an agreed set of goals and principles to base decision-making on; and
2. As an agenda for change - identifying those priority areas (key directions and responses) that need attention in the short to medium term.

The content of the proposed Framework has been derived from the research and stakeholder engagement undertaken in the START project. Common themes consistently emerged throughout these processes, including:

1. The need to build resilience into systems, infrastructure and communities, so as to be prepared for future shifts and shocks and to enable people to adapt to change;
2. The need to be more resource efficient, ecologically respectful and economically effective;
3. The importance of people and the significant challenges arising from the increasing social fragmentation of the region.

The proposed draft Framework has made considerable progress in identifying the key shifts needed to secure a sustainable future. However, there are still gaps in the Framework, which are expected to be identified through a consultative process with participating agencies and stakeholders. Further detailed analysis will also be necessary to translate the high-level elements of the Framework into a more detailed package of responses with associated targets and indicators.

Next Steps

The following three strands of work were therefore approved by the Auckland Regional Growth Forum on 6 December 2006 to further develop the Framework:

1. **Workstrand 1:** Report to all councils and Central Government, and request feedback on the proposed Framework by March 2007.
2. **Workstrand 2:** Undertake stakeholder engagement and public consultation to obtain feedback on the proposed Framework.
3. **Workstrand 3:** Undertake detailed analysis of goals and key directions including a prioritised package of responses and set of indicators to measure progress.

It was agreed by the Auckland Regional Growth Forum that the feedback from participating councils (workstrand 1) be reported back verbally to the 7 March 2007 Auckland Regional Growth Forum meeting. The feedback and analysis of workstrands 2 and 3 will be incorporated into a final version of the Framework and reported to the Auckland Regional Growth Forum in July 2007 and to all councils in July and August. It is recommended that material for the informal report back be prepared following the City Development Committee discussion of this item.

Workstrand 1: Reporting to Councils and Central Government

This strand of work will involve inviting feedback from the Auckland Regional Growth Forum and forwarding the proposed draft Framework to all councils in the region, asking for feedback and endorsement to be verbally reported to the Auckland Regional Growth Forum at the 7 March 2007 meeting. At the same time, central government officials will undertake their own internal briefings. This is consistent with the approach taken throughout the START project.

It was also agreed by the Auckland Regional Growth Forum on 6 December 2006 that the START Councillors' Reference Group, which sits under the auspices of the Auckland Regional Growth Forum and is not a decision-making body, continue to meet to receive informal progress updates and to provide a political sounding board for the work as it develops.

Workstrand 2: Undertaking stakeholder engagement and public consultation to obtain feedback on the proposed Framework.

To date, consultation has included various stakeholders who have been actively involved in the START process. This includes stakeholders from the business, social and academic sectors.

Engaging iwi appropriately in the development of the Framework has been a consideration throughout the project, and a flow of information has been provided through the local authority Maori liaison officer network (Te Ruru Korero). The main focus on building a dialogue on START with iwi and hapu has been built into a wider and ongoing regional process of engagement through the Auckland Regional Council's Maori Relations Unit, Te Pae Hononga Maori.

Two Mana Whenua wananga were held in November 2006 to consider the Long Term Framework. A collective set of resolutions was developed from both wananga and has been forwarded to the START steering group. These resolutions now need to be considered and their implications for the framework further explored.

The wananga held at Puukaki Marae was attended by iwi representatives from Ngāti Te Ata, Te Akitai, Ngāti Te Ahiwaru, Kawerau a Maki, Ngai Tai, Ngāti Paoa, Ngāti Whanaunga, Ngāti Manuhiri & Ngāti Rehua. Apologies were received from Ngāti Tamaoho.

The wananga held at Omaha Marae was attended by iwi representatives from Ngati Manuhiri, Ngati Rehua and Kawerau a Maki. Apologies were received from Ngati Whatua o Orakei, Ngati Whatua Nga Rima and Te Uri o Hau.

Next steps for stakeholder engagement and consultation

A stakeholder engagement and public consultation plan was presented to the December 2006 Auckland Regional Growth Forum. This plan proposed a programme of engagement with key stakeholders during March and April 2007, with the form of engagement tailored to the particular stakeholder and leveraging off existing relationships and processes. This includes a programme of further meetings and input with iwi and hapu.

While details of this consultation are under development, it is nevertheless important that Waitakere City Council take steps either in or alongside the annual planning process to inform residents about the project and invite their input.

Workstrand 3: Detailed analysis of key directions

This strand of work will analyse the key directions to identify:

1. The current status and likely future trends;
2. Targets and indicators;
3. What needs to change and priorities for action.

Much of the content for this analysis is already available in work that was completed as part of START and within existing strategic policy projects. However, it needs to be drawn together under the key directions and refined through stakeholder consultation.

Alignment with other work programmes

The Regional Growth Strategy review

Work is currently underway to identify the implications of the Framework vision, principle goals and key directions for the Regional Growth Strategy. This will test the Framework's relevance for reviewing regional strategies. It is expected that the implications will be reported to the Auckland Regional Growth Forum early in 2007.

Understanding of sustainable development has evolved since the Regional Growth Strategy was agreed in 1999. The wider context in which local government operates (such as the powers of general competence in the Local Government Act 2002) has also changed and brought in new possibilities for action. The proposed Framework can assist the review of the Regional Growth Strategy to take these changes into account.

The proposed Framework suggests some enhanced areas of focus for the Regional Growth Strategy, for example strengthening the protection of ecological limits and expanding the scope and considerations of the Regional Growth Strategy to use spatial planning to secure sustainable social, cultural, environmental and economic outcomes.

Strengthening Auckland's Regional Governance Project

The proposed draft Framework has provided the strategic context for the "Strengthening Auckland's Regional Governance" project. The governance review project has acknowledged the need to better integrate and align regional strategies within the sustainability framework identified by the START project.

Other strategies and programmes

The proposed Framework is intended to provide a coherent direction for the region across regional and local strategies and programmes and regional and local council Long Term Council Community Plans. The relationship between the proposed Framework and the Regional Growth Strategy has been described above. Similar applications of the Framework to other strategies such as the Regional Land Transport Strategy can be expected as they come up for review. The proposed Framework has also been developed taking into account other major regional initiatives such as the Metro Project.

Central Government engagement

Central Government has been closely involved in development of the proposed Framework. That involvement will continue, with a more formal report likely towards mid-2007.

RESOURCES

The START project has a budget of \$260,000 in this financial year. \$125,000 of that has been provided by the seven local authorities and the Auckland Regional Council on a proportional basis. \$135,000 has been provided by Central Government. Contributing organisations have also provided substantial staff time. There is approximately \$80,000 of this budget remaining (after actual expenditure and known commitments are taken into account), to cover stakeholder engagement and some further analysis.

Waitakere's continued support of this project will be in staff time and can be managed within existing budget allocations for strategic planning.

CONCLUSION

The development of the Long Term Sustainability Framework (the principal output of the START project) is at a critical stage. Local Councils and Central Government agencies now need to assess the real potential of the draft Framework to provide significant advantage to the City's planning and decision making over the long term, and to adopt the draft Framework in principle for further consultation.

During the consultation period further testing and work on the Framework will be undertaken.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Draft Long Term Sustainability Framework Update report be received.
2. That the Council approve in principle the proposed draft Long Term Sustainability Framework for further detailed development and stakeholder and public consultation.
3. That the Council provide feedback on the proposed draft Long Term Sustainability Framework to the START project team and as an input to the next reporting of the project to the Auckland Regional Growth Forum on 7 March 2007.
4. That following discussion of this item a report be prepared outlining Council's position on issues in the proposed draft Long Term Sustainability Framework, to be used as:
 - (a) a basis for Council officer feedback to the Steering Group,
 - (b) input by Councillor Reference Group and the Auckland Regional Growth Forum, and

- (c) the report being signed off by Waitakere's members on the Councillor Reference Group (Mayor Bob Harvey and Councillor Hulse) and/or their alternates (Councillor Clews and Councillor Cooper).
5. That appropriate comment on the proposed draft Long Term Sustainability Framework, along with an invitation to make submissions, be incorporated into the consultation process on Council's Annual Plan 2007/2008.
6. That further reports be submitted to the City Development Committee on the draft Long Term Sustainability Framework as appropriate, ahead of a final report in August 2007 which will enable Council to consider the final Long Term Sustainability Framework for endorsement.

Report prepared by: Graeme Campbell Director: Strategic Planning.



6 2006 WAITAKERE PEST MANAGEMENT PLANS AND FIVE YEAR WORK PROGRAMMES

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of this report is to present the 2006 Waitakere Pest Management Plans and Five Year Work Programmes to the City Development Committee for endorsement and adoption.

BACKGROUND

Waitakere is a city of diverse landscape and habitat. It contains many kilometres of coastline, ranging from sheltered harbour and estuarine areas to the exposed west coast wilderness areas. While coastal forest is not extensive, fragments are encountered in many places. In the western part of the City lie the Waitakere Ranges, now mainly covered in native vegetation. Some of this vegetation is virgin bush while much is in various stages of regeneration after substantial clearance pre-1900. It is a botanically rich area containing more than a quarter of New Zealand's flowering plant species and two thirds of all New Zealand fern species. Forty-three regionally threatened plants are found in the Waitakere Ranges.

The foothills of the Waitakere Ranges and the northern part of the City are mainly rural, with orchards, vineyards, horticulture and lifestyle blocks, while the urban area is located to the east, alongside the Waitemata Harbour. Numerous small streams flow from the Waitakere Ranges to the sea, and many of the stream margins have esplanade reserves alongside which are administered by Waitakere City Council. Corridors such as streams and roads can allow the spread of weeds located further up in the catchment.

Remnants of native vegetation within the eastern area of the City, mainly on esplanade and recreation reserves, are particularly valuable for their rarity within the largely urbanised Tamaki Ecological District.

The Auckland Regional Council has statutory powers under the Biosecurity Act (1993) as outlined in the Regional Pest Management Strategy (2002-2007). Pest Management Strategies developed in accordance with section 76 of the Biosecurity Act provide the main avenue for pursuing enforceable plant control in New Zealand. Biosecurity New Zealand, the arm of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry that provides a first response to national incursions of new organisms may also enforce control of 'Unwanted Organisms' not listed in a Pest Management Strategy under the Biosecurity Act.

Auckland Regional Council has developed an Auckland Regional Pest Management Strategy, 2002-2007 (RPMS). The purpose of the current RPMS is to *'provide a strategic and statutory framework for efficient and effective management of plant and animal pests in the Auckland region.'* Provisions of the RPMS bind Waitakere City Council, in that it has occupier responsibility to control weeds on land it administers, "in the manner and to the standards prescribed in the RPMS".

Waitakere City Council produced a Weed Strategy in 2000 (hereafter referred to as the 2000 Waitakere Weed Strategy) which provided strategic direction for the control of weeds in the City. In addition, a five year priority work programme was established, for work on park land. This guided and directed the work undertaken through the yearly weed and pest control budgets for parks and roadsides allocated in the Annual Plan and subsequent Long Term Council Community Plan. The five year work programme previously prepared has now expired and the documents presented in this report form the review and update to the weed strategy and five year work programme for Waitakere's parks.

A professional services contract was awarded to Te Ngahere Native Forest Management to carry out the work. Five documents have been produced to cover the scope of the works. These are:

A52-A227

1. 2006 Waitakere Weed Management Strategy, attached at pages A52 to A112.
2. 2006 Waitakere Parks Five Year Work Programme, attached at pages A113 to A140.
3. 2006 Waitakere Roadside Five Year Work Programme, attached at pages A141 to A159.
4. 2006 Waitakere Animal Pest Strategy, attached at pages A160 to A199.
5. 2006 Waitakere Five Year Animal Pest Work Programme, attached at pages A200 to A227.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

The Green Network strategic platform aims to see streams and forests full of life. The Waitakere Ranges will be permanently protected and a Green Network will link the Ranges and the sea, connecting the everyday lives of the people of Waitakere with the natural world. The City is also part of the North-West Wildlink, a regional initiative to create ecological stepping stones from the Waitakere Ranges through to the Hauraki Gulf islands.

Waitakere City Council aims to protect and enhance the City's important landforms, landscapes, range of native plants, wildlife and ecosystems, by designing and managing Council's own properties and infrastructure to protect and restore Green Network values. Council seeks to better control weeds and animal pests on Council owned land, improve integrated management of the Green Network across the Council, different public jurisdictions and land tenures.

One key component of the Green Network is the Waitakere Ranges and Foothills. In 2003 the Council initiated the Waitakere Ranges and Foothills Protection Project in response to concerns expressed that this area continues to be under pressure and further action is needed to secure more protection for future generations. Through the extensive community consultation process pests and weeds were clearly identified as one of the key threats to the area. Protection of this area was perceived as requiring a range of regulatory and non-regulatory tools. The development of a pest management strategy helps contribute to the management of this issue,

Waitakere City Council recognises the importance of protecting the indigenous flora and fauna within the City and providing the conditions for it to survive and flourish. There is

increasing recognition that animal pests and invasive environmental weeds pose an on-going threat to our indigenous species and ecosystems.

Implementation of Council's pest control effort is primarily undertaken by the Parks and Green Assets section, but also affects areas of Transport Assets, Parks Planning, Property Services, EcoWater, Twinstreams and Strategic Group.

The 2006 Waitakere Parks Pest Management Plans and Five Year Work Programmes contribute to the above strategic platform by providing a clear direction for the implementation of pest control in Waitakere within the current budget allocations identified in the Long Term Council Community Plan. The strategies aim to provide the most cost-effective methodologies and techniques to achieve pest control on Council owned land for the upcoming five years.

Review of the strategies every five years ensures that there is constant review and re-evaluation of best practise approaches to pest control.

ISSUES

Animal and plant pests and their effects on native flora and fauna in Waitakere parks and roadsides need to be addressed if Council is to contribute to the protection, quality, resilience, biodiversity and ecological integrity of Waitakere's natural habitat.

A key objective of pest control is to ensure a clear and effective integration of the strategy for pest control within the City, with the day to day operational contracts that are put in place each year to undertake the actual elimination of animal and plant pests. The objectives and targets of the strategy must be clear and directive, to allow operational contracts to put weed and animal pest best practice and theory into practice on a daily basis.

SUMMARY OF THE REVIEW

1. 2006 Waitakere Weed Management Strategy

A52-A112

A review of the 2000 Waitakere Weed Management Strategy has been completed to ensure any new scientific and/or operational developments in weed control are included. The Waitakere Weed Management Strategy includes strategies for weed management on Council land including parks and roadsides. The principles, objectives, actions and targets within the 2000 Waitakere Weed Management Strategy have been reviewed and the updated 2006 Waitakere Weed Management Strategy attached at pages A52 to A112 provides updated actions and targets for each objective.

The 2006 Waitakere Weed Management Strategy also includes best practice guidelines. Following these guidelines ensures effective weed control and the minimisation of future problems.

A new process is recommended within the 2006 Waitakere Weed Management Strategy for effective weed control including a sequence of restoration phases based on years of weed control experience and the characteristics of environmental weed infestations. The phases are: Initial control, Long term initial control, Follow-up control, Low density follow-up control and Forest protection. The restoration phases follow optimal timing, frequency of control and control methodologies for the various stages of weed control operations.

Utilising the best practice guidelines and the restoration phases recommended in the Weed Management Strategy should achieve the Green Network vision through more effective and efficient weed control operations. Working with the community to stop the spread of weeds along with improved weed control techniques should help neighbourhoods, the Council and other stakeholders achieve the ecological restoration goals of the 2006 Waitakere Weed Management Strategy.

2. 2006 Waitakere Parks Five Year Work Programme

The 2006 five year work programme proposed will help achieve the objectives and targets stated within the Weed Management Strategy on Waitakere parks. Objective one of the Strategy is to protect priority (high value) areas from the impacts of weeds. The 2006 five year work programme helps achieve this by identifying a list of priority sites for site-led weed control. The prioritisation process includes the identification of reserves with social and cultural importance. This process helps achieve objective three of the Weed Management Strategy, which strives to support and facilitate community understanding and involvement in the management of weed impacts.

A113-A140

Ensuring contractors follow the best practice guidelines and methodologies described within both the 2006 five year work programme and the 2006 Waitakere Weed Management Strategy attached at pages A113 to A140, will help achieve objective two of the Weed Management Strategy to minimise future costs via adoption of best practice guidelines and surveillance at priority sites.

Maps are provided within the 2006 five year work programme as a practical guide to reserves recommended as priorities for the next five years of ecological restoration work. Each reserve has 'restoration phases' mapped with a corresponding table of weed species likely to be present (or persisting within the seed bank) in each reserve

3. 2006 Waitakere Roadside Five Year Work Programme

A five year priority programme to lead the roadside weed contract has been produced. The aims are to reduce the incidence of invasive weeds on roadsides, including decreasing weed habitat and ongoing weed control costs. Four components of roadside weed control in the five year programme will facilitate the restoration of natural areas along roads throughout Waitakere. The four components are:

- Meet obligations of the Regional Pest Plant Management Strategy
A selected list of environmental weeds are required to be controlled City wide, regardless of infestation size. These weed targets mean Waitakere City Council is fulfilling obligations to the RPMS as a landowner.
- City wide environmental weed targets
A selected list of environmental weed species are required to be controlled when the infestation size is less than 15 m². Control is required citywide.
- Total control roads
All environmental weed species are required to be controlled regardless of infestation size along specified roads only.
- Roadside response
Ad hoc weed control to meet the concerns of the public, where these are in line with the Strategy and are cost effective.

If best practice guidelines are followed, roadside weed control should expand over the next five years to include more areas of total control roads and/or larger areas of control or selected species. This can be achieved, despite constant reinvasion, through the effective and efficient use of weed control methodologies and native revegetation with healthy and stabilising plants. Over time weed densities should reduce and therefore costs for controlling the same stretch of road should decrease to a low, stable level.

A141-A159

A copy of the 2006 Waitakere Roadside Five Year Work Programme is attached at pages A141 to A159.

4. 2006 Waitakere Animal Pest Strategy

There has previously been no animal pest strategy produced for Waitakere. An Animal Pest Strategy is required for Waitakere to ensure a coordinated, strategic approach to animal pest control that utilises the best methodologies and technology available. The Strategy directs Waitakere City Council's approach to the management of animal pests as an essential component to the restoration of native ecosystems and achievement of Waitakere City Council's vision for the City as stated in Green Network Strategic Platform.

Animal pests can severely compromise the ability of an ecosystem to function and thereby provide essential services to the environment. It is therefore important to ensure the methodologies used to manage animal pests are the most efficient and effective use of resources possible, while utilising the most successful and environmentally sensitive methodologies available. Failure to effectively manage key animal pest threats, particularly at ecologically valuable sites, will inevitably lead to the loss of biodiversity and the progressive degradation of native ecological communities.

The principle aim of the Animal Pest Strategy is to strategise towards the control of animal pests in Waitakere, to levels low enough to allow populations of native invertebrates, reptiles, amphibians, birds and bats to increase, and native flora to flourish.

These 4 objectives define the Strategy's approach to achieving the Green Network and Animal Pest Strategy's goals. A series of targets are specified for each objective:

1. Protect priority (high value) areas from the impacts of animal pests;
2. Support and facilitate community understanding, and involvement in the management of animal pest impacts;
3. Minimise future costs via adoption of Best Practice Guidelines;
4. Address legal responsibilities under the Regional Pest Management Strategy.

A160-A199 A copy of the 2006 Waitakere Animal Pest Strategy is attached at pages A160 to A199.

5. 2006 Waitakere Five Year Animal Pest Work Programme

A200-A227 The 2006 Waitakere Five Year Animal Pest Work Programme attached at pages A200 to A227 includes tables which list priority reserves for the next five years for animal pest control programmes. The highest priority for year one is given to those reserves currently under animal pest management programmes. This ensures that resources already invested in the maintenance of parks are utilised effectively. Year one should see possum densities in current reserves reduced further to 5% trap catch rates so that additional reserves can be included in the second year of the control programme. The prioritised list of reserves provided for years 2-5 of the animal control programme follows the procedures outlined in the animal pest strategy. That is, the ecological significance, urgency of control, practicality of control and significance to iwi are considered during the prioritisation process. Within each group of parks with the same prioritisation score, a higher rank was given to larger reserves over smaller reserves. This is due to the fact possums are more likely to have home sites within larger reserves with greater food resources. With the exception of year one, reserves were not allocated to a specific year of the programme, as there is currently not enough data available to enable accurate planning. Allocating reserves requires adaptive management as the programme progresses.

Trapping

Possoms will be controlled using Timms traps at 50m spacing in all but two reserves. It is assumed that the current year one reserves will be in the maintenance phase of control as they have been controlled in the previous year, so they should require one visit per year. Trap catch rates will be recorded as a monitoring tool for each reserve, so that the frequency of control can be adjusted accordingly. Assessing monitoring results in the above manner will help calculate resources available to commence initial control in additional reserves the following year.

Monitoring trap catch rates will allow for efficient management of possum populations within significant sites. The accumulation of data will allow for increased accuracy in scheduling work programmes and assessing the number of hectares of control possible within certain budgets. It should be noted however that ongoing pest control would be required within most Waitakere Reserves.

Bait Stations

Bait station control is a cheaper and more effective control method than trapping, but is only recommended in reserves closed to the public such as the Kay Road Closed Balefill and the Waitakere Quarry. An adaptive management regime will also be required for possum control using Brodifacoum in bait stations. As in trapping, bait take should be recorded as a monitoring tool for each reserve so that the frequency of control can be adjusted accordingly.

In a similar manner to trapping, these monitoring results will help assess what resources are available to include additional priority reserves in the next year of control.

Public Consultation

A228-A251

Public consultation was undertaken to gain input from interested parties to the Pest Management Strategy review. This included public notices in the New Zealand Herald and the Western Leader and a mail out to known interested parties. Submissions were received from 8 people or organisations. Submissions received are attached at pages A228 to A251.

RESOURCES

Waitakere City Council currently allocates yearly budgets to undertake pest control within the City on Council owned land including parks and roadsides. The 2006-2016 Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP) provides \$784,000 per year for the management of weed and pest control within the City.

The documents presented in this report provide the strategic direction and guidance on implementation for the budgets allocated for pest control within the City. The strategies and five year work programmes allow for flexibility to work within the budgets allocated and adapt to any changes that might occur within the budgets over the subsequent five years.

There are no additional resources, beyond what has been identified in the LTCCP required to undertake the work outlined in the five year plans.

CONCLUSION

Waitakere City Council recognises the importance of protecting the indigenous flora and fauna within the City and providing the conditions for it to survive and flourish. It is recognised that animal pests and invasive environmental weeds pose an on-going threat to Waitakere's indigenous species and ecosystems.

The 2006 Waitakere Parks Pest Management Plans and Five Year Work Programmes will contribute to the Green Network strategic platform by providing a clear direction for the implementation of pest control in Waitakere within the current budget allocations identified in the LTCCP. The strategies aim to provide the most cost-effective methodologies and techniques to achieve pest control on Council owned land for the upcoming five years.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the 2006 Waitakere Pest Management Plans and Five Year Work Programmes report be received.
2. That the City Development Committee endorse and adopt the 2006 Waitakere Weed Management Strategy, the 2006 Waitakere Parks Five Year Work Programme, the 2006 Waitakere Roadside Five Year Work Programme, the 2006 Waitakere Animal Pest Strategy and the 2006 Waitakere Five Year Animal Pest Work Programme.

Report prepared by: Jacki Byrd, Parks Ecology and Policy Coordinator.



7 AUCKLAND CURLING AND EXTREME TRAMPOLINE LAND REQUEST

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of this report is to seek direction from the City Development Committee as to the next steps in finding solutions to Auckland Curling Club and Extreme Trampoline Club accommodation issues and to seek approval to conduct further studies on emerging and alternative sports.

BACKGROUND

In late 2006 both the Auckland Curling Club and Extreme Trampoline Club, separately, approached Leisure Services staff requesting assistance in finding suitable Council or other land, to build facilities to accommodate their sports. Council officers have met with both clubs to ascertain their requirements from Council. Both clubs are operating in conditions far from ideal for the current members to benefit fully and for the growth of their clubs/sports.

Both clubs have asked Council to supply them with land so as they can build facilities to provide for their sports.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

Sport plays a major role in the community by providing an avenue for individual recreation, health and fitness but also for providing social connection in the community. Council supports a number of sports in the City via provision and maintenance of parks, allocation of grants to clubs, support to organisations such as Sports Waitakere and the provision of a Council Community Liaison Officer who works with clubs as well as other community sectors.

The support Council provides meets Council's strategic platform of Strong Communities, where Council aims to develop the City as a renowned hub of social activity, arts, leisure sports and recreation for the wellbeing of the community.

ISSUES

Auckland Curling Club

Curling is an Olympic recreational sport of which New Zealand is represented in the Winter Olympics. Curling is an indoor, ice based sport similar to lawn bowls whereby the object is to place the stones closest to the target. Auckland Curling is New Zealand's largest curling club with 220 active members and has been in operation since November 1996. The club currently has 16 teams in the premier league and runs a secondary schools competition at both Auckland and National levels. In 2005, 25 secondary schools competed in the Auckland competition and a further 4 teams competed in the Under 21 competition. The club also hosts corporate events. Three male and two female players from the club represented New Zealand at the 2006 Winter Olympics.

Auckland Curling is the regional sports organisation for the sport and is currently based out of Paradise Ice Skating, Botany Downs, where they book time on the ice to accommodate their sport. This is proving not to be ideal for a number of reasons. The quality of the ice, lack of availability of ice time and difficulties in setting up and packing away heavy stones are the principal issues facing Auckland Curling at their current location.

The ice at Paradise Ice Skating is not ideal for Curling as the ice is groomed for ice skating and tends to be a lot rougher than is required for Curling. Having a purpose built facility will allow the ice to be groomed as is required for the sport creating a better playing experience. Auckland Curling would buy a specific ice groomer to maintain the ice.

As the Paradise Ice Skating is principally for ice skating and ice hockey, as a secondary user, curling is left with time slots not wanted for ice skating and ice hockey. This means to participate in the sport members must be able to play at off peak times which at times means 5.30am - 8.30am and during the day when many of the members are at work or school. Club players get to play only once a week with no time for training whilst secondary school players only get on the ice once every three weeks. For those players serious about the sport or to participate in intensive training before international competition, they must travel to Naseby where New Zealand's only dedicated curling rink is situated.

Curling's main pieces of equipment are the stones. These are large round, flat bottomed stones with a handle for launching them down the lane. Each stone weighs 20kg and each player has four stones. The stones need to be kept refrigerated to keep them the same temperature as the ice otherwise they melt tracks in the ice. The stones should ideally be left on site for health and safety reasons due to the weight and to maintain the temperature of the stones. At present the stones need to be taken off site so this adds to the setup time and eats into the limited playing times available to the club.

The Auckland Curling Club are asking Council to either provide them with a building in which to set up their sport or to provide them with suitable land on which a facility can be built. The building would be approximately 65 x 25 metres which would accommodate four lanes, changing areas, club room and a viewing area. The club has stated they will meet the costs of building the facility estimated at approximately \$1.5m. This would be funded through the international sporting body which has funds and loans available to expand the sport globally, fundraising nationally through funding agencies. Operationally the club believe it will be self sufficient and to date it has proven to be so. With the ability to increase membership the risk of not meeting its bills is seen as low.

Extreme Trampoline Club

The Extreme Trampoline Club have been without a permanent home since its inception in 2001. When the club formed it was based at the Waitakere Athletics Club on Central Park Drive but was forced to move when The Trusts Stadium development began. From there they moved to a facility on McLeod Road as a commercial lease proved to be too expensive. In 2003-2004 the club was based at Lynrey Gymnastics on Olympic Park. However, the increasing membership of the gymnastics club meant that the lease was not renewed for the trampoline club. In 2005 the club was based out of Avondale College which also proved to be unsuitable due to lack of availability, expense and the logistics of setting up and pulling down the equipment. The club is currently based out of Kelston Community Centre and although affordable the limited time available and the time consuming nature of setting up and packing down reduces training time.

When the club was at its strongest there were 180 athletes with 10 coaches. Today there are 35 athletes with three coaches. The decline in membership is directly related to their facility limitations and with the current setup can only accommodate the present numbers. The club believes that with a permanent home and with six fixed trampolines membership targets of 500 and 20 coaches are not unachievable. Membership would target age ranges from 12 months to 60+ years and programmes would range from high performance to recreational. The facility would also cater to activities such as cheerleading, acrobatics, circus performing, tumbling, baby gymnastics, pre-school programmes, family fitness and adult programmes.

Extreme Trampoline are requesting Council assist the club in finding a suitable piece of land on which they can build a purpose built facility. The building would need to be approximately 40 metres square to accommodate six trampolines and the administration of the club. The building needs to be approximately two stories high to allow the trampolinists clearance to perform their manoeuvres. Extreme Trampoline would fund raise for the cost of the building.

Council's Support for Sports

Council supports a number of sports through a number of mechanisms ranging from provision and maintenance of sports fields, courts and indoor facilities such as Massey Recreation Centre, to low interest loans and grants.

Council invests approximately \$1.3m operationally on sports fields and sports facilities on parks per annum, which caters principally to sports such as soccer, rugby, rugby league, cricket, softball and kilikiti. In 2006/2007 over \$500,000 will be spent on capital improvements to sports fields and facilities. Council invests over \$2.5m per annum on indoor facilities such as the Massey Recreation Centre, West Wave Aquatics Facility and The Trusts Stadium to cater to sports such as basketball, netball, swimming, water polo, indoor soccer and volleyball. Council is supporting the redevelopment of Waitakere Netball's administration building in response to the strong growth in the sport. Council has supported a number of other local sports and clubs through low interest loans and grants and sports such as badminton and tennis have taken advantage of this support to advance their sport. A number of lower profile sports are supported through subsidised hire of facilities such as Council's Community Centres.

Council's investment in the sports arena is significant and a number of high quality indoor and outdoor facilities are provided and supported to enable high quality sporting experiences enjoyed for the public in a variety of sports. What is noted, however, is that most of the sports supported by Council are mainstream sports. Whilst these sports are extremely important to the wellbeing of the community for leisure and recreation some of these sports are struggling with decreasing memberships and others find increasing memberships a problem. Waitakere was recently identified in a Sports and Recreation New Zealand report, as being the most inactive City in New Zealand.

Clubs are finding they have strong memberships in the junior ranks but tend to lose members in the transition from junior to senior with most dropping out in the teen years. A number of reasons can be behind this fall out including issues such as boredom with the sport, other interests, entering the workforce eating into recreation time and apathy. Whilst club memberships are wavering the 'pay-to-play' market is seeing an increase. People are not prepared to commit to the time and cost of annual memberships and would rather play their sports when it suits them.

Whilst the mainstream sports are seeing challenges in maintaining memberships from the teen years the emerging and non traditional sports are seeing an upsurge in participation. Sports such as mountain biking and X-Games type sports continue to grow and in particular appeal to the teen market. The increasing migrant populations will also start to influence popularity in certain sports and it is anticipated to see continued growth in hockey and soccer.

It is important for Council to be receptive and responsive to these new and emerging sports and be prepared to consider how Council might support these sports in the future as these sports may be the sports that give a new enthusiasm to the community to get involved in sporting activities which the mainstream sports are presently unable to provide. Council also needs to consider whether they wish to support a number of alternative sports to a degree which Waitakere has a unique offering able to draw participants from the Auckland region, nationally and internationally contributing to the vibrancy and economics of the City.

Options for Extreme Trampoline Club and Auckland Curling Club

The biggest issues for the Extreme Trampoline Club and the Auckland Curling Club is finding appropriate land to build their facilities. Both sports have unique building requirements and as such they do not lend to blending in with park like surroundings and would be more suited to industrial areas.

The Waterhole on Parrs Park is looking to expand their facility and there may be a possibility that a curling facility would complement the swimming facility. In terms of co-generation it is a very energy efficient relationship as the energy required to heat a pool conversely cools the curling facility and visa versa however it has not been explored yet as to whether the facility can fit on the park or not.

Corban Green on Corbans Avenue, Henderson may provide a solution to Extreme Trampoline as Corban Green sits on the edge of an industrial park and borders with Bruce McLaren Intermediate. This location has no issues with interrupting visual amenities and could be of benefit to the school by offering additional activities to the pupils and youth in the area.

These are but some of the options that may be available and are in need of further exploration to ascertain whether they are viable or not. If Council wishes to explore these and other options in more detail, Leisure Services will investigate options and report back to the City Development Committee for further discussion.

Strategic Issues for the Allocation of Council Resources

There are larger strategic issues to be considered in the use of Council land or the provision of Council resources for sports and community groups. One of those issues is equity and how Council ensures that its resources are allocated where the most benefit will accrue in support of its strategic vision. Further work needs to be carried out in this area, in particular the development of a clear process to determine priorities. In this regard further development of the Leisure Strategy, which is currently underway, will provide guidance on this matter.

RESOURCES

No resources have been allocated in the 2006/2007 Annual Plan specifically for investigation for the Extreme Trampoline Club and the Auckland Curling Club. However, at this stage only Council officer time will be spent investigating the options available so no additional cost is expected.

CONCLUSION

Council supports a number of mainstream sports in the City via provision and maintenance of facilities, loans and grants. In recent years a number of emerging and alternative sports are becoming more popular and Council needs to consider how it will support these sports into the future.

Presently the Extreme Trampoline Club and the Auckland Curling Club have approached Council to assist their sports by sourcing land for their sports to set up a home. Both sports are currently operating in far from ideal facilities which have caused the decline in their sport inhibiting growth.

Some potential solutions have been identified if the Council wishes to pursue this matter further for the clubs. However, these options need to be explored in greater detail. If the City Development Committee wish to explore options on behalf of these two sports then Leisure Services will report back on options by May 2007.

The Council will however need to consider the larger picture of how Council wishes to support emerging and alternative sports as they are playing an increasing role in the active lifestyles in the City. This aspect will be addressed in the work that is underway on the development of the Leisure Strategy.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Auckland Curling Club and Extreme Trampoline Club Land Request report be received.
2. That the City Development Committee endorse Leisure Services exploring land options for the Auckland Curling Club and the Extreme Trampoline Club and that the results be reported back to the City Development Committee by May 2007.

Report prepared by: Louis Rattray, Leisure Services Manager.



8 MANUKAU HARBOUR ALL TIDE BOAT RAMP FACILITY

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of this report is to advise the City Development Committee of a request from Councillor Penny Sefuiva, Chairman of Auckland City's Arts, Culture and Recreation Committee, for a financial contribution in the 2007/2008 financial year to the Manukau All Tide Boat Ramp Trust Board for the development of an all tide boat ramp facility for the Manukau Harbour, and to establish whether the Committee wishes, in principle, to support such a development so that a more detailed report can be brought back during the Annual Plan deliberation process.

BACKGROUND

A252

On 19 December 2006 Councillor Penny Sefuiva, Chairman of Auckland City's Arts, Culture and Recreation Committee, wrote a letter to His Worship Mayor Bob Harvey requesting financial support for the development of an all tide boat ramp facility for the Manukau Harbour, attached at page A252. This development is currently being championed by the Manukau All Tide Boat Ramp Trust Board (the Board). The Board has established, after some extensive research, that the optimal site for such a facility is adjacent to the Ports of Auckland complex near Onehunga Wharf and that the approximate cost of such a facility is between \$6-8 million.

At the meeting of Auckland City's Arts, Culture and Recreation Committee held on Friday, 10 December 2004, the following resolution was passed:

"FACILITY PARTNERSHIP FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2005/2006

That support for the Manukau All-Tide Ramp Trust project for the development of an all tide ramp on the Manukau Harbour be affirmed as an urgent regional necessity through:

- (i) allocation of an amount of \$1,000,000 partnership funding subject to substantial contributions from other local authorities,*
- (ii) discussions with the Auckland Regional Council, Manukau and Waitakere Cities, through the Mayoral Forum and other forums regarding a substantial commitment to joint funding for this regional facility, including exploring the Auckland Regional Council's possible commitment to fund the resource consent fees as their contribution and officers facilitate discussions with Manukau and Waitakere City Councils as soon as possible.*
- (iii) That \$50,000 be allocated in the 2005/2006 year as feasibility funding to assist both approved and potential new projects to progress through various stages of project development."*

Auckland City committed further support, in the form of council officer's time, at a Facility Partnership Workshop held on Monday, 11 April 2005:

"That officers continue to work with the Manukau All Tide Ramp Trust in order to progress the proposal for an all tide ramp in the Manukau Harbour through the following avenues:

- Facilitating discussions with local authorities in the Manukau Harbour region in order to confirm support for the proposal and of obtaining financial commitment.*
- Progressing the proposal through the mayoral forum to reinforce regional support."*

At the meeting of Manukau City Council's Community Development Committee held on 12 October 2005 a resolution was passed which indicated their support, in principle, for a regional all tide boat ramp facility to provide access to the Manukau Harbour at Onehunga. Manukau City Council has subsequently granted \$600,000 to the Board for the development of the all tide boat ramp.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

Waitakere City Council's "Strong Communities" platform provides the basis for this report. This platform is about how Council supports the health and wellbeing of the City's residents, making leisure and recreational facilities accessible to communities. The absence of an all tide, all weather boat ramp facility servicing the Manukau Harbour, one of the major waterways the City's residents interact with, is a deficit in the recreational facilities accessible to Waitakere's community.

ISSUES

The all tide boat ramp, although physically being outside of Waitakere, has the potential to be a valuable regional facility which, with the planned improved roading infrastructure (State Highway 20), would be easily accessible for residents of Waitakere who frequent the Manukau Harbour. Currently, there are no all tide boat ramps servicing the Manukau Harbour in Waitakere. The following is a list of the parks in the City that have boat ramps which enable access to the Manukau Harbour:

Park Name	Number of Boat Ramps
ALEX JENKINS MEMORIAL	1
FRENCH BAY ESPLANADE	3
LANDING RESERVE	1
WOOD BAY RESERVE	2
ARMOUR BAY RESERVE	1
FOSTER BAY RESERVE	1
LITTLE HUIA BEACH	2
WARNER PARK	1
SANDYS PARADE	1

The lack of such a facility at present not only affects recreational users, but also emergency services including the Coastguard and the Police, who could use such a facility to coordinate a response to an emergency situation. Manager: Emergency Management advised that such a facility would provide easy access for an emergency waterborne response that the Coastguard may wish to mount on the Manukau Harbour which the boat ramps at Huia and Cornwallis are not currently capable of handling. He also noted that the major flight path into Auckland International Airport is over the entrance to the Manukau Harbour. Any accident involving an aircraft could impact on shorelines on the Manukau Harbour and easy access for waterborne emergency vehicles would be advantageous in such a situation and would aid an emergency response mounted by Waitakere's emergency services.

Countering these arguments in favour of Council support for such a facility is Council's already full list of priorities for works within Waitakere, as set out in the Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP). Council in considering this funding request from Auckland City needs to decide what priority this project has alongside the others it is committed to undertaking, not to mention the other worthy projects that it could not accommodate within its LTCCP programme.

Should the Committee decide that there is merit in exploring further such a development a full report can be provided through the Annual Plan process so that consideration can be given as to whether a financial contribution should be made.

RESOURCES

Total cost of the all tide boat ramp is estimated to be between \$6-8 million. Auckland City have committed \$1 million and Manukau City have committed \$600,000. Should the Committee decide that they support in principle the development of an all tide, all weather boat ramp facility servicing the Manukau Harbour from Onehunga a report will be brought back through the Annual Plan process with further information on the project. This will allow the Councillors to decide what level of commitment they feel is suitable. It will also allow a full analysis to be undertaken in terms of Section 77 of the Local Government Act 2002.

CONCLUSION

The request from Councillor Penny Sefuiva, Chairman of Auckland City's Arts, Culture and Recreation Committee, for a financial contribution in the 2007/2008 financial year to the Board for the development of an all tide boat ramp facility for the Manukau Harbour needs to be considered by the Committee. If, in principle, the Committee decides to support such a development, a more detailed report on this can be brought back during the Annual Plan process.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Manukau Harbour All Tide Boat Ramp Facility report be received.
2. That the City Development Committee consider the request for support from Auckland City Council for financial support for the development of an all tide, all weather boat ramp servicing the Manukau Harbour at Onehunga.

Report prepared by: Stephen McDaid, Committee Secretary.



9 NEW LYNN TRANSIT ORIENTATED DEVELOPMENT PROJECT UPDATE

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of this report is to provide a monthly update to the City Development Committee on the progress of the New Lynn Transit Orientated Development (TOD) project.

BACKGROUND

Following the requisition of the rail land and track by the Crown, the Government appointed The Treasury as its rail policy and funding agency, and ONTRACK as its delivery agency.

On 19 December 2006 the Government announced the allocation of \$120 million for the trenching of the railway line that runs through the centre of New Lynn. This funding was on condition of a \$20 million financial contribution by the Council. The implications of this are being analysed and will be reported back to the Council in due course.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

The TOD project has been identified as one of the Council's top five projects and represents a substantial investment in the Long Term Council Community Plan 2006-2016 (LTCCP). The TOD project goes beyond the provision of a new rail station and double-tracking a section of the rail line, and will be the catalyst to achieve the desired outcome of a fully functioning transport hub at the centre of a vibrant and active town centre.

ISSUES

Interpreting the Crowns Funding Decision

The Council needs to better understand the scope of the Government's funding decision and the extent to which ONTRACK will manage, construct and fund the respective components of the project. The funding made available to ONTRACK is for construction of a basic open cut trench fit for rail corridor purposes. ONTRACK is responsible for constructing and funding the trench, tracks, platforms and signalling. Auckland Regional Transport Authority (ARTA) is responsible for funding construction (by ONTRACK) of any shelters, lighting, security, access and other platform accessories such as ticketing.

More work is needed to clarify what the basic trench and railway station may look like, before there can be any certainty on additional work and costs necessary to ensure a quality of finish appropriate for the town centre. It is clear that any cover over the trench, and associated reinforcing for development purposes, will need to be funded separately from the Government's allocation, possibly from the exercise of other development rights.

The Council has called for tenders for professional services to provide advice not only on road realignments, but also the finished look of the trench, station and bus interchange.

Investigation of Development Opportunities

Treasury has an expectation that ONTRACK will investigate development opportunities along and adjacent to the rail corridor in order to realise the value of ONTRACK's air rights and recover part of the Crown contribution to the TOD project. At its meeting on 14 December 2006 Council agreed to investigate development opportunities and other sources of funding contribution.

Council officers will be meeting with ONTRACK property officers and Waitakere Properties Limited to identify possible development opportunities warranting further investigation. These opportunities may involve other parties with property interests along and adjacent to the rail corridor.

Next Steps

Tender

Expressions of interest for the construction of the trench have been received by ONTRACK. Geotechnical investigations which begun in December 2006 are still being undertaken. The results of these investigations will determine the final construction methodology and final station design. This decision is expected in the next month.

Council officers are in the process of completing the evaluation of the professional services tenders received for those parts of the development for which the Council is responsible (design of road bridges, transport interchange, and architectural improvements to the station). There will be a meeting to discuss tenders on 9 February 2007.

Land Use Consents

The Council and ONTRACK have shared responsibility for the consent applications associated with the construction of the trench. Land use consents will be required from both the Auckland Regional Council and Waitakere City Council and it is intended to stage the varying applications where appropriate to ensure the associated regulatory processes run according to anticipated timeframes. Tenders for planning consultants will be called for once the construction tenders have been awarded.

Council officers are negotiating the acquisition of land parcels required for the construction of the road bridges and associated works through the Public Works Act process.

Consultation

The Council has been undertaking a consultation programme with New Lynn landowners in proximity to the rail corridor over the last year. This will become a more intensive process now that there is certainty of funding.

Officers have been investigating options for a location in the New Lynn town centre that would be suitable for establishing a site office for the rail project. The site office will provide a base for consultation, and will have construction, road closures and public transport information available for the public.

There is a core team of Council officers who are working with the communications advisors from both ONTRACK and ARTA as to how best to manage consultation, the media, and general public concerns during the construction period.

Relationships

The Council continues to have a good relationship with all the stakeholder organisations at both officer and political levels. Officers are now in the process of preparing project charters to work with ARTA and ONTRACK in order to clarify objectives, working arrangements, reporting requirements along with roles and responsibilities.

RESOURCES

Project management has now been sourced internally.

The core team which has been working on the TOD project has been expanded to ensure that adequate technical and strategic resources from across the Council are in place for the next stage of the Project. A comprehensive project scoping workshop is proposed in February 2007 and this will lead to the completion of a detailed project plan for the next stage of the project.

The budget allowances in the LTCCP for this project sit across the City Development and Transport Assets sections of the Council. It is yet to be determined in detail what works the Council's contribution of \$20 million will go towards. There is also an allowance within the LTCCP for the acquisition of land associated with the new road connections and bridges that are proposed. An overview of all the budget items identified in the LTCCP will be presented at the Committee meeting.

CONCLUSION

The funding for the rail trench at New Lynn has been approved by the Government with construction due to start in the third quarter of 2007. Officers continue to work through the identified issues both internally and with the various government agencies. In particular, officers are seeking to clarify the basic design of the trench and railway station in order to advise the Council whether additional funding will be required to ensure the finished project is indeed appropriate for the town centre. In anticipation that additional funds will be required to enhance the stations finished look as well as covering the trench to enable future development, Council officers are working with ONTRACK property to identify potential development opportunities.

RECOMMENDATION

That the New Lynn Transit Orientated Development Project Update report be received.

Report prepared by: Caisey Marter: Strategic Planner



REPORTS FROM THE SUBCOMMITTEES

10 CULTURE, ARTS AND EVENTS SPECIAL COMMITTEE

THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE SUBMITS THE FOLLOWING REPORT OF ITS MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 13 DECEMBER 2006

MATTERS CONSIDERED

A253-A256

The Special Committee dealt with a number of items for which it has delegated powers to act and a copy of the minutes of the meeting is attached at pages A253 to A256.

The Special Committee Recommends:

That the Meeting report of the Culture, Arts and Events Special Committee held on Wednesday, 13 December 2006 be received.

JP Lawley
CHAIRMAN



11 **PROJECTS SPECIAL COMMITTEE**

**THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE SUBMITS THE FOLLOWING REPORT OF ITS MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 6 DECEMBER 2006**

MATTERS CONSIDERED

A257-A259

The Special Committee dealt with a number of items for which it has delegated powers to act and a copy of the minutes of the meeting is attached at pages A257 to A259.

The Special Committee Recommends:

That the Meeting report of the Projects Special Committee held on Wednesday, 6 December 2006 be received.

RP Dallow, QPM, JP
CHAIRMAN

