

SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL

20 SEPTEMBER 2017

AGENDA ITEM E1

REPORT FROM HER WORSHIP THE MAYOR

Purpose of Report

To update Council on activities and issues which have arisen since my last report to Council.

Recommendations

Her Worship the Mayor recommends that Council:

1. *Receives the information.*

1. Economic Success and Long Term Plan

South Wairarapa has featured positively in national media over the last few weeks. The recent Infometrics report rated the South Wairarapa District as the leading district for economic growth in New Zealand. House sales are well ahead of last year and prices have increased by 29% from last year. More people seem to be choosing to buy and live in the district with rental accommodation hard to find. The sales have been across all towns with Featherston seeing a very buoyant market. The number of building and resource consents continue to be high.

All areas of the economy are performing well, tourism especially has seen a 15% increase in guest nights and tourist operators, the hospitality industry and retail businesses have reported good trade over the winter season.

Our schools are reporting higher than expected rolls and are planning for future growth.

Council has begun the work developing the 2018/2028 Long Term Plan (LTP). The information regarding our economic growth and change in demographics will be used to plan where we want to be in the next 10 to 20 years.

All councillors, a representative from each Community Board and the Maori Standing Committee are on the LTP Working Party. This LTP will be the most important planning document the council has developed as it will be the plan, if there is an amalgamation, which will go forward to the new council and set the direction that the South Wairarapa People have determined. The LTP will be required to be the base for any new council planning.

SWDC is planning to use a variety of means to gain feedback, suggestions and input into the LTP. In October we are planning to meet with various

sector groups and ask what they want recognised in the plan and their dreams for the future of South Wairarapa.

The LTP Working Party is meeting fortnightly and will continue to do so until the plan is released for consultation in March.

2. Meetings

I have reported on the CDEM and RLT committees in this report. I also attended the Mayoral Forum along with Mr Crimp.

3. Civil Defence Emergency management CDEM

Meeting – Date & Venue	25 August Upper Hutt District Council Upper Hutt
Key issues from meeting	WREMO Annual Report was presented It was the final meeting for Bruce Pepperell as the Group Controller but he has been appointed as alternate group and local controller. The Annual Report noted the highlights of the past five years.
General	There was a workshop prior to the meeting to give Mayors some information on declaring state of emergencies. Scenarios were presented with small groups deciding if a declaration should happen.
Meeting – Date & Venue	27 August Kiwi Hall Featherston
Speakers	Representatives of Department of Internal Affairs and Fab Feathy
Key issues from meeting	The meeting was to give DIA an insight into the community of Featherston. Fab Feathy have applied to the Community Led Development Fund and this workshop enabled DIA officials to understand the wants and needs of the community and the ability of the community to undertake the proposals in the Community Plan
Specific item/s for Council consideration	Council and Featherston Community Board are stakeholders in the proposal and will need to work closely with the Fab Feathy group if the funding is approved and the project is started.
General	There was a very positive feel from the 50 or more people who attended. DIA were very impressed with how the community showed they understood what the community wanted and needed and how the relationships and groups in the community could work together to achieve the goals.

4. Regional Transport Committee Work and Meeting

Meeting – Date & Venue	29 August Level 2 Westpac Stadium Wellington
Key issues from meeting	Progress on the Regional Land Transport Plan, a variation to the RLT Plan for safety improvements SH2 Mt Bruce and purchasing sites at Waterloo and Paraparaumu for more Park and Ride parking. Updates from NZTA on their projects. Including Transmission Gully, Kapiti Expressway Peka to Otaki and Haywards SH58 updates.
Specific item/s for Council consideration	Cape Palliser Road and Whatarangi Cliffs work is mentioned in the report.
General	There was a workshop prior to the meeting to discuss the Regional Transport Long Term Plan mid-point review. The workshop is to ensure that the Long Term Plan does not need major changes. Discussion centered on resilience as the November earthquake and the recent high rainfall events has brought the need to ensure that the regions transport systems are able to withstand disruption but still enable people to travel throughout the region.

5. Correspondence

5.1 Inwards

DATE	INWARDS	SUBJECT
21 July 17	Mistry of Youth Development	Partnership Fund
8 August 17	Hon Anne Tolley, Minister of Local Government	Three Waters Review

5.2 Outwards

DATE	OUTWARDS	SUBJECT
4 August 17	MA Bateman, President Featherston Memorial RSA Inc	Featherston War Memorial - managing repair work and ongoing maintenance.
10 August 17	Featherston resident	Dog registration fees explained.
15 August 17	Office of Treaty Settlements	Wairarapa Treaty Settlement Negotiations Council's resolution DC2017/96
15 August 17	Fab Feathy	Letter in support of application for funding to the Community-Led Development Programme.
22 August 17	Greytown Community Board	Letter of support for the application for New Zealand's most beautiful town award.
29 August 17	Creative Communities	Letter of support for the 2017 Kokomai Creative Festival.
30 August 17	Martinborough Resident	Explaining Council's advice in respect of a complaint relating to property damage.

Prepared By: Her Worship the Mayor, Viv Napier

