

Environmental Reference Group

Meeting Minutes

Absolutely Positively
Wellington City Council
Me Heke Ki Pōneke

Details:
Date: Monday, 10 August 2020
Time: 5:02pm – 7:08pm
Venue: Ngake 16.09, Level 16, 113 The Terrace
Chair: Eleanor West

Members present: Steven Almond George Hobson
Lynn Cadenhead Martin Payne
Arron Cox Clare Stringer
Isla Day Chris Watson
Sally Faisandier Eleanor West

Councillors present: Cr Teri O’Neill

Democracy Services Staff: Hedi Mueller, Democracy Advisor

ELT Member:

Topic	Description	Start time
1.	Welcome & Apologies Apologies were received from Isla Day for late arrival and Mike Britton, Councillor Paul and Moana Mackey for absence. Moved Eleanor West, seconded George Hobson CARRIED	5:02pm
2.	Conflicts of Interest Eleanor declared a potential conflict of interest if Green Building Certification was discussed in regards to Te Ngākau Civic Square and the Central Library, as she works for New Zealand Green Building Council.	5:04pm
3.	Update from Councillor O’Neill Councillor O’Neill discussed projects that are out for consultation, and advised that Councillor Paul is the Chairperson of the Te Atakura Steering Group. The Terms of Reference for the Steering Group are available in the Te Atakura Implementation Plan. Cr O’Neill will follow up about the availability of climate modelling in regards to the LGWM Golden Mile decision.	5:05pm

	<p>Action: Sally to circulate the climate modelling document.</p>	
4.	<p>Democracy Services Manager - Introduction Jennifer Parker introduced herself and discussed the level of catering and level of detail in the minutes.</p>	5:10pm
5.	<p>Presentation: Te Ngākau Civic Square and Central Library <i>Lucy Lang, Karen Wallace and Vida Christeller</i></p> <p>Lucy, Karen and Vida discussed the five options out for consultation in regards to the future of the Central Library. Other options have been reviewed and discarded, but the consultation welcomes comments on these as well as the five options up for consideration. The consultation is live until 7 September 2020.</p> <p>Key outcomes that need to be considered include resilience, public space outcomes, uses of the library in the 21st century, heritage, accessibility, climate change, cost and time.</p> <p>There is a legislative requirement for the council to have a preferred option, which is Option C. This gives a bit more opportunity for sustainable features – however fullest extent of sustainability would be in a new build, but then demolition waste would need to be dealt with.</p> <p>Members discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The description of the factors being available in the Statement of Proposal • That if Option E went ahead, the Council would still need to respond to the current Central Library building – for example by fixing it, leasing it, or selling it. • That the Council has included contingencies for cost and time frame, and these are built into the figures listed in the consultation document. • The height of the ground floor above high tide. • That lifespans of each options range from 30-65 years, and that the figures in the consultation document do not take into account normal maintenance spending fifty years down the track. • The potential for the buildings in Te Ngākau Civic Square to have similar facades and keep within the same style/time period. The exterior of the Central Library would be changing even within the remediation Options A-C. • Climate change planning sitting at the foundation of the whole precinct, with a Climate Change Manager role soon to be within the planning team, and new builds within the CBD being future-proofed with higher ground floors. • Use of traditional materials and obtaining a high Green Star rating, and carbon capture through timber. Reusing the existing building would be the lowest carbon output. 	5:12pm

	<p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Officers to advise ERG of the ground floor height above sea level of the Central Library. 	
<p>6.</p>	<p>Presentation: Long Term Plan <i>Lloyd Jowsey</i></p> <p>Lloyd discussed the purpose of the Long Term Plan (LTP), which involves all operations of WCC (including investment projects) and is updated every three years, with the Annual Plans accommodating variations in the intervening years.</p> <p>WCC will be engaging the public at early stages prior to formal consultation at the end of the drafting process. The consultation document focuses on key spending areas and changes to services. Lloyd discussed financial constraints of the 2021-31 LTP, driven by big issues such as LGWM, earthquake investment, and COVID-19 for example.</p> <p>Members discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concept of borrowing money from the next generation. Lloyd advised that it's not possible to take the politics out of councillors' decision making, but can put integrity into compromises and the way priorities are developed, by being transparent. • How the LTP fits with three waters infrastructure for example. Lloyd advised there's a lot of work underway to understand the location and condition of all the pipes. WCC will always be dealing with legacy of past decisions, which were based on what the decision makers knew at that time. Plus there's never a guarantee with the earthquakes potentially shifting the location of the pipes. • Central Government looking at structural reform of waters within local and territorial authorities to align them to something similar to the way WWL works. • The term of the long term plan - Infrastructure is by law 30 years, and asset management plans can go out to 100 years. The LTP is a rolling update every three years. • Whether the LTP is focused on changing services, Lloyd advised that the last LTP had a big focus on infrastructure. <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lloyd to provide titles of the six or seven LTP inputs to Hedi, to be factored into upcoming ERG meetings. 	<p>5:58pm</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Round Table Updates from Portfolio Groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban Development/Urban Growth: Eleanor currently overwhelmed with other work, so can't lead a submission on Central Library or the Spatial Plan, but happy to 	<p>6:23pm</p>

	<p>support if others can lead. Group discussed whether a calendar of upcoming consultations could be made available and that submissions don't need to be huge.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste: The Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw is out for consultation, Steven will lead this. The oral submission will be on 22 October. • Heritage: Lynn discussed the District Plan, and the potential of losing character areas. Lynn has been following up on ongoing issues with streams from last month's meeting. The Onslow Resident's Community Association is holding a Looking After Our Waterways event in September, Lynn will circulate invite. • Transport: Aaron has requested an extension on the Let's Get Wellington Moving Golden Mile consultation, and will highlight lack of climate modelling, and integrate ERG principals into submission. The group to agree on the submission through Google Drive, if there is no comment then agreement is assumed. • Climate Change: Chris is still following Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act request in regards to airport finances. Cr O'Neill suggested he check the Deputy Mayor's press release on airport transactions as well. • Water: Martin discussed the alleged tension between the National Policy Statements on Urban Development and Fresh Water, and keeping seawall strengthening in mind for LTP submission. • Biodiversity: George discussed the Aotearoa Biodiversity Strategy which was released earlier that day. <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stephen to draft Waste Management and Minimisation submission. • Lynn to circulate the invite to ORCA event. • Eleanor to circulate the Generation Zero submission on the Golden Mile. 	
<p>8.</p>	<p>Confirmation of Minutes: That the minutes of the 13 July 2020 were corrected to reflect</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a <i>20% reduction in of total emissions in city</i> • <i>The Rockefeller Brother Fund and the Canadian Government have divested from fossil fuels and airports.</i> <p>Subject to being corrected, the minutes were taken as a true and accurate record of the meeting.</p> <p>Moved Eleanor West, seconded Lynn Cadenhead</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>	<p>6:52pm</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>General Business Innovation Briefs and Social Media: Sally to continue compiling items for newsletters, members of the group can send to Sally as well. Sally to send newsletters to ERG members, with councillors and ELT cc'd in (rather than on behalf of ERG). Social Media to be revisited at a later date.</p> <p>Remit on Bottled Water: ERG will not submit on this, but members could submit via other groups.</p>	<p>6:55pm</p>

10.	Next meeting Agenda items due 4 September 2020 Chair: Clare Stringer.	7:08pm

Actions: The following tables the actions, responsibilities and deadlines from previous meetings

Action Points		Responsibility	Deadline
1.			
2.			

Portfolio Groups	ERG Lead		Council Officer
Transport	Michelle Rush		Joe Hewitt, Team Lead Transport Strategy and Siobhan Procter, Manager Transport and Infrastructure
Climate Change	Chris Watson	Isla Day, Steven Almond	Tom Pettit, Sustainability Manager
Waste	Steven Almond	Clare Stringer	Emily Taylor-Hall, Waste Operations Manager
Water	Chris Paulin		Derek Baxter, City Engineer
Resilience	Lynn Cadenhead		Mike Mendonca, Chief Resilience Officer
Urban Development Agency/Urban Growth	Eleanor West	Sally Faisandier	Vida Christeller, Manager City Design & Place Planning
Mana whenua iwi & Treaty Relations			Nicky Karu, Manager Tira Poutama-Iwi Partnership
Biodiversity/Open Space	Mike Britton	Clare Stringer	Michele Frank, Urban Ecology Manager
Heritage	Lynn Cadenhead	Clare Stringer	Mark Lindsay, Heritage Manager