TAWA COMMUNITY BOARD 10 MAY 2012



REPORT 7 (1215/12/IM)

APPROVAL OF SUBMISSION TO GREATER WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL 2012-2022 DRAFT LONG-TERM PLAN

1. Purpose of Report

To enable Community Board members to approve the Boards submission to the Greater Wellington Regional Council 2012-2022 Draft Long Term Plan.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Tawa Community Board:

- 1. Receive the information.
- 2. Approve the submission of the Tawa Community Board to the Greater Wellington Regional Council 2012-2022 Draft Long-Term Plan attached as appendix 1.

APPENDIX 1

Tawa Community Board Submission to the Greater Wellington Regional Council Long-Term Plan 2012-22

The Tawa Community Board wishes to make the following submission to the **Greater Wellington Regional Council Long-Term Plan 2012-22.**

In general terms the Board supports most of the 12 projects itemised upon the summary sheet, but would make the following comments/observations.

- The Tawa Community Board (TCB) lauds the efforts of Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) to gain co-operation from other Councils within the Wellington area regarding amalgamation. This amalgamation however may render this LTP redundant, but provides a good basis for further consultation. More cooperation and better efficiencies in some areas should reduce the exposure rate increases and ensure commonality of services and bye laws.
- Although the costs are likely to be good estimates at today's prices, the actual rates charged to householders are predicated upon an increasing population over the next 10 years. Considering the current world financial 'concerns', it is unlikely that, prices will remain the same, or that the population will continue to grow with ratepayers able to afford to pay increasing rates.
- 1. Do you support continuing our current levels of service for existing activities?

YES

- 2. Do you support continuing to meet our commitments to provide long-term infrastructure for the region? **YES**
- 3. Do you support continuing with the feasibility work for the Wairarapa Water Use Project? **YES**
- 4. Do you support the proposals for electronic integrated ticketing for public transport?

NO

- The TCB believes that this is a 'nice to have' project', but that ensuring the provision of "Park and Ride' facilities is of greater importance.
- Concern is expressed that while consistently promoting the use of trains the GWRC needs to show more leadership in organising further park and ride facilities in areas badly needing more space e.g. Tawa
- The establishment of more parking areas is likely to have a greater effect on train usage numbers than the plan to upgrade stations so a better use of available funds should be considered
- Tawa has several stations, with varying space for parking. This parking, during the working week, during school term times, are mostly full by 7.30 a.m. As a consequence many of those wishing to get to work in Wellington, DRIVE.
- Similarly those wishing to go off peak choose to drive, as there is nowhere for them to leave their cars at the station.
- Tawa is divided by the railway line and the motorway. Consequently those living on the Eastern hills, (the area with the greatest increase in population and housing) have to cross the railway lines and the motorway to get to the stations with parking. As the parking spaces are already full there is little incentive for them so to do, hence they drive or do not go to Wellington.
- Consideration should be given to 'very local' bus services, around Tawa, hubbed at Tawa Station, coordinated with the train timetable. This would reduce the number of cars using Park & Ride. It would have the added benefit of bringing people to the Tawa town centre, and boosting its vibrancy and economy.

APPENDIX 1

- 5. Do you support additional funding for sustainable land management programmes? **YES**
- 6. Do you support the extension of pest control programmes?

YES

- The TCB strongly supports the work done by the GWRC, and the support given to the various Voluntary groups (e.g. Friends of the Tawa Bush Reserves) in our Community. Whilst much effort has been directed at Possums, more needs to be done to reduce (eliminate) the various rats, goats and mustelids now so rampart. Similarly the eradication of wildings and noxious plants.
- 7. Do you support the proposed improvements to regional parks?

YES

- 8. Do you support the additional funding to earthquake strengthen Greater Wellington buildings or co-location with other local authorities if practicable?
 - Whilst we understand that the Wellington building is owned by the GWRC, the potential merging of Councils in Wellington in the near future, might make the building redundant to needs. We believe that co-location and decentralisation may provide better opportunities.
- 9. Do you support the establishment of an emergency management hub?

YES

- We believe that it makes good sense to establish a hub, thereby increasing efficiency, co-operation, whilst reducing duplication, and costs. The hub needs to be established in a 'safe' zone.
- 10. Do you support selling our forestry cutting rights?

YES

- We agree with this proposal. We presume that the management of the forests would also be subcontracted, thereby ensuring that the quality of the trees improves thereby returning better returns to the community.
- 11. Do you support selling surplus land?

YES

- 12. Do you support continuing with the Wellington Regional Strategy as proposed? YES
 - We believe this has merit, but could be overtaken by the possible merger of the Councils.

Do you want to present your views in person to a hearing committee?

YES

13. Are there any other comments about the proposals in the draft Long-Term Plan you would like to make?

Contact details

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