

TAHUNANUI BUSINESS AND CITIZENS ASSOCIATION INC.

SUBMISSION

LONG TERM PLAN 2021-2031

The Tahunanui Business and Citizens Association Incorporated (TBCA) represents the interests of businesses and residents of Tahunanui

CLIMATE CHANGE (Page 18)

The Tahunanui Business and Citizens Association submits that Council should wait for the Government to release a national climate change policy but should begin planning for a range of mitigation, adaptation and resilience.

TBCA is concerned with Council's focus on hill country erosion with little or no forward planning for the effects of coastal erosion on Tahunanui. The Council needs to review its plan for protecting the Beach area and the Tahunanui flats.

We are also concerned that there is little information about plans for protecting the Airport and Golf Course from erosion which will have an impact on the shifting sands of Tahunanui Beach and flooding of the Tahuna Flats. A precedent has been established by the work recently undertaken at Glenduan.

COVID 19 and Economic Recovery and Regeneration (Page 22)

TBCA supports the allocation of \$350,000 and that this should be targeted at assisting small to medium sized businesses which are the backbone of the Nelson Tasman economy

DEBT vs RATES (Page 26)

While we recognise that Council needs to increase the revenue it generates to meet the projected costs of core services, TBCA does not support the use of the Emergency Fund to smooth rate increases. We believe that a more appropriate method would be to defer expenditure on non essential capital projects until the City has recovered from the financial impacts of Covid 19.

We further contend that Council needs to look seriously at its proposed projects in the light of the level of debt and that the highest priority should go to ensuring that core services and essential infrastructure is in place for the future development and ongoing financial stability of the City.

NELSON CITY CENTRE (Page 29)

While we support some rejuvenation of the City Centre, TBCA is concerned that the CBD seems to be being given priority over the suburban areas of Nelson where the majority of the rate payer base is living.

Tahunanui desperately needs a redevelopment of the current sports facilities to provide a multipurpose facility for sports and surf life saving groups.

The Tahunanui playground facilities need refurbishment and updating.

Long term a facility including water play and modern play equipment similar to the Margaret Mahy playground in Christchurch could be developed in a staged manner to update this very popular public area.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PRECINCT (Page 31)

While TBCA supports the Science and Technology Precinct we do not believe that Council should be involved in funding the precinct at the level planned.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND PARTNERSHIPS (Page 32)

Library Precinct Redevelopment

TBCA contends that before spending rate payer money on a new Library on the current site, relocation of the library away from the inundation zone should be considered.

TBCA considers that construction of a new Library should be deferred until the City is in a better financial position as the option being promoted will place an unwarranted burden on current and future generations.

We accept that some renovation of the current facility may be required while other locations are being investigated.

A Climatorium for Nelson

In relation to the development of a Climatorium we believe this may fit better with the planned Science and Technology Precinct: however this should not be a ratepayer funded project.

HOUSING AFFORDABILITY AND INTENSIFICATION (Page 40)

TBCA supports the redevelopment of apartment-style facilities above commercial premises in the City centre.

TBCA supports similar development in the suburban shopping centres of Victory, Stoke and Tahunanui.

Tahunanui already has a large number of infill sites, some of which are currently being redeveloped. With 15 of the 21 Tahunanui motels housing people in need Council does need to consider what facilities are required in the immediate future.

Intensification does however require careful planning to ensure that basic living, food and recreational facilities are available within the immediate vicinity so that walking is the main mode of movement and there is less requirement for transport.

THE ENVIRONMENT (Page 43)

We are delighted to see that the Long Term Plan states that the “environment is essential to our health and wellbeing and we all have a duty to care for it”. Furthermore the plan states “These reserves are Nelson’s jewels”.

Although Tahunanui Beach is one of the most used reserve areas in the City, Council needs to step up the “duty to care for it” with a better management plan for the beach area following flooding and storms with removal of debris (forestry slash) as this presents a health and safety issue.

TBCA are keen to see the expansion of the kerbside composting programme in our community.

INFRASTRUCTURE (Page 47)

TBCA supports the infrastructure strategy. We believe that without good infrastructure the city will stagnate - Infrastructure are the ‘veins’ of the City.

We note the programme of work to upgrade the storm water infrastructure in Mount street and wish to highlight the need for urgent attention to the problems of storm water on the Tahunanui hills.

TBCA is concerned to learn that Council has deferred spending on the Nelson Regional Treatment Plant at Bells Island once again. Making this decision before consultation is in our view making a mockery of Council's consultation processes. We believe the Regional Treatment Station has had funding deferred so often over the last few years that it is imperative that investment is made now.

Any overflow into the Estuary will have a disastrous effect not only on the Estuary but also on the recreational Beach and the businesses and community that use it. We have in the past experienced Beach closures during peak holiday times.

In our view Council needs to review its decision to defer such work.

TBCA contends that in the light of future sea level rise, planning should be underway now to relocate both Sewage Treatment Plants to inland sites near forests so that treated water can be used to irrigate the forests rather than being discharged directly into the sea.

FINANCIAL STRATEGY (Page 56)

When viewing the pie chart of where rates are spent we note that 14 per cent of rates are being allocated to Transport which seems a disproportionate amount, especially in comparison to the amounts allocated to basic infrastructure.

TBCA has submitted on transport funding and proposals in both the Regional Land Transport Plan 2021-2031 and the Nelson-Tasman Regional Public Transport Plan 2021-2031. We contend that freight and its impacts on our communities cannot be ignored.

We are also concerned that no action has been taken to solve the traffic issues caused by giving priority to Bisley Walk and beach parking over the busy Beach road. The present arrangement is particularly dangerous with an increasing number of vehicles frequently blocking the intersection. We have made submissions on this matter each year for the past six years. We have even offered to supply the Stop sign and yellow paint for the hatched painting required. How long will it take for Council to take action?

A modal shift to Sustainable transport by private users and encouraging the use of public transport will be a generational change and will not solve the current increasing number of heavy transport freight movements through our community. To enable the continued development of a linked 'city to beach and beyond' cycle network, we believe Council must retain the future access option of another route.

It is interesting to note that long before the invention of the motor vehicle early civilisations built roads, creating access for movement people and trading goods.

NELSON AIRPORT AND PORT NELSON (Page 65)

TBCA does not support the combining of these two key assets.

We support the current operational model option 2.

The Association wishes to be heard.

TAHUNANUI BUSINESS & CITIZENS ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

Paul Matheson
Chair

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secretary@tahunanui.co.nz