

# FRAMING OUR FUTURE



## NELSON'S SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY

### Issue No 10 - February 2012

#### **Introduction**

Welcome to our first newsletter for 2012. We hope you managed to take a refreshing break and are feeling ready to take on the year. The year has certainly started off with a bang, with both the recent flooding and the proposed Council amalgamation set to have an impact across a whole range of Council's activities over the coming months.

#### **December heavy rain event**

The unprecedented amount of rain that fell in December (a record of 695mm was recorded at the Maitai Dam) and resulting damage was upsetting for a large number of residents and visitors. It is having and will continue to have a big impact on Council workloads and priorities.

The road to recovery is still to be finalised, as is the likely cost of repairs. But one of the immediate effects is that many staff have been taken away from their normal work to help with developing a recovery plan.

#### **Proposal to amalgamate**

On 31 January the Local Government Commission released a final proposal for the union of the Nelson City and Tasman District Councils. The proposal is subject to approval by a poll of electors in April. Should the union of the two Councils proceed, it offers an exciting opportunity to expand the scope of the next stages of the Framing our Future process to include the wider region.

#### **So what does this mean for Framing Our Future?**

With more limited resources and the possibility of amalgamation, we feel we should hold off on further developing the strategy until we know the result. For this reason, setting up community conversations on the steps we need to take to reach our vision will now take place later in the year. However, the work done to date will continue to make a valuable contribution to the Long

Term Plan, and we will continue to refine the information gathered on the identified community systems.

### **Long Term Plan is coming**

The Long Term Plan for 2012-2022 is currently being prepared and will be released for feedback on 16 April, with submissions welcome until 16 May. This Plan will remain in place for Nelson for at least the next three years whether or not the proposal to amalgamate the two Councils proceeds. It's important that as many people as possible play a part in the process of adopting the Plan so we'll keep you informed of details along the way.

### **Rutherford and Trafalgar Parks redevelopment**

Thank you to everyone who took the time to attend the workshops or share their ideas on line on the Trafalgar and Rutherford Parks Redevelopment Plan.

This feedback and concept plan, being developed by Wraight and Associates Landscape Architects, will be discussed by Council and an updated concept plan will be signed off next month with costs and construction to be fully consulted on in the Long Term Plan in April/May.

Feedback from regular park users, interested groups and the public in general has brought out some great ideas that will help to keep us on the right track to really make this a "people" park.

### **Interesting items on sustainability**

Here are some sustainability related items that you might wish to read up on. Remember these links aren't necessarily anything to do with Council or its policies – just some things that we thought you might find interesting.

The next small thing: How neighbourhood-level sustainability efforts could reshape cities - <http://t.co/j9rMYIJW>

New Scientist: Climate Change for the Perplexed

<http://www.newscientist.com/article/dn11462-climate-change-a-guide-for-the-perplexed.html>

PHYSORG.com: Researchers at the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) at the University of York have played a key role in a new study that shows that implementing 14 key air pollution control measures could slow the pace of global warming, save millions of lives and boost agricultural production

<http://www.physorg.com/news/2012-01-urges-smart-pollution-sources-climate.html>

Natural Resources Defence Council

<http://www.nrdc.org/about/>

### **Contact us**

For more information on the Framing our Future process contact:

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