

# FRAMING OUR FUTURE



## NELSON'S SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY

### Issue No 4 August 2011

#### **The feedback keeps coming**

The 11<sup>th</sup> Framing our Future workshop took place last week with members of the Sustainability Forum. Once again the ideas were exciting and inspiring. See the feedback from this group, along with all the others, here on the Council website. <http://www.nelsoncitycouncil.co.nz/frame-the-future-sustainability-strategy/>.

Please have a read and send us an email at [sustainability@ncc.govt.nz](mailto:sustainability@ncc.govt.nz) with comments or suggestions.

#### **Community voices**

In every issue of this newsletter we want to share with you some of the visions which came out of the community workshops:

- People will expect all buildings to be safe and warm, not just the new ones (Sustainability Forum Workshop)
- Big City opportunities, with a Small Village feel, and values (Aspire Business workshop)
- Encourage and reward private businesses that provide better and more visible facilities for cyclists (Trafalgar Pavilion workshop)

#### **The vision is forming**

Carol Taplin, who worked as the facilitator at the Community and Schools workshops has taken on the task of trying to bring together all this feedback, along with that of the Mayoral Taskforce and Councillors, to create the narrative vision for the Strategy. At the request of the Councillors, this part of the Framing our Future process has been prioritised so it will also be ready to inform the Long Term Plan, which is being worked on later this year.

Under the revised timeline we hope to bring you a draft vision by the last week of September and we'll be seeking feedback until November. This is what the timeline looks like now.

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| August 2011                 | Drafting of vision statement   |
| September/October 2011      | Consultation on the draft Framing our Future vision statement  |
| November 2011               | Council will discuss adopting the Framing our Future vision statement                                      |
| December 2011 to April 2012 | Community focus group meetings will be held to work on components of the draft Framing our Future Strategy |
| March to April 2012         | Community feedback on the draft Long Term Plan   |
| By 30 June 2012             | Council aims to be able to release the draft Framing our Future Strategy for consultation                  |

## **Ecofest and Framing Our Future**

Ecofest this year, on 20 and 21 August at the Trafalgar Centre, is very much a No8 wire event – it's all about making our community strong in the face of change. Because the only sure thing about change is that it does happen, and whether it's climate change or earthquakes – it's good to have a strong resilient community which can adapt. There's a lot to enjoy this year, from the biggest ever range of how-to demos, workshops and seminars, to entertaining challenges such as the two day on-site challenge to find the region's Most Prepared Family (watch out for the challenge pitting the Mayors against the Most Prepared Family in a race against time...).

On the Council stand we will be very actively working with the community to gather more feedback on Nelson's future. There will be filming, interviews and Councillors attending to share their visions. If you or anyone you know has something to say about Nelson's future then please encourage them to come along, as this is a prime opportunity to get your voice heard.

Jointly offered by Nelson City Council and Tasman District Council, Ecofest is a must-do, whether you're looking for information and new ideas, or just a great day out. See the [full programme on the website here](#).

## **From the Mayoral Taskforce**

The next job for the Taskforce is to give their feedback on the draft vision for the Framing our Future Strategy. They'll have the opportunity to comment and make recommendations to help in the preparation of the draft vision that will then be released for everyone to comment on in late September.

## **Monitoring our progress**

As part of the ongoing work around Framing Our Future, we are working closely with the Cawthron Institute to monitor and develop effective processes. The next step is for the Cawthron team to set up some focus groups from people who have expressed an interest in being involved with Framing Our Future. The purpose of the groups will be to review the process to date and take part in discussions on how the community can be involved in the future. Therefore you may be approached by Marg O'Brien from Cawthron to ask if you are interested in participating.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact Karen Lee, phone 546 0339 or email [Karen.lee@ncc.govt.nz](mailto:Karen.lee@ncc.govt.nz).

### **Free seminar well attended**

Thanks to all those that attended the free seminars last week in Nelson and Appleby on maintaining productivity and profits in the rural and urban sectors in an uncertain climate.

There were good numbers of people at both sessions and certainly plenty of food for thought.

### **Environmental Scorecards**

Nelson City Council produced its first State Of the Environment (SOE) report in 1999, which provided an overview of our environment: land, sea, freshwater and air. Subsequent consolidated reports (2005 and 2010) have been produced on a five-year basis, which present the key results and data trends describing the health of our environment.

Council has launched a series of environmental scorecards to succinctly report on the key issues and put more emphasis on what initiatives are being undertaken to maintain and enhance our environment.

The scorecards will be produced on an annual basis to provide up-to-date information about our rivers and streams, bathing water and air quality and provide useful reference information for environmental and community groups, school projects and the general public. They are available in colour A4 copies from the Customer Service Centre and Libraries or [see them here on the website](#).

### **Tasman Nelson Environment Awards**

The awards are now open for nominations. This is all about celebrating great work from individuals, groups and organisations in our community, and it's amazing just how much is going on out there. The key thing many people miss is that much of the great everyday work being done, which contributes to our region, qualifies for nomination in these awards. Please take the time to look at our website and encourage anyone who you think is doing great things for our region to either be nominated (or nominate themselves) for the

awards. <http://www.nelsoncitycouncil.co.nz/tasman-nelson-environment-awards/>

## **Interesting items on sustainability**

Here are a couple sustainability related items issues that you might find interesting.

A symposium about biophysical limits was held in Wellington on 8-9 June. It examined the question of whether continuing growth is possible in a finite world. Key speakers were: Paul Reynolds (CEO of the Ministry for the Environment), Alan Beedle (Office of the Prime Minister's Science Advisory Committee), and CSIRO scientists Brian Walker and Graham Turner. Most of the papers presented at the symposium are available on the Institute of Policy Studies website: [www.ips.ac.nz](http://www.ips.ac.nz) (under recent events).

Challenges facing the vegetable growing industry:

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/business/farming/5414435/Vege-growing-getting-harder>

How can cities help save the future? Alex Steffen shows some cool neighborhood-based green projects that expand our access to things we want and need - while reducing the time we spend in cars.

[http://www.ted.com/talks/alex\\_steffen.html](http://www.ted.com/talks/alex_steffen.html)

<http://www.energyts.com/snippets/20110714/story6.html> - interesting news on renewable energy

<http://www.energyts.com/snippets/20110714/story15.html> - the business case for a sustainable energy approach

<http://www.energyts.com/snippets/20110714/story3.html> - Renewable energy can power the world, says landmark IPCC study

## **Contact us**

For more information on the Framing our Future process contact:

Karen Lee – Sustainability Adviser

Phone 546 0339 or email [Karen.lee@ncc.govt.nz](mailto:Karen.lee@ncc.govt.nz).

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