



## Long Term Plan Submission – June 2020

Māpua & Districts Community Association (MDCA) thanks TDC for this opportunity to make a submission.

The contents of this submission have been widely consulted with our financial members as well as those members who have not as yet renewed their annual subscription for the current year.

Covid 19 has resulted in some difficult financial times for all. MDCA are aware of how this will impact TDC's income moving ahead. We have approached this submission with this in mind, however, we are also mindful (rather hopeful) should this financial situation change for the positive in the coming years, items we would like to see prioritised have also been included.

MDCA believe now is the time for TDC to review its costs, staffing levels, and staff effectiveness, efficiencies and accountability in keeping with the 'Customer Commitment' detailed on page 5 of the '2020 Vision for Tasman', while examining how TDC services and systems can be improved and streamlined to ensure service delivery becomes more cost effective in both environmental outcomes, and time and dollars spent. ie. Adhering to all regulatory processes (both local and national); transport modes and links; future developments; environmental impacts etc, etc, etc.

MDCA would like to encourage TDC to adopt new policies that incorporate all the lessons learned as a result of Covid 19 and ensure the Tasman District are as prepared financially and proactively as much as possible from future unforeseen crisis. TDC also need to consider what role it can play to encourage and educate individual households to be more prepared, self sufficient and self-reliant in time of natural or health disasters.

### General:

- Slow down development so as Māpua maintains a 'Village' feel. This will require well thought out and planned areas of future growth.
- MDCA recommend TDC support and work collaboratively with communities to enable communities to become engaged and directly involved in any community based projects whether it be enabling a community where and how to apply to raise funds, project advice and assistance. Shifting TDC's focus slightly from fully providing to enabling and assisting.
- Beautify the entry to Māpua Village. Ensure plantings that have already occurred are maintained in a good condition – this has not been the case with some areas along Aranui Road.
- MDCA support and expect responsible, efficient and effective fiscal management so as to ensure rates are at an affordable level while ensuring basic infrastructure is well maintained. MDCA would like to see TDC adopt

the cost cutting measures learnt through the Covid 19 level four lockdown by utilising 'zoom meetings' more frequently to save on staff travel time and vehicle usage/expenses/environmental impacts.

#### **Parks, Reserves & Recreation:**

- Continue to support the planned redevelopment at the Ngaio Tree Reserve at Port Māpua currently being undertaken in co-ordination with the Māpua Waterfront Area Masterplan Working Group.
- Support a proposal from the Māpua Waterfront Area Masterplan Working Group to undertake a staged redevelopment of Grossi Point and the groups' ability to fulfil the functions set out within the Mapua Area Masterplan.
- To look seriously into resolving the outstanding boat ramp issue created by TDC when business & tourist development expansion was undertaken at Port Māpua.
- Maximise all green space in and around Māpua, Tasman and Mahana.
- Seriously consider allowing and supporting space within Māpua Village to establish a Community Garden. Suggested areas could include either Aranui Park, Moreland Place Esplanade Reserve, or Mapua Recreational Reserve between the Scout Den and the Māpua Bowling Club.
- Consider a variety of predominate uses of each recreational space so as to create diversity and interest from one space to another.

#### **Port Māpua (Māpua Wharf):**

- Continue with and complete the Ngaio Tree Reserve development
- Make the Ngaio Tree Reserve an 'alcohol free' zone for the public, not businesses and their patrons.
- Don't allow the commercial activities to over-ride the historical, cultural, community, educational, and recreational activities within the area.
- Do not allow any further commercial or residential development to occur within the Mapua Wharf area or within the open spaces of the Waterfront Park or the open area opposite from the Waterfront Park. Leave these areas as open space for community recreational purposes.
- Find and enable an alternative boat ramp solution for Māpua

#### **Roads, Footpaths & Cycleways:**

- Ensure the current footpath and roading priority list stays current without change or delay.
- Māpua Village shopping centre needs two safe pedestrian crossings – one in front of Māpua Health with the other near the Māpua Reserve Playground.
- Ensure the development of a walk and cycle way along Seaton Valley Stream from Moreland Place to Māpua School has a high priority ranking.
- Continue to add and link off road walk and cycle ways as land becomes available.
- Support the Nelson Tasman Transport Trust and the Māpua Community transport initiatives.
- Covid 19 highlighted our footpaths and cycle ways are too narrow. These need to be progressively widened to 2.5mtrs.
- Appeal to NZTA to resolve the traffic congestion at the Wakatu Drive round-a-bouts and the two sets of traffic lights near McGlashen St, Queen St & Gladstone Road.

#### **Solid Waste, Refuse & Recycling:**

- Increase charges on general refuse to off-set recycling charges as an incentive and to send a clear message to both residents and businesses to reduce single use packaging and plastics.

### **Growth, Sustainability and the Environment:**

- Māpua must remain a village that provides its residents with a healthy lifestyle of linking walk and cycle ways and open space as a priority through thoughtful and respectful planning and development that includes designs to reduced green house gas emissions, encourage carbon reduction, and improved carbon sequestration that is scientifically backed, rather than reactive planning that creates over-crowding, congestion, negative environmental impact, and the loss of valued amenities as Māpua has already experienced.
- Consultation with the community must be valued and heard. Residents know more about how a community functions than the TDC staff who are often left to make the decisions on behalf of a community. TDC need to adopt a collaborative community approach to decision making before changes occur. A community that is a pleasant place for its residents to live in will naturally flow onto becoming a pleasant place for others to visit. Residents must be the number one priority with all aspects of future development.
- Encourage the current Waimea Moutere Parks and Reserves review to vest all lands currently identified as reserves in community ownership and ensure parks and reserve spaces are made available and usable for the general public.
- Continue to support restoration and planting via practical support, funding or funding advice. Continue and expand support for volunteer groups. Encourage and guide communities how to help themselves.
- Educate the community and visitors on the Ecological, Environmental, and Historical values of communities and their surrounding areas by providing tastefully designed information boards. Could be a community/TDC joint venture.
- Covid 19 has inadvertently given the earth a huge breather and shown the world the huge impact us humans have on the planet. How can we capitalise on this learning and ensure we do not fall into our old habits once NZ starts getting back to work fully? TDC need to look hard into how to make it easier for residents to cycle and walk in and around their communities safely. TDC can take on an educate role and show residents how to reduce their carbon footprint and actively encourage and create incentives for its residents and its staff to adopt new ways of being. The best way to illustrate this is for TDC to lead by example.

### **Regulatory (planning, building, and resource management):**

- Do not allow multi storey buildings anywhere in and around Māpua. Keep the maximum building height to no more than two stories above ground level.
- Encourage, support and fund more family friendly open spaces with links to other areas within the community.
- Simplify and streamline all regulatory and consent processes.
- Use a common sense approach to specific planning situations. Sometimes following the rule book makes no logical sense in certain situations. These digressions must be made via a consensus of several rather than by an individual staff member and the logic behind the decision being well documented
- Encourage community input into all decision making process. It was as shame and disappointing that Covid 19 interrupted the new initiative to undertake workshops with the community representatives prior to publishing the Draft LTP. MDCA would strongly recommend this type of community engagement moving into the future.

### **Stormwater/Wastewater in the Wider Ruby Bay Area:**

MDCA acknowledges and thanks TDC for the work currently being undertaken to upgrade the fresh water reticulation and wastewater systems. MDCA hope the decision to upgrade the current wastewater pumping station on Stafford Drive will be fit for purpose due to lack of funds creating the inability to complete the project with the installation of a new, larger capacity pumping station on land purchased across the road.

MDCA are also appreciative of the new drain to help drain the storm water from the properties of 74 – 94 Stafford Drive. However, this drain was not completed due to a lack of funding – it still requires an outlet to the sea.

MDCA were promised that RDC would put together a integrated plan (with community consultation) during 2018 – 2020. This hasn't happened to date, so MDCA request funding be set aside for this. Without a plan it is very difficult to make comments. This needs to be addressed urgently – at least in the first half of the long term plan. MDCA would hope the plan would cover the following potential issues:-

- Completion of the final phase of the Seaton Valley Stream widening
- Completion of separable portion 3 of the Ruby Bay Storm water improvements project (2012) as detailed in the LTP.
- A catchment wide 'roof and road to sea' solution for the Stafford Drive to Broadsea Ave outfall to provide a resolution of flooding, seawater inundation and long-term resilience
- The completion of separable Portion 2 of the Ruby Bay Storm water improvement project from 2012.
- Connection of the two new culverts on Pomona Road redirecting their flow into separable portion 2 (when constructed) rather than onto private property.
- Upgrading the inadequate drainage system from Pinehill Road to the sea as this incomplete system has led to serious issues for residents on the seaward side.
- That the stones and sand blocking the overland flow path to the concrete ramp in Chaytor Reserve be correctly re-contoured.

#### **Coastal Protection:**

- There is ample evidence that Old Mill Walkway Coastal Protection Works performed substantially better than the Broadsea Ave Seawall. MDCA requests that TDC identify why they perform differently and correct the deficiencies.
- Regardless of how seawalls are funded, they need to be to similar standards, design, overland flow paths identified and exit strategies for seawater overtopping planned. If not, then the weaker walls will be breached and water will enter properties with more efficient seawalls from behind.

#### **Climate Change:**

- In response to submissions in the previous (2018) LTP, Mr Bush-King noted that current climate change projects are focused on adaption, not mitigation and there is no budget available to shift this current focus. MDCA ask TDC to make a budget available for mitigation (reduction of greenhouse gases GHG) otherwise there is no way emissions will be decrease as required by NZ's commitment to the Paris Accord 2015.
- MDCA believe there needs to be a concerted effort in dealing with climate change over the full 10 years of the LTP if the region wishes to comply with the targets of the Zero Carbon Act 2019. As such we would like to see a clause on the reduction of GHG emissions in all key council processes (such as procurement) with a document template that includes GHG reduction as a key objective.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the LTP process.

Please feel welcome to come back to the Māpua and Districts Community Association Executive with any questions you wish to ask.

Kind Regard

Marion Satherley

MDCA Chair

On behalf of MDCA Membership