

Brightwater community meeting - Monday 3 April 2023

Existing local issues:

- **New bus service to Brightwater (starting mid 2023)**

Supported. Conversations around the need for it to be frequent and reliable. Could the timetable take consideration of peak times for medical appointments to help encourage older people to use it (must be reliable, if an appointment is missed it could be detrimental to health).

Questions regarding how demand will be increased - marketing needed and maybe some incentives to build momentum

- **Upgrade of Brightwater water treatment plant**

Supported - little discussion.

- **Carrying out a feasibility study for a new Brightwater/ Wakefield community facility**

Supported - but some are concerned it would be detrimental to Brightwater specific facilities. Would like a focus on providing for both instead of having one large facility to cover both townships.

Points raised:

Lack of communication

Brightwater needs a youth focus - 9-15yrs. Currently very little to do resulting in anti social behaviour.

Can the money be used to upgrade existing facilities, such as the rugby club. Building new might be expensive and can the money go further by upgrading?

Desire for local library (or book service)

Desire for toy library

- **New Mouere-Waimea Ward Reserve Management Plan**

No discussion. Little knowledge or awareness of the plan or its purpose

- **Walking and cycling improvements**

Supported. Discussions around the need for more 'on road' but separated cycling infrastructure. Improved cycling infrastructure supported as a way of combating increasing congestion but keen to stress it isn't a solution for all, many in the community can't or simply don't want to ride bikes to work, shop etc

Workshop discussions:

Group 1:

- Housing growth and community impact. A lack of clarity around the scale of housing growth and the impact it would have on transport, water, community facilities. While the FDS was mentioned it was considered unrealistic to expect 'normal' people to trawl through council plans and documents to try and piece together the info. Would like some simple growth related info that shows where, when and the plans for keeping infrastructure up to the required standard. The impact of housing growth on Queen Street congestion was talked about as an example of a lack of planning/foresight. Also some idea of how it will be funded.
- Waimea Dam. Discussions on how safe it was for the community (flash floods or structure failure). How are emergency alerts communicated? What are the risks of flooding?
- River management. Is it possible to have local solutions, such as gravel removal, managed by local people with experience and who are invested in managing the risk?
- The intersection with the state highway is unsafe and also extremely challenging to cross. Can a roundabout be built there? Can the speed limit be reduced to 60 kmh?.

Group 2:

- Bus service - more frequency, especially at key times of the day. Also take ageing population into account when planning timetables and stops
- Community centre:
 - Not enough communications about plans and timeframe etc
 - Can funds go to Brightwater for youth and spots. 9-15yrs focus. Need something for them to do, have we asked them what they want?
 - Can we use some funding to improve existing facilities rather than put it all into one 'do it all' new one?
- State Highway junction - can TDC investigate a roundabout, and reduce the speed.
- Extend the cycle way up the river
- Seal the carpark at Rutherford Park
- Snowden's Bush new access - can TDC investigate DOC transferring ownership to council
- Is a Mount Heslington stormwater upgrade planned?
- What is the purpose of the land behind the school? Commercial development?
- Forestry concerns - if overseas ownership what is the value of the trees compared to risk/damage?
- Lea Valley swimming hole - access is terrible for families, can that be improved? It's important to the community.

Other:

- Will TDC cap rates rises to inflation or less?

- Support for transport choices and investigating a park & Ride for Richmond/Nelson.
Some concern over who will pay.
- Urban planning - more transparency wanted on big picture

Summary:

A positive and well attended meeting.