

GREYMOUTH TOWN DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

Update Report from the Grey District Council: June 2011

1 Town Development projects the Council has been involved in

The KiwiRail development of the Cobden Rail Bridge Heritage Park
Parking initiatives, including the new campervan park
The pedestrian linkages project (see below)

2 The Pedestrian Linkages project

Out of the top ten actions the “Pedestrian Linkages” action was not the first in priority ranking for the Council to undertake, however this project was initiated first as it is a multi-discipline action that could be used as a test-run for all Council departments. The project is being managed by planning staff and involves asset and engineering staff as well as other departments being given the opportunity to provide input. A technical expert has been engaged to collect information, including public input, and to produce a Report of Findings for the Council.

A “WALKSHOP” was held on Friday 10 June and 18 Lead Agency representatives participated in the exercise. This event was run by the technical expert - John Lieswyn from Via Strada.

Information was gathered at the debrief and further information has been lodged by the participants.

On the same day a “PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION” was held (at 5.30pm). This was attended by 20 people. Further useful notes were taken from the evening’s discussion.

A survey about the number of people crossing Tainui Street (State Highway) and the location that they cross, was undertaken by Rosie McGrath from Community Public Health. This information will be useful for Johns report.

Mel Sutherland (GDC) has advised that the Council has also identified potential improvements as a result of the walkshop and other information received from the public, but will wait until the Report of Findings is lodged before undertaking any works.

A request for the general public to provide the Council with feedback has gone out (publicly advertised and emailed to over 200 on a contact list). Feedback was invited by 27 June (yesterday).

John Lieswyn and Karen Jury (GDC) will summarise all comments and information collected over the next week and then John will present a draft Report to the Council in early August. This will be peer reviewed and

comments provided back to John so a final report can be lodged by end August 2011.

The recommendations will then be considered by Council staff and a report taken to the Council for their advice about which actions to proceed with and timing.

3 The next priority action(s) that the Council will address

Options:

During the submissions process on the draft Strategy document the **Vibrancy and Points of Difference** action was highlighted as needing to become a priority action. The Strategy was amended to recognise this. It is considered that this should be the next action to be progressed – and feedback will be sought from the Lead Agencies at the first Advisory Group meeting.

In addition, Via Strada are also available to take on further work for the Council and as they have familiarity with both the goals and structure of the Strategy and also the town they may be a very good option for the Council to consider in regard to taking on other actions e.g. the **vehicle management actions**.

Stakeholders have been active in suggesting improvement options in regard to landscaping and **greenspace in the town** – so this action may be another project to get underway. Especially if it can be undertaken in partnership between the Council and others.

(Refer to attachment for discussion)

Karen Jury
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GREY DISTRICT COUNCIL