

SUSTAINABILITY

10.45am The Use of Sustainability Principles for Long Term Management of Selwyn's 5 Waters – Hugh Blake-Manson & Paul Carran

Abstract

A sustainability framework with seven fundamental principles is the foundation for integrated strategic and tactical management of Selwyn Districts 5 Water Utilities. These utilities are water supply, wastewater, stormwater, land drainage and water races. The seven principles were adopted by Council, aligned to the Local Government Act, and used to write the Council's 5 Waters' Strategic Plan and the integrated 5 Waters Activity Management Plan (2009-2019). The Strategic Plan describes initiatives driven from global, national and local issues, which will be incorporated into the management of the Districts 5 waters activity.

These principles are also referenced in any report, plan or new initiative from Council officers.

The Sustainability Principles and Community Outcomes are directly linked to new Customer/Technical Levels of Service in the Activity Management Plan that are common to the 5 Waters. Measurable, benchmarkable performance indicators have been developed for use in five defined Communities of Interest within the District. A technique was developed which prioritised improvements across all utilities to prepare integrated expenditure programmes matching customer affordability.

The intention is to apply the learnt strategic and asset management planning techniques for integration of other Council activities and services.

Hugh Blake-Manson

Hugh is Selwyn District Council's 5 Waters (Utilities) Asset Manager. He has been in this role since 2004, previously with Tasman District in a Rivers Engineer capacity. Selwyn is located astride the Rakaia and Waimakiriri Rivers, and arguably has the most significant high quality groundwater resource in New Zealand. The "competition" for this water and hence need to secure current and future customers reasonable access are therefore a key issue in his role.

Paul Carran

Paul Carran is a Senior Engineer with Opus International Consultants. He has been involved in a wide range of water supply engineering and management projects, predominantly for local authority clients. Over the last twelve months he has worked closely with Selwyn District Council staff to develop an integrated approach for the management of water based utilities with a focus on achieving sustainability outcomes.

11.25am The multi-coloured approach to sustainability – Kathy Dever-Tod

Abstract

Often we hear about the need to consider the impacts of climate change, peak oil prices and water usage on the sustainable management of infrastructure. Consideration is given to the impacts of new assets on the environment and energy efficiency is incorporated into the design of buildings and plant. Considering the environment is becoming a way of life for today's asset managers. But this approach to sustainability is a very bland approach, an approach which in itself is not sustainable.

We need to remember that sustainability has four aspects to it- social, cultural, financial and environmental. Being green is not being sustainable. A much more colourful to

sustainability needs to be taken, one which considers the purple (community), the pearl (cultural), the black (financial), and the green aspects of the decisions being made.

The multi-colour approach to sustainability gives consideration to the impact of the decision on all four well-beings at the same time. The assets resulting from a multi-coloured approach are more likely to be sustainable in the long-term, but more importantly, so are the communities that the assets have been built to serve. After all- what use is a well built, but no longer utilised asset?

Kathy Dever-Tod

Kathy is the CEO of the National Asset Management Steering (NAMS) Group. The NAMS Group has a vision of "Enhancing community well being through leadership of asset management". Kathy's role includes the promotion of NAMS and its products, guiding the development of best practice asset management industry guidelines and training, and the delivery of training and asset management advisory services. Kathy has a background of 12 years in Local government as a manager of parks and property assets at Palmerston North City Council. Kathy has been involved in the development of the NAMS manuals and has presented on various asset management topics at conferences both in New Zealand and overseas.

12.05pm

The Sustainability Outcomes of Varying Budgets for a Road Network Forward Programme of Work – Ewan Hunter

Abstract

This paper discusses the application of a methodology which addresses the issue of sustainability in the context of a road network forward programme of works. The methodology is based on research carried out in 2007 and considers varying budget outcomes on a network forward programme of works for factors including Network condition, emissions, material usage, vehicle operating costs and traffic delay.

The paper has general application for Road Controlling Authorities and road network managers as well as having direct relevance to current New Zealand industry objectives.

Ewan Hunter

Ewan is the Technical Leader - Transportation Asset Management for Opus International Consultants Ltd and has responsibility for Technical coordination across this component of Opus activities. Ewan has been actively involved in asset management (operational and technical) since 1988. Ewan is a Partner and Technical Leader for Transportation Asset Management within Opus International Consultants.