

Creating More from Less & People Communication

10.45am - 11.15am

Creating More For Less - Riding the Storm Through Shared Services - Richard Kirby

ABSTRACT

Increasing expectations from Councils to create more from less applies more pressure on funding and resources. Riding this storm can potentially compromise a Council's ability to deliver. However it also provides a positive environment for Councils to work together by sharing expertise, aligning business objectives and improving effectiveness.

The concept of entering into a shared service arrangement is not new. General opinion is that it is a good concept and the way of the future. However, when it comes to making a commitment, that same positive opinion seems to evaporate.

This paper is about two Councils who were willing to make that commitment. To embrace the challenge of effecting change and to implement an effective shared services arrangement. The way the agreement was developed, through to its delivery and the subsequent results speaks of a team who were committed and remain committed to ensuring its continued success. Although still in its infancy the shared services arrangement is already delivering improved asset services to the communities of the Rangitikei and Manawatu Districts.

Richard Kirby - BE(Civil) CPEng(NZ) IntPE(NZ) F.IPENZ M.Ingenium, Assets Group Manager, Manawatu and Rangitikei District Councils. Richard Kirby is the Assets Group Manager for the Manawatu and Rangitikei District Councils. His engineering career in Local Government spans over 20 years and he currently leads a shared services team providing asset management and engineering support to the two Councils with primary responsibility for roading, water supplies, wastewater schemes, stormwater, solid waste, parks and property activities.

From 1999-2005 he chaired the National Asset Management Steering Group, which has been responsible for the development of several guidelines, including the International Infrastructure Management Manual, which have enhanced the sustainable management of asset infrastructure in New Zealand, Australia and around the world.

From January 2007 to March 2009 he chaired the WIMS Group (Water Information Management Steering Group) which promotes more robust strategic decision making within the water sector through the appropriate collation and application of data and information.

Richard was a member of the INGENIUM Board (Association of Local Government Engineering New Zealand) from 1998 to 2007 and was President of INGENIUM from June 2005 to June 2007

He is a Chartered Professional Engineer (CPEng) and Fellow of the Institution of Professional Engineers New Zealand (FIPENZ).

11.25am - 11.55am

Orewa Boulevard - Getting More for the Town - William Brown & Melissa Clark

Abstract

Getting more from less for Orewa Boulevard was far from improving travel times. With State Highway 1 once separating Orewa Beach and the town centre, the aim was to 'give the beachfront back to the town' through traffic calming and creating a pedestrian friendly environment to complement Orewa's greatest asset - the beach.

This paper covers the practical and technical realities of developing and implementing an urban design based scheme, and how vision setting, communication and 'thinking outside

the square' allowed non-traditional design concepts, such as carriageways being level with footpaths and minimal line markings, to come to fruition on what is a current state-highway and over-dimensional route.

As the lead urban designer for this project, Melissa Clark discusses turning the vision of the Rodney District Council into a developed concept using international examples. William Brown then discusses taking this project through detailed design and construction as the design manager and Engineer's Representative, turning Rodney's vision into a reality for the community.

William Brown - Civil Engineer - William is a civil engineer with his core experience being in roading and transportation design and construction. On the Orewa Boulevard project, William worked with the Rodney District Council and their representatives, the NZ Transport Agency and GHD's urban designers and engineers to bring together the design elements of the project. He then continued his involvement with the project as the Engineer's Representative for the 12 month construction period.

Melissa Clark - Team Leader Urban Design and Landscape Architecture. Melissa Clark is GHD's Team Leader for Urban Design and Landscape Architecture, and is experienced in providing urban design advice for transportation projects in the Auckland region. On the Orewa Boulevard project, Melissa led the urban design portion of works and worked closely with the design team and stakeholders to deliver this key project for the Orewa community.

12.05pm - 12.35pm

The role of social planning in integrated transport planning - Joanna Brain

In recent years, there has been a lot of discussion within the transport field about integrated transport and land use planning. This is an area that has grown in importance and is part of the wider sustainable development agenda. As a result of this approach, we are starting to see a number of improvements in the way transport planning is undertaken but does this always follow through to what is delivered on the ground? And can we do more?

This presentation explores how well managed integrated transport planning helps to deliver outcomes across a range of local Government departments. In particular, it looks at the role of social planning in helping to deliver successful projects. Social planning helps to consider projects from the point of view of people, rather than infrastructure.

Social planning can be incorporated into all stages of transport projects, from strategic planning to design and implementation. A successful project requires a range of solutions including physical infrastructure, policy interventions and programmes and initiatives to encourage particular behaviours. By considering a project from a social planning perspective, the range of solutions is often more balanced. This presentation discusses some examples of projects where social planning techniques have helped to deliver transport projects that improve a range of outcomes.

Joanna Brain - Master of Property Development and Planning (2005), University College London, BSC (Hons) Business (2003), Manchester Metropolitan University

Joanna is an Infrastructure Strategy Consultant with GHD and has worked in the development industry for 6 years on a wide variety of projects in the UK and in New Zealand for both public and private sector clients. Joanna has extensive experience of reviewing and analysing public policy and providing strategies and programmes for implementation of activities. Joanna has skills in statistical analysis, research, project management, consultation and liaison with stakeholders and production of a variety of tools to assist clients in decision making. Projects have included reviewing the activities of regional development agencies, advising on best practice and developing processes for effective delivery of projects