



Bay of Connections

Update on the Bay of Plenty's Economic Development Strategy, April 2008 #1

It's been four months since the Regional Strategy was launched.

The Regional Governance Group is pleased about the progress that has been made across the region so far. A real willingness by everyone involved to work together has made the difference. And, the Regional Management Group has been key to ensuring we maintain the momentum.

As a reminder, in October we secured \$360k from New Zealand Trade & Enterprise to kick-start some of our priority projects. These include Food, Marine, Aquaculture, and Energy. Here's an update on each project.....

HARBOUR CENTRAL MARINE PRECINCT

- A draft feasibility study has been completed and is being assessed. This has been lead and significantly funded by Priority One.
- The report was prepared by Arrow International with input from Connell Wagner, Chow Hill, Traffic Design Group, Tauranga Marine Industry Association, and Tauranga City Council.
- The final report will be presented to the Priority One Board and Tauranga City Council in April. It will then be considered by the Regional Governance Group.

FOOD SECTOR STRATEGY

- Vantage Consulting Group and iGrow New Zealand Ltd have been appointed to help shape the food industry strategy, along with an advisory group made up of local food industry representatives..
- The strategy will include a stock take of food sector capability across the region, an economic impact assessment, and a plan to build on the capabilities of SME food companies who have export potential and aspiration.

AQUACULTURE STRATEGY

- Following the Regional Aquaculture Forum in November last year, development is about to start on the Region's Aquaculture Strategy. A consultant will be finalised in the next few weeks, along with an advisory group to help shape the Strategy.
- All key Aquaculture stakeholders will receive an email update by the end of April.
- Another Forum will be held once an initial draft of the Strategy is completed - to get feedback and help shape the Action Plan.

ENERGY STRATEGY

- The Regional Governance and Management Groups have agreed that Energy will be the next area of focus.
- A consultant will be finalised in the next few weeks to help develop the Region's Energy Strategy. We expect to have an initial draft completed by end June. A regional Forum will be held to help shape the Strategy and also to begin work on the Action Plan.

For questions, or a hard copy of Bay of Connections, please email Cheryl.macgregor@envbop.govt.nz with your address details, or phone 0800 368 288 ext 8350, or 021 224 1371.



Bay of Connections

THE REGIONAL GOVERNANCE GROUP

Rick Vallance - Ngati Whakaue Tribal Lands

Tony Hawken - Eastpack Ltd

Frank Aldridge - ABN AMRO Craigs Ltd

Anthony Olsen -Toi-EDA

Sandra Kai Fong - Bright Economy Board

Murray Davies - Priority One

John Cronin - Governance Group Chair, and Environment Bay of Plenty Chair

THE REGIONAL MANAGEMENT GROUP

Andrew Coker - Priority One

Grant Kilby - Rotorua Economic Development

Mary Hermanson -Toi-EDA

Mary-Anne MacLeod – Environment Bay of Plenty

ADVISOR

Cheryl MacGregor – 021 224 1371