Mayoral Diary November 2018

Monday 5 November

Regional Transport Meeting

Items on this month's agenda included:

- New Zealand Transport Agency National Priority Programmes and Targeted Enhanced Funding Assistance Rates
- Variations to the 2018 Update of the 2015 45 Regional Land Transport Plan
- Transport Choices Report
- Transport Planning and Projects Report November 2018
- Regional Public Transport Projects Update
- Waikato Stock Truck Effluent Disposal Programme
- Future Focus Regional Transport Committee Programme 2019
- Regional Road Safety Monitor Report November 2018
- Opportunities to Accelerate Speed Management: Speed limit setting

Prior to the meeting some Mayors and CE's met with Parekawhia McLean to receive an update on findings which will be presented to the Transport Agency Board. To be reported back to us on 18 December 2018.

Tuesday 6 November

Industry and Business Korero

We have been hosting members of our business and industry at various meetings over the past five years, where attendees around the table tend to change depending on business needs and topics of interest and direction. One of the outcomes was an opportunity to work together to address what we found to be common constraints, work ready labour force, training needs, lack of suitable housing and the long term needs of our key stakeholders and industry partners.

I hosted our final meeting of the year at the Silver Fern Farms Event Centre where I gave a wrap up of what we had achieved for the year, and the opportunity to thank everyone for working together.

I was able to introduce Michael Bassett-Foss, chair of Te Waka, the Regional Economic Development arm in the Waikato. He addressed us on how Te Waka are working with councils and groups around the Waikato.

I look forward to continue our relationship building throughout our business and industry connections in 2019.



Te Aroha College Prize Giving

I attended the senior prize giving where all the hard work and achievement were recognised for 2018. Congratulations to winners of the major prizes: Dux – Nichole Suarez Perdomo (also one of our VYA's for 2018) Proxime Accessit Award – Olivia Simmonds and Meesha Ross Norman Blakely for General Excellence – Meesha Ross and Nichole Suarez Perdomo.

I look forward to engaging with our youth again next year through our VYA programme and school exchanges.



Nichole, and I with her very proud parents at prize giving

Wednesday 7 November

Council workshop

Items covered at this week's workshop included: A site visit and discussion around Wairere Falls Carpark, Dog Bylaw, Budget/Fees and Charges, Customer survey and the Regional Cycle trail network.

Fonterra function

I was invited to attend the Fonterra hosted event in Hamilton where the coop celebrated its close connections within the Waikato Region and to connect other leaders from our local community.

John Monaghan is a likely Chairman speaker at our Industry Breakfasts next year.

Thursday 8 November

Wintec event

Wintec has been working to better understand they can partner with regional communities to identify how they might thrive and grow in terms of economic development, wellbeing and sustainability. With that in mind, Wintec hosted a small co-design workshop to discuss these issues.

Cooney Lees function

Cooney Lees are strategic partners with Tauranga Art Gallery. This year they sponsored two exhibitions, and I was invited to the opening. It was a wonderful experience to view the exhibitions and meet the artist Emma Prill. Networking is important especially with this new business coming to town.

Friday

November

Meeting with NZTA

I had a site visit last week to the Coulter Bridge in Te Aroha with council staff after some concerns had been raised. I contacted NZTA and asked for them to outline what is planned for the bridge in the long and short term.

Karen Boyt – Manager System Management Waikato and Brian Grey – Network Manager Bridges and Structures Waikato met MPDC staff member Bryan Turner and I in the office and we then paid another visit to the bridge.

A work plan for minor works and beautification is now in progress and work will hopefully commence in the near future.

Meeting with Mayor Sandra Goudie

Prior to attending an afternoon event in Thames, I met with TCDC Mayor Sandra to catch up on what is happening in our respective councils, and East Waikato in general.

Luncheon – Thames Business Club (Barriball)

I received an invitation from our MP Scott Simpson to engage with Associate Minister for Small Business Jackie Dean.

Sunday 11 November

Armistice Day

This year marks a century since Germany and the Allied powers signed the Armistice, following four years of brutal conflict, finally giving way to peace.

As we all stood united, Morrinsville, Te Aroha and Matamata RSA's, (at the Matamata RSA) we remembered the day 100 years ago that the guns fell silent on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918.

Each year, we who stand united under a common cause, pause to remember, acknowledge and honour those New Zealand soldiers who showed such courage and to honour the brave people from our communities who served our country.

Thank you to the Matamata RSA for hosting this year's event, our MP Tim Van der Molen and Matamata College student Naomi Turner for speaking. A united district standing together to honour this important occasion.

Monday 12 November

Te Aroha Citizens Advice Bureau Social Services network meeting

This was a meeting of social service groups and providers currently operating in Te Aroha. Having likeminded people around the table sharing experiences and ideas can produce some good direction going forward.

Meeting with Fonterra

I met with Philippa Fourie, Manager Regional Relations of Fonterra, along with Rachel Irwin – Farmer Engagement Specialist and Emma Brookes – GM Reputation Operating Model. Philippa was here to discuss how Fonterra could partner with Council especially in the field of youth.

Meeting with Waharoa Community Committee

I met with Judith (Penatito) Hattie who is the Chair of the Community Committee at Waharoa. We talked about what the committee want to achieve in the community and how they can go about doing it, their engagement with OCD and future projects.

Passenger Transport meeting

Andrew Wilson from NZTA asked for the opportunity to meet regarding a variation to the current Public Transport Services provided in Matamata, and within our district for next year.

JP Association AGM

The Annual General Meeting was held at Candy Gillespie in Matamata, Frank Healey was re-elected as chair.

Tuesday 13 November

Meeting with newspaper

I met with Graham Vincent – Key Account Manager, and Kelley Tantau – reporter, for Fairfax who cover our community newspapers. We had a discussion about what is topical in the district at the moment.

Meeting with Sport Waikato

CEO Matthew Cooper and General Manager Regional Leadership Michelle Hollands met with Don McLeod and I to discuss the regional facilities plan before it is presented to the Waikato Mayoral Forum in the beginning of December.

Ingham Matamata Piako Sports Awards

Congratulations to all the nominees in the Matamata-Piako Sports Awards, held in conjunction with Sport Waikato. This year they represented an amazing range of talent and achievements from right across our District. Thank you to our valued sponsors Ingham's and Morrinsville Physiotherapy.

To the hundreds of community people who give their time, skill and often financial contribution to enable sport to happen, thank you. Without these dedicated people we would not have nights like this to celebrate success.

We recognised everyone's efforts – not only the winners. Our community salutes you all!

Wednesday 14 November

Council meeting

It was a full meeting schedule, followed by a workshop and presentation. Items included: Adoption of Standing Orders and Review of Code of Conduct, Schedule of Meetings for 2019, Delegations – Various acts, Legislative Compliance Framework, Hauraki Rail Trail Charitable Trust, Trust Deed change, Waikato Plan Leadership Group Terms of Reference and Committee, Sport Waikato – 2018 first quarter presentation, Headon Stadium Design Options, Community Facilities & Property Bulk Fund 2018-19, Revocation of Reserve Status for Ngarua Recreation Reserve, Naming of Reserve in Waharoa, District Licensing Committee, Council Study – Private Property Rubbish, Proposed Hearing Commission panels for Private Plan Changes, Mayoral Diary, Youth Elected Members talk by Cr James Sainsbury, and budgets focusing on Rates impact.

We also had a long service presentation to Christene Hollingsworth who was celebrating 20 years with MPDC. Christene is part of the Information Services team and her role is Land Administration Officer. Congratulations on your service Christene.

Meeting with Waikato Business News editor

Richard Walker is an editor at the Waikato Business News, and we met to discuss the recent PGF applications and funding allocation.

Te Waka launch

I attended the launch of the Waikato Region Economic Development Programme held at Claudelands in Hamilton, along with Councillors, Teena Cornes, Adrienne Wilcock, Paul Cronin and Deputy Mayor James Thomas.

Te Waka shared the collective results following the Summit hosted at the end of August which helped decide the priority economic development projects, and the four years of work completed by Waikato Means Business.

Thursday 15 November

Meeting with Wintec

Mariana and I met to discuss her visit to Finland and future opportunities for the Waikato and particularly businesses in Matamata-Piako.

Meeting at Waharoa Aerodrome

MPDC Group Manager Business Support Manaia Te Wiata and I met at the aerodrome with Mike Newman, CEO of New Zealand Aviation to discuss potential growth plans at the aerodrome.

Sunday 18 November

Dinner with guests from Kitakami Japan

I was delighted to meet up with Mr Shitou from Kitakami Japan once again. Mr Shitou was part of the delegation that visited our district earlier in the year with regard to the World Challenge Day initiative. He is the Kitakami Sports Link Director who has links to the Folder non-profit group.

Monday 19 November

Morrinsville Red Cross annual morning tea

I was invited to the annual morning tea held at 'the hub' at St Matthews Church in Morrinsville. I called in and spent some time with the committee members. Councillor Donna Arnold was also there representing council. Thank you Donna for speaking on our behalf.

Tour with Kitakami guests

I was able to spend some time at Hobbiton, Matamata Primary and Matamata Intermediate with our visitors from Kitakami. At the schools they took the children through some physical activities including kick boxing with a newspaper from Kitakami!

They have enjoyed engaging in our district and interacting with the students who were very attentive.



Tuesday 20 November

Kitakami tours

I arranged for our guests to view horse aqua exercising at Matamata Race Course, followed by a visit to a childcare centre for more sporting interaction with the children. This was their area of focus.

Waharoa Aerodrome meeting

This agenda included the following items: Provincial growth Fund Application, Annual Plan 19/20 and other associated documents, New Zealand aviation presentation, Update on Management Plan Review, Marae Entrance – Parking arrangements, Schedule of Meetings and 2019 Work Programme.

Meeting with Transition Matamata

I met with Gord from Transition Matamata to discuss the Hauraki Rail Trail and how Transition Matamata could partner with Council on related projects.

Morrinsville Business After Five (BA5)

This month's meeting was hosted by Kaimai Cycles. MP Tim Van der Molen was also there to interact with our business community, along with my fellow Councillors, James Thomas, Donna Arnold, Paul Cronin and Neil Goodger.

Wednesday 21 November

Council workshop & Webinar

Council staff led workshops on: Online Voting, Audio visual equipment for events centres, Outlook calendars and hub queries, Crate day Initiative, Plan change 47 Plan your Town, Plan change 49 - Waharoa scoping report, Wastewater and Morrinsville Riverwalk. We also watched a LGNZ Procurement Webinar

At the conclusion of the workshop the Kitakami delegation called into the Council chambers for a quick introduction on their way to Auckland then home. Can I thank publicly Kazako Tapper for her huge support of our visiting delegation from Kitakami.



Power Co Stakeholder function

Rex and I were invited to meet with the Power Co board and network with their developers.

Thursday/ Friday 22 & 23

November

Rural and Provincial meeting

The two day meeting in Wellington that I co-chair with Mayor Brian Hanna included the following items and presentations:

- LGNZ President's, National Council commentary, Chief Executive's update
- EquiP's Governance Diagnostic Programme
- Drinking water quality
- Housing New Zealand Strategy
- Portfolio Priorities Housing, Urban Development and Transport
- Connecting Rural NZ
- Time for a rethink waste and recycling in Aotearoa
- **Provincial Growth Fund**
- Local Government Commission
- Tourism and Responsible Camping
- Responsible camping Technology trials
- Climate change and insurance
- Portfolio priorities Three Waters Review

Hon Phil Twyford - Minister of Housing, Urban Development and Transport, and Hon Nanaia Mahuta, Minister of Local Government were the members of parliament who attended and spoke to their portfolios.

Monday 26

Meeting with Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE)

I met with representatives of MBIE who have contributed \$3.4 million towards the Hauraki Rail Trail extension from Te Aroha to Matamata and the Kopu to Miranda trails. We discussed the project is going and challenges going forward.

Mark and Phil then went on a tour of the Trail with CE Dianne Drummond and Trust member Basil Morrison.

Provincial Growth Fund (PGF) meeting

Council staff and representatives from Te Waka met to discuss the way forward for the PGF projects. Harvey Brookes will attend our COC meeting on Wednesday to answer any questions.

Citizenship Ceremony

18 new citizens were welcomed to our district at the final ceremony for 2018. It is always a delight to engage with our newest members of the Matamata-Piako District, and their friends and family.

November

