

**Port Revitalisation Program, Informal meeting – Ferry Focus Group
held at Waitotara Room, BNZ Bank, Victoria Avenue, Whanganui
at 11.30am on Friday, 4 November 2016**

Present: Bill McDonald, Adrian Dixon, Bernard Corkery, Graham Young, Hamish Young, Rowan McGregor and Neville Johnson (from 12 noon).
In attendance: Maria Cording (notes).
Apologies: None.

| Item | Discussion/Outcome |
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| Welcome | At 11.30am Bill welcomed everyone to the meeting. |
| Accelerate 25 update | <p>Bill talked about Accelerate 25. Launched on 8 August by Steven Joyce. Port originally not part of Accelerate 25. Five main zones:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Todd Street Marine Precinct – Myles is planning to invest \$4M in port area. • Wharf Street Boat Ramp – Recreational boating and community uses, also a regional asset • Heads road industry/storage Precinct. • Morrison St industrial area. – Mars, Affco • Taupo Quay commercial area. |
| Special interest groups | <p><i>Neville Johnson joined the meeting at 12 noon.</i></p> <p>Bill welcomed Neville and asked for confirmation around the table that the attendees had seen one of Neville’s recent presentations on his 3 ferry, reclamation, dry-dock and marina proposal.</p> <p>Bill explained that a Special Interest Group, under the Port Revitalisation Program, concerning the ferry proposal has been established and this is the first meeting. The idea is to look at the concept, in general, of a ferry to the south island and what sub-options could also be considered, e.g. a soft capital start using a side loading ferry that required modest capital for the land based facilities at Whanganui and Nelson.</p> <p>Bill also mentioned that if we are to seek funding for a business plan, we will need to first demonstrate to Horizons, Government and WDC that a ferry proposal has sufficient merit. This would require the preparation of a short project plan.</p> <p>Neville commented that he was reluctant to provide his supporting background detail and financial information as it was commercially sensitive.</p> |

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| | <p>The Special Interest Group can look at the “concept in general” and may wish to consider more than one proposal. As a start, we need to look for what formal analysis work has already been undertaken that can be undated or amended for our needs, i.e. Report from January 2010 (evaluation written for the port of Taranaki) re Western blue water highway between New Plymouth and Nelson. Also viability of Whanganui to Nelson ferry, Jeff Hintz compiled this report in march 2011. There is also the opportunity to talk to various experts in their respective fields about front of mind information e.g., coastal scientist, dredging operators, non-aligned transport operator, etc.</p> |
| Overall Masterplan | <p>One of the Government’s particular requirements for the Revitalisation Program is the preparation of an “overall masterplan” for the port area and a design consultant, Henry Crothers from Land lab is assembling all the ideas into such a plan.</p> <p>Bill provide a brief overview of the main ideas to date, which needs to build as much as possible on what already exists.</p> <p>Adrian has made an offer to provide business help and some funding for a financial model</p> |
| Next Steps | <p>Bill and Adrian to create short project plan and information requirement check list.</p> <p>Adrian, Rowan, Bill and Phil Wardale to make contact with experts that may be able to offer high level advice on key elements of a proposed Ferry Service.</p> |
| Meeting Close | <p>The meeting ended at 1pm</p> |