



Tui tui- tuia nga herenga tangata

Bringing Cultures Together

WAITAKERE ETHNIC BOARD (WEB) SUBMISSION

TO THE AUCKLAND UNLEASHED PLAN

MAY 2011

WAITAKERE ETHNIC BOARD

P.O. BOX 21068

HENDERSON 0650

Website: www.waitakereethnicboard.org.nz

Phone: 09 836 0169



Employment and Economic Development

1. Are these priority areas Auckland should focus on:
 - Creating for whom? Employment, racism/marginalized & segregation in employment.
 - Element of fairness, look at knowledge and skills. Look at portfolio of Council, embrace diversity.
 - ***Auckland Council could advocate on behalf of migrants to business sectors/trade associations.***
 - Migrants want jobs, have skills and want to work
 - Hub, all skilled people attend and register, re-qualify. Practical approach.
 - Over qualified but not employed, from Europe would be employed, even with less qualifications
 - Information sharing, we have skills based. Need to match skills to jobs and organize this.
 - Trade create jobs, not jobs create trade
 - Economic development sector/Auckland Council.
 - Work with churches, government, and looking at this for our youth
2. Is council going to be looking at the specific strategies for the 'under-resourced' areas?
 - Ethnic advisors to work with ethnic cities and how to best work with the different ethnicities.
 - Target specific people with specific strategies and resources, advocate to central government.
 - Ethnic communities have voices on/into council, space to grow
 - Help our people set up businesses through microfinance, social lending directly or through a guarantee fund to facilitate access to institutional banking we cannot currently access to,

MAIN POINTS

- Who are we creating jobs for? Look at council staff ethnicity make up, lead by example
- Auckland Council to advocate on behalf of migrants/immigrants to remove racism, segregation & marginalization.
- Institutional racism; trade hub to go from skills to qualifications; Chamber of Commerce - Auckland Council - Migrant skills alliance



Engaging ethnic communities that have English as a second language

Two most important points

1. Access to ESOL classes taught by someone from their own ethnic communities
 - a. Flexibility in funding provision
2. Opportunities for migrant & host communities to come together to interact with each other, to form more day to day interaction.

Other things to consider:

- Maintain own language
 - Encourage communities to form their own groups to help maintain their own language
 - Inclusion of other languages within schools (migrant languages)
 - Students may be more likely to engage if offered in schools
 - Community –language classes for the children-needs govt support
- Improve communication level with migrants
 - Need to not feel isolated
 - Need to provide opportunities for migrant communities & host community to come together regularly, to form more day to day interaction
- Communication at the official level
 - Improve opportunities to participate in different areas
 - Allocate resources to ESOL provision
 - Issues around accents and pronunciations
 - Teachers from the same migrant background
 - At present feel totally excluded
 - Providing opportunities for Inclusion that are welcoming to migrant communities
- A migrant friendly Auckland
 - Representatives from communities who can be the voice for those who do not have confidence in English.
 - Allocate staff within offices/businesses
 - Allow migrant to get confidence
 - Not feel discriminated
 - Patience

Help communities with non-English background (as first language) to keep their cultures as a forward looking strategy for New Zealand future economic benefit. There is here a potential to create market opportunities for the next 20-40 years.



Affordable Housing

Most Important concerns:

- Lack of housing, over crowding
- Proximity to schools, work
- Making best use of existing areas-quality intensive housing in suburbs.
 - Keep MUL –Build in a different way. Use new technology to design differently-low cost sustainable, energy-efficient (solar) water preservation (tasks).
- More Council involvement in social housing provision-public/private partnerships
- Quality housing design standards to allow for privacy
- Council planning to provide design for affordable low cost housing development
- More streamlined processes to keep building costs down but maintain integrity if inspections.
- Assistance to retrofit /upgrade older houses to make them more energy-efficient.
- Housing developed around transport, local amenities (schools, libraries, parks & shopping centres)

Improvement of Public Transport

Public Transport priorities for the next 30 years

- More bus links-feeder routes from suburbs to train stations throughout region
- Support train loop in central city-Reduce emissions
 - Reduce emissions
 - Reduce cars in center
- Maximize train travel-more buses linked to train- less busses on motorway
- Electrification-faster and a lot more trains available
- Free parking
 - Around hospitals-families already under pressure
 - Parking at train stations to encourage better use of train. Especially key station.
 - Long term planning-train stations have ability to 'grow'
 - May not be room for trains with more carriages
 - How is Auckland linking to other satellite towns? Hamilton, Whangare, Paeroa?
- Priority should be on longer travel-use bus links on shorter links.
- Priority areas should be set once plan is finalized



Long terms goals:

- Reduce congestion
- Short term plans should feed into main aim/goal
- Our transport needs to begin in own streets-need to make these safer for walking, cycling to reduce vehicle travel
- User pay services-contractor builds & users pay-no government input.
- Reduction of services:
 - Bring Auckland Council to Waitakere
 - Traffic moving in opposite direction