



Flinders Council

Priority Projects

2010

Message from the Mayor

The introduction of sustainability as a guiding principle in all decisions for the Council is not only sensible; it is crucial for our future. It is about adopting sustainability as the overarching guiding principle that drives decisions, integrates all sectors and provides a platform to grow.

I acknowledge that working towards sustainability will take a concerted effort from all levels of government but to substantially reduce the Council's future funding dependencies on State and Australian governments, large scale catalytic infrastructure projects, targeted social development and considered long term planning must be implemented.

In order to achieve a sustainable future for our community, the following priority projects have been identified. These outcomes require the support of the Tasmanian and Australian Governments working in partnership with the Flinders Council on behalf of the Islands diverse communities. These projects will provide the catalyst for development, options for the efficient use of Council's resources and deliver direct benefits to our community.

Sustainability and shared effort from all layers of Government should be the core to decision making and investment for the strategic direction and future of the region.

We extend an invitation to join with the Council to develop a new vision for the Islands; one that will secure the future of the place and its people while contributing to the growth and prosperity of Tasmania and the region.

Carol Cox
MAYOR

INTEGRATED RENEWABLE ENERGY SOLUTIONS

BACKGROUND

It is clear that the Flinders region cannot continue to burn diesel fuel to produce energy in the long term future. Alternative sources of renewable energy must be established on the island to ensure its future sustainability. Much of the preliminary work has been done on alternative energy solutions and it has now come to the funding of proposals such as Hydro Tasmania's proposal for Flinders Island.

THE PROJECT

The project will consist of an integrated renewable energy plan for Flinders Island and the implementation of this plan including the installation and commissioning of the required infrastructure. It is envisaged that the project will consist of a combination of wind, solar and tidal energy generation systems and is strongly aligned and critical to achieving our strategic plan in maintaining and building a strong economy.

The project objectives are to:

- reduce the dependence on diesel generated electricity;
- reduce emissions;
- demonstrate the potential of renewable energy in larger energy systems; and
- establish a leading renewable energy based power system.



BENEFITS

- ⊙ Sustainability in the energy sector
- ⊙ Greater energy capacity
- ⊙ Greatly reduced reliance on diesel for energy production
- ⊙ Reduced cost of diesel generated energy, currently \$1.2 million per annum
- ⊙ Full utilisation of abundant wind, solar and tidal resources
- ⊙ Greater potential to market the island for population growth and tourism development
- ⊙ The ability to attract "green energy" investment

Seeking \$15,000,000

TRANSFER OF ROAD OWNERSHIP TO STATE GOVERNMENT

BACKGROUND

The transfer of road ownership is a direct endeavour to bring the Council into a secure financial position. The concept will allow the limited resources of the Council to be redirected and increases its capacity to sustainably manage the financial resources of the Council.

THE PROJECT

The proposal is to transfer of ownership and maintenance costs of the main link road B85 from Lady Barron to Palana from the Council to the State Government. This proposal is similar to the agreement the State Government has with King Island on its main link road.



BENEFITS

- ⦿ Council financial sustainability
- ⦿ Reduce future requests for government assistance
- ⦿ Redirection of limited Council revenue to other areas of development within the municipality
- ⦿ Relieves financial pressures of the Council

B85 LINK ROAD		
Road value (replacement)	\$7,912,348.40	
Current road maintenance per year	\$66,615	
Current capital works per year	\$150,000	
Total current costs per year	\$216,165	
FAG's grant	\$70,000	
Depreciation	\$147,000	
Funding implications		
Savings from existing cost of maintenance and capital works		\$216,165
Earnings from capital work and maintenance from State Gov't		\$216,165
Lost of FAG's grants		-\$70,000
Released depreciation funds		\$147,000
Total potential turn around for the Council per year		\$509,330

Seeking \$220,000 per year ongoing and indexed to CPI rates

COMMUNITY GARDENING AND SUSTAINABLE LIVING PROJECT

BACKGROUND

The availability of fresh fruit and vegetables on Flinders Island is highly dependent on importing produce. The establishment of suitable local food production will alleviate this costly exercise and provide the community with quality fresh produce. Flinders Island also faces challenges in relation to organic waste management and recycling. This project seeks to build the capacity within the community to achieve sustainability through locally based food production, organic waste treatment and recycling



THE PROJECT

The Community through this Council sponsored project has engaged a consultant to assist in making our community more self sufficient, efficient and sustainable.

This project seeks to build food growing capacity within the local community by supporting existing producers and by helping new producers to grow crops effectively.

Key elements of the concept include the establishment of a local food producer's network, food mapping, a distribution and

marketing network and the establishment of a community run demonstration garden that includes appropriate waste management and energy and water efficiency technologies.

BENEFITS

The benefits are many and varied with this project, such as:

- ⦿ Less reliance on imported fruit and vegetables;
- ⦿ Healthier choices for the community;
- ⦿ Provision of fresh, healthy and affordable fruit and vegetables that have minimal "food miles" associated with the produce;
- ⦿ Creation of employment and business opportunities;
- ⦿ Sharing of knowledge about gardening and sustainable living;
- ⦿ Provision of information and practical demonstrations of alternative technologies for energy and water;
- ⦿ Provision of skills to implement sustainable living techniques; and
- ⦿ Recycling of green waste and other materials produced on site, together with an additional opportunity for community members to direct their own "kitchen" and green waste to the composting facility.



SEEKING \$20,000 (plus up to \$850,000 for implementation)

LADY BARRON PORT REDEVELOPMENT

BACKGROUND

Sea access is critical to the sustainability of the region and part of the equation is to have an attractive, safe, efficient and functional port(s) area that meets the needs of users. As part of determining the most appropriate way forward, the Council recently commissioned a report to develop a port(s) vision for Flinders. The report identified that there has been very little investment into maintenance of the ports on Flinders over the past decade and now the infrastructure on both ports is in need of major upgrades which significantly hinders the future sustainability of the ports. The report also identified Lady Barron port as the key sea access point for the region but the area is in need of a total redevelopment to improve access and efficiencies for both commercial shipping operations, recreational and private marine activities and land based stakeholders.

THE PROJECT

The project would involve the sustainable redevelopment of the Lady Barron port precinct by improving infrastructure and operational systems to facilitate shipping services that meet the needs of the general community,



agriculture and business sectors, together with providing appropriate investment opportunities for tourism. The redevelopment would address areas such as port land use, port infrastructure, traffic movement, cargo and stock handling facilities, commercial and recreational fishing requirements, public access and port amenity. The completed project would see a new marina and redeveloped shipping and handling facilities, producing an attractive, vibrant and functional port area.

BENEFITS

- ⦿ More functional and sustainable port facilities
- ⦿ Ability to attract investment into the port area
- ⦿ Gained efficiencies through consolidation of port activities
- ⦿ Long term vision implemented and future of port area secured

Seeking \$25 million over five years

FURNEAUX ISLANDS WASTE MANAGEMENT

BACKGROUND

Currently waste management in the Furneaux Islands is archaic and needs to be brought in line with contemporary waste management practices. The current practice of the majority of rubbish going into land fill as bulk unsorted waste (pictured), has considerable harmful side effects. It is acknowledge that it will

take considerable effort, community support and investment to change the behaviours of the community but before this can be attempted, investment into waste management facilities that will accommodate contemporary waste management practices is needed. The outcomes of a recycle, reuse and reprocess waste management facility and the development of local policy to



reflect this will take the region closer to being a sustainable community and lessen its impact on the environment. Council simply does not have the financial capacity to implement modern waste management facilities on Flinders and Cape Barren Islands. Cape Barren Island is particularly problematic since the land transfer to the Tasmanian Aboriginal community. Waste management on isolated Islands is an expensive and complex issue and Council seeks the State Governments support in modernising these facilities.

THE PROJECT

The project would involve the: design, construction, equipment installation and commissioning of a new waste management facilities to completely overhaul waste management on the Islands. It would provide the Council with a comprehensive strategy to sustainably manage the waste imported to and produced on the Islands.

The project would include the:

- Design and redevelopment of current tip sites and transfer stations;
- Establishment of reprocessing facilities and equipment for metal, glass, paper and plastics;
- Research into internal and external uses for reprocessed materials;

BENEFITS

- ⊙ Sustainable waste management that minimises impacts on the environment
- ⊙ Alleviation of pressure on existing land fill capacity
- ⊙ Potential commercial return on reprocess and recycled waste (markets identified in design phase)
- ⊙ Reuse of resources that are imported to Flinders
- ⊙ Community sense of pride

Seeking \$4,000,000

WHITEMARK MASTER PLAN

BACKGROUND

Mainly due to historical reasons Whitemark, as with many other isolated community townships, has suffered a miss match of development within the township. In order to provide for urban growth, consolidate industrial activities, minimise environmental impacts and improve amenity of the township the development of a master plan is necessary.

The development and implementation of a master plan for Whitemark will enable the sustainable growth that will maximise economic development opportunities; minimise environmental impacts and enhance the social well being of the township.

THE PROJECT

The project will establish a master plan that will clearly defined growth and development strategies for Whitemark and ensure development is appropriate, sensitive, and well-designed. The master plan would provide for a diverse range of housing requirements, a range of tourist accommodation, consolidation of industry and ensure communities have access to services and facilities.

The master plan will consider:

- Population and residential planning;
- Management of natural resources;
- Industry and retail requirements;
- Transport and parking requirements;
- Future infrastructure development; and
- Public access.

Specifically the master plan will provide a strategy for the sustainable development of Whitemark that addresses:

- Affordable housing;
- Lagoon area and storm water management;
- Golf course integration;
- Industrial park development; and
- Open public space and movement.

BENEFITS

- ⊙ An integrated sustainable long term approach to the development and management residential, industrial and retail activities within Whitemark
- ⊙ Industrial activities removed from the main street of Whitemark
- ⊙ Better environmental management practice in an urban area
- ⊙ Improvement management of storm water and lagoon system within the township boundaries
- ⊙ Integration with the Whitemark Beautification plan
- ⊙ Provide a platform for potential investment attraction

Seeking \$200,000

FLINDERS REGION BRAND PROJECT

BACKGROUND

The Flinders region needs to develop and clearly articulate the brand proposition to its current and potential future consumers. The Flinders region produces quality products; however, the branding of these products has been ad hoc and not consistently applied across the region. In an increasingly competitive market place, the Flinders region needs to establish itself as a supplier of quality produce and products that are uniquely different from other regions. The development of this project will provide a platform for the region to deliver a recognisable brand that establishes a unique proposition for consumers and creates demand for the region's products. The Flinders region brand project will significantly build on existing brand development work undertaken by the Flinders tourism industry.

THE PROJECT

The Flinders region brand project will develop a destination brand position; and will include research on brand development, consumer testing, industries' application and the implementation of brand into the market place. The project will fund experts in the field to develop and implement a brand and the associated strategy to implement it.

The project's aim will be to establish the regional brand and enable the positioning of the region's products into the market place with a strong brand presence and message.

The project will consist of:

- Research into the brand proposition, including consumer testing;
- The development of the brand proposition;
- Development of a brand implementation strategy;
- Launch and implementation of the brand and strategy;
- Support for brand implementation and incorporation into industries across the region; and
- Evaluation of brand proposition.

BENEFITS

- ⊙ High visibility and recognition of Flinders' region and its quality produce
- ⊙ Integrated and inclusive approach to branding the region from all industry sectors
- ⊙ Establishment of a high yield proposition for consumers
- ⊙ Establishment of a unique marketing proposition
- ⊙ Potential investment attraction through the establishment of a strong branding position and presence
- ⊙ Increased economic sustainability
- ⊙ Increased community knowledge, support and ownership

Seeking \$500,000 over 3 years