

towards 2060



think of the possibilities



A record of Design the Future workshops held on 11, 24 and 31 March, 2010

HOWICK

Design the
future



Compiled by David Hay on behalf of the Howick community.

To access the flipcharts and photos of this and other Design the Future Workshops go to www.towards2060.org.nz/outputs/

Background information used in the design of these workshops can also be found on the Towards 2060 website.

Draft Report on the Howick Community Design the Future Workshop.....	1
Introduction to Towards 2060.....	4
The Howick Community.....	5
Howick Ward Map.....	6
Community Advocacy Plan.....	7
Howick’s Workshop Output (day one).....	7
1. The <i>Zoom</i> Game.....	7
2. Key Challenges for Howick.....	8
3. Big Picture Sustainability issues.....	9
4. The Four System Conditions.....	10
5. Focus on Human Needs.....	10
6. Initial Visioning – priorities for Howick.....	11
Howick Workshop outputs (day two).....	12
1. Open space session One.....	12
2. Open space session Two.....	13
Howick Workshop outputs (day three).....	13
1. Key Vision Statements.....	13
2. Actions and Milestones.....	14
3. Transport.....	14
4. Urban Design.....	15
5. Environment.....	15
Implications for Families, Communities and Organisations.....	16
Facilitators’ Perspective.....	16
Appendix A: The Natural Step.....	18
The Natural Step.....	18
Conditions for Sustainability.....	19
The Sustainability Funnel.....	21
Appendix B.....	23
Workshop Participants:.....	23

Introduction to Towards 2060

Towards 2060 is a project for the communities of Manukau, facilitated by Manukau City Council, on behalf of its Tomorrow's Manukau partnership, working with community boards.

Through facilitated community workshops called Design the Future, Towards 2060 aims to inform, stimulate and provoke discussion within a community about the long term future; the community's future. The conversation considers: opportunities for social and economic development which recognise the finite nature of global and local natural resources; how to incorporate changes in demographics and technologies; and how consideration of these issues can be incorporated into the planning of local communities.

Ideally the conversations are part of an on-going discussion which continues to examine significant drivers of change and their potential effects. It is anticipated that these conversations will trigger individual and collective actions to develop living patterns which are sustainable in the longer term.

Towards 2060 was originally intended to be part of the legislated review of community outcomes. With the impending changes to Auckland governance and potential amendments to the Local Government Act (2002) the original purpose of the project has taken a lower profile. However, given this change of governance, now is a good time for communities to consider their own future so that they can better articulate their collective view to the Auckland Council and Local Boards.

In the meantime, the output of the workshops will be available for the policy development of Community Boards, Council and Tomorrow's Manukau partners, to enable them to support community aspirations. It is stressed however that we can only put that information forward; at this stage there can be no certainty it will be used.

It is commonly stated that we can't predict the future. While that is the case, we can look at future trends, including mega-trends which will impact from global to local scales. We know for example that oil is a finite resource and that even the most optimistic reports consider that demand will outstrip supply within a couple of decades. The majority of reports signal a much shorter timeframe. That one change alone will

have a dramatic impact on our social and economic fabric. The real unknown is not that oil will become less readily available as production declines but how we as individuals, communities and nations will respond.

That's the core purpose of the conversations - to consider the future while recognising that our resource base and climate are changing. This will allow us to be proactive in addressing those challenges, building more flexibility and resilience into our lifestyles and becoming less dependent on many of the commodities and services we now take for granted. Opportunities will emerge through that process, often with a localised flavour, to enhance the community and economy.

These conversations are happening in many parts of the world between people and their governments, using a framework known as *The Natural Step* (TNS) – see Appendix A for details of this framework and the tools it uses. The communities of Manukau are now a part of that global network.

The Howick Community

Howick has a strong sense of identity largely forged by its geographical location and past history.

Howick is coastal settlement with several good swimming beaches. There are well established tree-lined streets and gardens. Green space has been preserved and there are many beautiful parks.

The Howick area has been occupied by Maori for over 800 years. The tangata whenua of the Howick area are the Ngai Tai people who are descendants of the Tainui waka. The European village of Howick was settled by Fencible soldier-settlers in 1847 to protect Auckland, which was then the capital of New Zealand. Their history has been preserved in the popular Howick Historical Village.

Heritage is very important to Howick's residents. Particular areas of Howick are protected by the District Plan to the preserve their special features.

Howick Ward Map



Figure 6: the Howick Area

Howick has the third highest population among the seven wards in Manukau (39,438). It is home to more Europeans (66%) than any other ward with a significant proportion of its residents belonging to the Asian ethnic group (24%). The rest of the population consist of 4% Maori and 2% Pacific peoples.

More than half of the working population hold high-end occupations in professional, managerial and technical fields with matching high personal and household income levels. Howick residents join neighbouring Pakuranga and Botany-Clevedon as the most highly

qualified, with 18% holding an advanced vocational or higher qualification, while 14% of residents do not hold any formal qualification, the lowest level in the City (*Source: 2006 Census*).

Community Advocacy Plan

Howick's current community advocacy plan captures information on priorities produced through various planning processes. Due to be updated this year, the Howick advocacy plan will be made available as an input into Local Board Plans of the new Auckland Council. The Towards 2060 workshop output can be used by the Community Board to set a longer-term vision which the Advocacy Plan can in part address.

Howick's Workshop Output (day one)

This report captures key elements of the discussions at the Design the Future workshop.

1. The *Zoom* Game

The workshop commenced with a round of introductions and the "Zoom Game". This game is designed to build understanding about the importance of systems thinking, and why it is important that people are able to see the big picture.



2. Key Challenges for Howick

The group discussed the Key Challenges for Howick.



The group identified the following current issues or concerns:

Identity: preserving unique historic features; sense of place; history/story/whakapapa; spirit and soul; colonial village atmosphere; isolated community; diversity and ethnicity; mixed cultures; interaction; law and order issues.

Growth: managing change; too many people; densely populated; younger generation; planning and managing; impact on infrastructure (water, power, communications); subdivision of large properties; facilities (medical, sports, schools, retail/food)

Transport: dealing with traffic problems; transport planning; public transport connection to Half Moon Bay terminal;

Housing: design, preserving view shafts to ocean; shortage will lead to different types of;

Green space: retaining a sense of "open space"; protecting green spaces; access to beaches

Employment: local opportunities; creating sustainable employment; local industry.

3. Big Picture Sustainability issues

After considering the problem of sustainability (the “funnel”) the group identified the following big picture issues for Howick:

- Energy alternatives to fossil fuels
- Sustainable alternatives to cars.
- Public Transport system accessible to everyone.
- A wharf at Howick beach.
- A sense of identity (Keep Howick).
- Lifestyles. Values. Human relationships
- Wealth and poverty – employment – education.
- Waste.
- Clean and quality; protect local mountains and parks, beaches.
- Respect for people and nature.
- Supermarkets – entertainment – infrastructure.
- Improve transportation – buses, ferries.
- Encourage residents to use public transport.
- Tramway line and Panmure via Pakuranga Highway.
- Population growth
- A changing and aging population.
- A sense of safety.
- Environment
- Water.
- Pollution – health of people, of plants.
- Self-sufficiency
- Work and live in Howick.

4. The Four System Conditions

The group considered the four system conditions for sustainability, and how these relate to Howick.

What we Take	What we Make
Petrol/cars/transport Things made from oil: plastics, detergents. Energy & electricity Security lighting Metals for "stuff" Wood Landfill of e-waste	Pharmaceuticals Batteries Chemicals Paint Plastics Industrial waste Marine environment: Howick by the sea Pesticides
What we Break (destroy)	How we Share
Cutting down trees Stormwater monitoring Re-planting Building impacts Marine environment Pigeon Mountain (Pakuranga) Pets, pesticides	Employment opportunities Affordability/wealth Unseen poverty Housing, rates affordability (older people especially) Aged population Economic growth/progress Cultural recognition Marae

5. Focus on Human Needs

The group then focused more specifically on System Condition four, and the nine categories of basic human needs, in terms of what they mean for Howick.

Subsistence	Increase local jobs Grow veggies, food
Protection	Neighbourhood support Community involvement Self-responsibility
Participation	Security/protection Youth groups, sports Incentivise (rate reductions) More men!
Idleness	Playgrounds / recreation grounds Pleasant parks – theatre, cinema, shows
Affection	Mutual respect / self-respect Hugging "Have a hug in Howick" Adopt a family
Understanding	Cultural, natural environment Young vs. Old – contributions

Creativity	Education / drama /arts youth Buildings / architecture History
Identity	Community spirit Embrace change Cultural recognition Tell the stories
Freedom	Open space Tai Chi Respect Liberate the spirit Respect boundaries Listening and dialogue

6. Initial Visioning – priorities for Howick

An initial sorting of priorities was made by “voting” with stickers.



Howick Workshop outputs (day two)

The second workshop session was held on the evening of 24 March. The session began with a review of TNS principles and the initial vision from the first workshop.

The group then went into two rounds of “open space” workshops to develop elements of a vision for Howick in 2060.

Session One	Session Two
Transport Spiritual Well-being Environment Education	Viable Economy Urban Design Intensification Howick wharf (see session 1 transport)

1. Open space session One

Transport	<p>Problems: Howick’s isolation. Solving the problem of an inefficient commute, the impact on the environment, time spent away from home.</p> <p>Solutions: work from home, alternative working hours, local jobs. Affordable and reliable public transport. Better public transport: bus, monorail, ferry. A wharf at Howick. Cycling network.</p>
Spiritual Well-being	<p>Sense of belonging – the village. Churches missing community involvement. Settlers find difficulty breaking into the community – church not helping. Racial divisions strong. Barriers to involvement. Personal control of time; for shopping, family. Farmers markets – good for togetherness. Future concern for the other person’s concerns and life. Connection to the creator – God.</p>
Environment	<p>Community recycling Own home = recycle (composting) toilet, food scraps. Insulation & double-glazing Education – not to drop rubbish. For new residents. A “community table” for excess produce. A sense of looking after each other: facilities for children, looking after elderly, a community hall, place to sit and talk, play games. More than one in key places.</p>
Education	<p>Being self sufficient. Education starts at home. Different types of teaching/learning: Life-long learning, Practical learning, Community based teaching. Community development. Home > School > Community > home (etc).</p>

2. Open space session Two

Economy	Thriving – capitalize on heritage as a point of difference Double the population. Local market too small to provide employment after education. Keep skilled and educated people in New Zealand, and in Howick. Family – the place to bring up children. Tourism: Howick historical village (translator)
Urban Design	Melting pot for cultures – diversity, colour-blind Heritage preserved Values – sharing, hospitality, honesty – truth, peace, harmony.
Population	Senior Citizens in 2060 Lifestyle; living longer; thinking and acting younger Retirement Age = 70? Accommodation – community control Travel – international - technology - shopping Transport: solar-powered, senior friendly Health: fitness, nutrition, education, rights

Howick Workshop outputs (day three)

1. Key Vision Statements

The group's ideal vision of Howick's long-term future would include the following aspects:

- Howick will be a destination people will want to visit
- Historic sites and buildings will be maintained and history celebrated.
- Howick will have a heart with a central village (i.e. an Italian piazza – a modern replication of early Howick)
- Howick will be an “arts” destination.
- Howick will be middle-upper socio-economic community
- Howick will be a safe and healthy place to live
- Howick will continue to have a sense of family and belonging (groups, activities, links, sharing and unity – with schools and churches)
- Howick will adopt ethos/values of warmth, integrity and friendliness.
- Howick will be environmentally “green” – including waste minimisation, source of energy where possible, vehicle use reduced, parks and open spaces retained.
- Howick will retain a high quality standard of housing.

2. Actions and Milestones



The group then worked on identifying actions that could be taken toward achieving some milestones, which would be achieved by 2030.

These focused on three key areas: Transport, Urban Design, and Environment.

3. Transport

Action	Milestone (by 2030)
<p>Carpooling</p> <p>Increased public transport</p>	<p>Majority (of households) have one car per family.</p> <p>Public transport well-used</p> <p>Fewer accidents</p> <p>Less fumes – healthier people</p> <p>More cyclists/walking, and less dangerous</p> <p>Cleaner, safer</p>
<p>Identify ideal routes – connect through parks.</p> <p>Make key contacts with Council, DHB, PHO, ARTA and cycling clubs.</p> <p>Create Howick recreational walking and cycling group.</p> <p>Use existing walking clubs to promote cycling.</p>	<p>Cycleways to all key destinations – not shared by cars.</p> <p>Recreational cycle network (coastal areas, etc), is strong and well-used.</p>

4. Urban Design

Action	Milestone
An Arts destination: Planning with artists from different cultures: drama, kapa haka, Chinese folk dancing, performing arts, painting, calligraphy, embroidery, crafts.	Multi-cultural arts centre established
A Piazza (for Howick town centre) Visit piazzas around the world (!) Community planning	Community planning has taken place Building and construction completed.

5. Environment

Action	Milestone (by 2030)
Campaign for interested parties to conduct research –including community brainstorming meetings.	Supermarkets/stores will use less packaging and no plastic bags.
Cliffs inspected and strategies for planting or retention be explored. Feedback to community.	Cliffs will be safe and secure.
Water testing to continue to investigate problems, and remedy publicised to develop community awareness.	Families will use local beaches with confidence (swim, sail, etc).
Develop educational programmes for school. Local groups to be educated. Adoption of areas by local groups/schools.	Community will be well educated in ways to protect and regenerate native flora and fauna, and this will be reflected in our parks and reserves, and streams.
Maintain current walks to a high standard. Develop new walks. Explore transport links to walks from central Howick.	Tourists and visitors will come to this area to “walk our walks” (and subsequently spend money here!).
Lessons offered to residents. Mentoring from each other. Local gardeners and horticultural society / garden clubs. Public competitions!!	Residents will have individual or shared community gardens.
Additional publicity and enforcement of litter laws by local body enforcement officer. Stiff penalties. Celebration of successes (awards to children, businesses, etc)	Howick will be a clean and litter free village.
Investigate legal move to ensure <u>NO</u> local parks will be removed or built on.	Residents and visitors will continue to enjoy “green spaces” in Howick.

Action	Milestone (by 2030)
Education programmes for families. Education programmes in local schools. Mentoring by grandparents.	Residents of Howick will be able to explain why Howick's environment is clean and green, and how this is achieved.

Implications for Families, Communities and Organisations

Participants at the Howick workshops identified a number of potential priorities and actions, which could be responded to at individual or family and community level. Many, but not all, of these would need to be supported by responses from a variety of organisations.

Developing sustainable options for travel in and around the immediate area – short distance trips – as an alternative to using cars was suggested as a way to reduce environmental impacts and improve health. This would involve changes to transport infrastructure and urban design to achieve the desired outcomes.

Environmental actions focussed heavily on an educated population responding by making informed choices that would minimise human impact on ecosystems, and indeed enhance them.

Social well-being was also highlighted by participants and there was considerable discussion about various elements for a resilient community in Howick. These included a spiritual dimension, a strong sense of identity drawn at least in part from pride in Howick's settler past, diversity recognised through cultural and artistic endeavour, and a safe and secure environment where people interacted and respected one another.

Facilitators' Perspective

The Howick Towards 2060 Design the Future workshops were generally well-attended with a high degree of enthusiasm evident from participants.

Our overall impression of the Howick workshop was the community's desire to see threads of the past continue into the future. Traditions such as the Santa parade and Christmas Tree Lights need to be carried forward. People enjoy the location, the

sense of history and the pleasant surroundings. They want to maintain and enhance the quality of life they enjoy, and also to share it with visitors and tourists. This applied to both the built environment (the town centre Piazza) and the natural environment (the parks, green spaces and shoreline).

An area that emerged as a clear concern for the future was the problem of transport, and the need for better, more environmentally-friendly options.

There are also clearly social concerns, and a desire to deal with these proactively. In particular the aging population of the area, and the need to effectively welcome and integrate new arrivals into a community that has a strong sense of identity and history.

Several participants expressed their interest in continuing these conversations, particularly with regard to including a broader perspective (for example from students and business operators) and progressing specific actions aimed at achieving a possible, preferred and plausible future.

These priorities and actions would require support from a number of government agencies and the Auckland Council. There was, however, a sense that much of the driving force for implementation would come from the community itself; a sense too of a desire to be active participants in determining the future for Howick.

Appendix A: The Natural Step

The Natural Step

Towards 2060 has chosen *The Natural Step* (TNS) as a framework for considering and achieving a shared understanding of what sustainable development means. While elements of TNS are common to other strategic planning frameworks, TNS deals specifically with sustainable development and has been used extensively by communities and businesses in many countries. Founded in Sweden 20 years ago, it has stood the test of time and formed an international network of accredited practitioners, a small group of whom are based in New Zealand, and are part of Towards 2060.

The TNS framework is based on thinking about the “whole system” or the “big picture” before focusing down on a strategy or plan of action. It progresses through a series of five levels to help prioritise actions and ways of assessing their success. A system can be anything from an individual’s lifestyle to a nation’s long-term strategy.

Games like *Zoom* help us visualise a system and the importance of understanding the inter-relationships of components within the system. The emphasis is on ensuring the broader context of a problem is fully understood so that in solving one problem, there isn’t an unintended negative impact elsewhere within the system. Considering the whole system also helps us put some of the tools for sustainability into perspective. In seeking a solution to a problem, we avoid using tools that are less than optimal for the whole system.

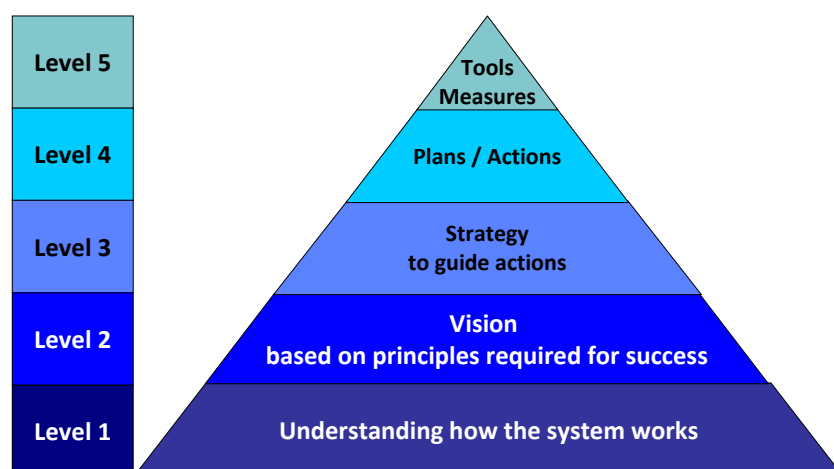


Figure 1: Five level framework, developing from big picture to measuring success

TNS has also developed *system conditions*, “objectives”, which, if followed, will ensure that the direction of development is sustainable. System conditions particularly fit in level 2 above but can then be applied to guide strategies and actions. The conditions define what is required to achieve a “sustainable world”. They provide a checklist for developments and can be used in any planning context to help analyse and prioritise choices. With current technologies and options available to us, the way forward may not fully satisfy all the conditions but still be the best choice at the present time.

Conditions for Sustainability

WHAT WE TAKE

Continually reduce and eliminate our dependence on mined metals, minerals and fossil fuels - *extract less, reuse, recycle, use renewable resources*

WHAT WE MAKE

Continually reduce and eliminate our use of manufactured non-degradable chemicals and substances - *use natural alternatives and recyclable materials*

WHAT WE DESTROY

Continually reduce and eliminate our dependence on activities that cause physical encroachment upon the natural environment - *draw resources from sustainably managed eco-systems, restore nature, protect biodiversity*

HOW WE SHARE

Ensure that people everywhere are treated fairly and with respect to enable them to meet their needs efficiently – *look after people, share resources fairly*

Figure 2: Sustainability conditions to assist in planning processes

The conversation around the system conditions can be expanded by considering what contributes to the fourth system condition “How we Share”, and understanding basic needs. Based on research by Max Neef, nine inter-connected satisfiers of human needs have been identified. The emphasis becomes how to satisfy those needs in a community, while working towards the first three objectives.

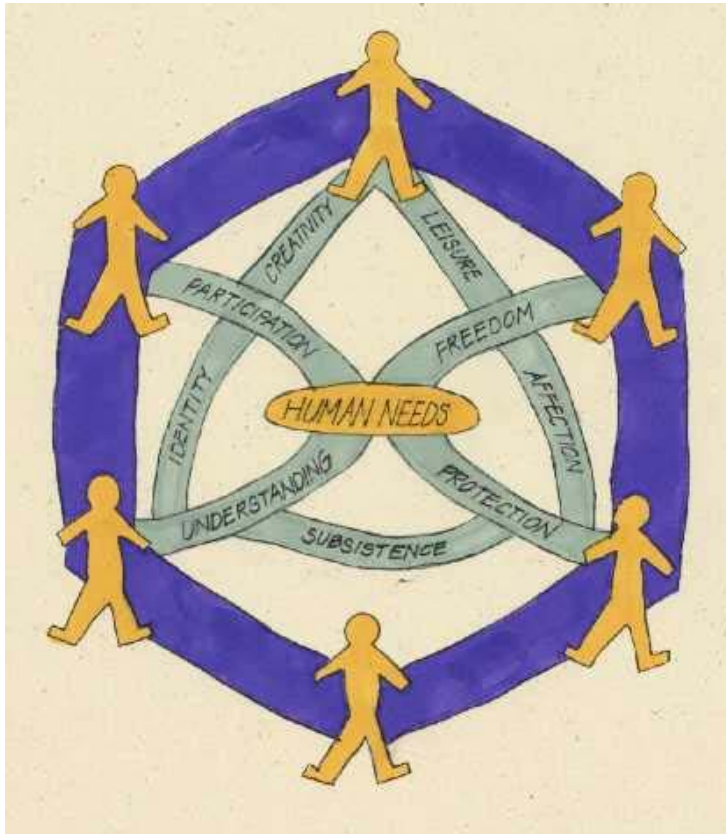


Figure 3: Fundamental human needs as identified by the research of Max Neef

TNS uses *trees* as a metaphor. The four conditions, like the roots of a tree, underpin a wide range of services - the 'branches and leaves' - within any system, be it an organisation or community or country. They provide a commonality of purpose, ensuring the many parts of that system have a collective understanding of success.

TNS uses another metaphor which helps to focus on key issues for a system, the *funnel*. This describes how pressures are increasing as resources are decreasing. It can be applied to a wide range of situations. The end-game is to stop the sides of the funnel colliding; pass through the apex of the funnel and start to open it out the other side. Discussion occurs around the question: what actions are required to make that happen?

The Sustainability Funnel

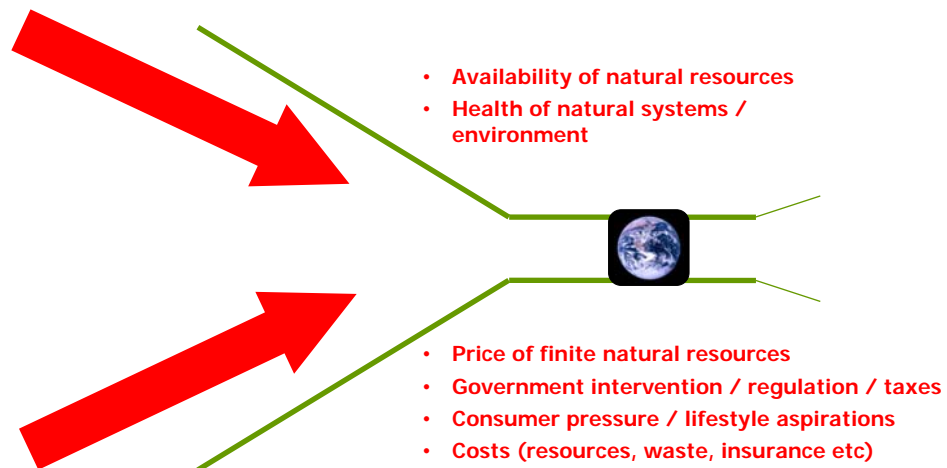


Figure 4: The funnel which can be applied to a wide range of current contexts

Yet another TNS tool is used to start to develop priorities for action with the community. It's known as the *ABCD model* where A is awareness of the system under discussion and the future challenges or forces that will impact on it; B is the baseline, where the system is now, is it working well, is it resilient in the face of future changes?; C is the vision of the future. In *Towards 2060* we use the year 2060 as a point in time to focus on but it could be any other date sufficiently far in the future to take participants out of the current state and think about what is down that future road. The preferred future that is envisioned must also be plausible, based on what we believe will be the challenges and opportunities of the future and it must be possible, that is, achievable. It's a practical exercise which needs to consider financial benefits and constraints and ensure there can be flexibility in achieving the vision. Following the creation of that vision there is a process known as *backcasting* which returns from the vision to the present day and considers what incremental steps and actions (D) are required to create the vision. The ABCD framework is a simple process but each step is necessary to get the best outcome.

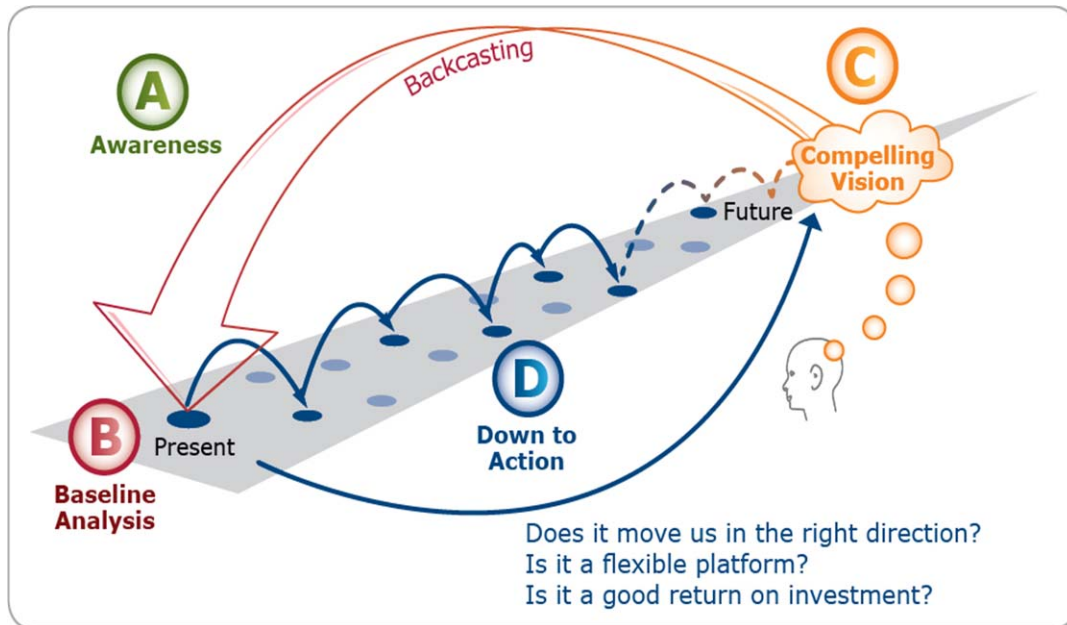


Figure 5: A planning framework

Appendix B:

Workshop Participants

Note that this is a combined list - not all people attended all four sessions.

Attendees

- Adele White
- Antoine Xulu
- Antony Wei
- Ben Toi
- Bettina Harold
- Dereece Leef
- Emma Jeffery
- G.S Rouge
- Gabriel Goh
- Ian George
- Indira Barker
- Jan Oakes
- Jennifer Jeffery
- Jim Donald
- Julia Wei
- Juntao Chen
- Lily
- Lyn Murphy
- Loraine Elliott
- Mary
- Maurice Ritchie
- Mei Yao
- Parvin Kapila
- Sue Ngatai
- Veronica Ligaliga
- Yvonne & Wayne Thornton
- Zan Iqual
- Zena Spencer

Facilitators

- James Samuel
- Simon Harvey

Also present

- Bernedette Pereira MCC Community Advisor for Howick
- Shirley Samuels Howick Community Board Relationship Manager
- David Hay MCC Strategy & Policy Department
- John Adams MCC Strategy & Policy Department