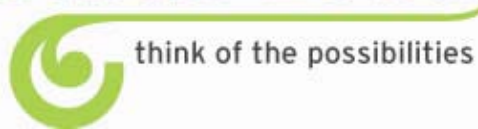


towards 2060



A record of the Design the Future workshops held on 10, 11 and 17 July 2010

PAKURANGA

Design the
future



Compiled by David Hay on behalf of the Pakuranga 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.

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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 its long term 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. The project will be evaluated in terms of its effectiveness, and it is intended that there will be an ongoing process of improvement.

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 focus has changed, but the original purpose is not diminished. This change of governance is perhaps the best possible 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.¹ It is stressed however that we can only put that information forward; at this stage there can be no certainty it will be used.

Designing the Future

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

¹ For more information about Tomorrow's Manukau, including a list of partner organisations, go to www.tomorrowsmanukau.co.nz

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 – raising awareness, so that we are better informed to consider the forces for change in the 21st century and the challenges they present.

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 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 which includes cities such as Whistler in Canada and Hammarby Sjostad on the outskirts of Stockholm in Sweden².

The Pakuranga Community

Originally occupied by the Ngai Tai people and known as 'Pakuranga raahihi', Pakuranga gained its name from a legend about a battle between the 'turehu' (night dwelling creatures) of Waitakere and Hunua, over an eloped maiden who would not be returned home. The battle raged fiercely near Pigeon Mountain, until the Hunua tohunga (priest) caused the sun to rise prematurely. Hence the name Pakuranga or 'battle of the sun's rays', as we know it today.

The first European settlers to move to Pakuranga were the Fencibles from Howick. They established themselves in Pigeon Mountain and Bucklands Beach - feeling an affinity to a countryside that reminded them of Britain. Pakuranga developed into a rich farming district. Cattle, sheep, horses and pigs were bred, and crops also flourished in the favourable growing conditions. Much of the produce was consumed by residents of nearby Howick, with the surplus was sent to markets in Auckland.

From the 1950s, Pakuranga began to change from a farming community into a residential suburb. The current Panmure Bridge was built in 1959. In 1965 the Pakuranga Town Centre and Ti Rakau Drive were established. By the 1980s Pakuranga had virtually ceased to grow as very few green field sites were available for development, however a trend to infill housing has led to a slow population increase.

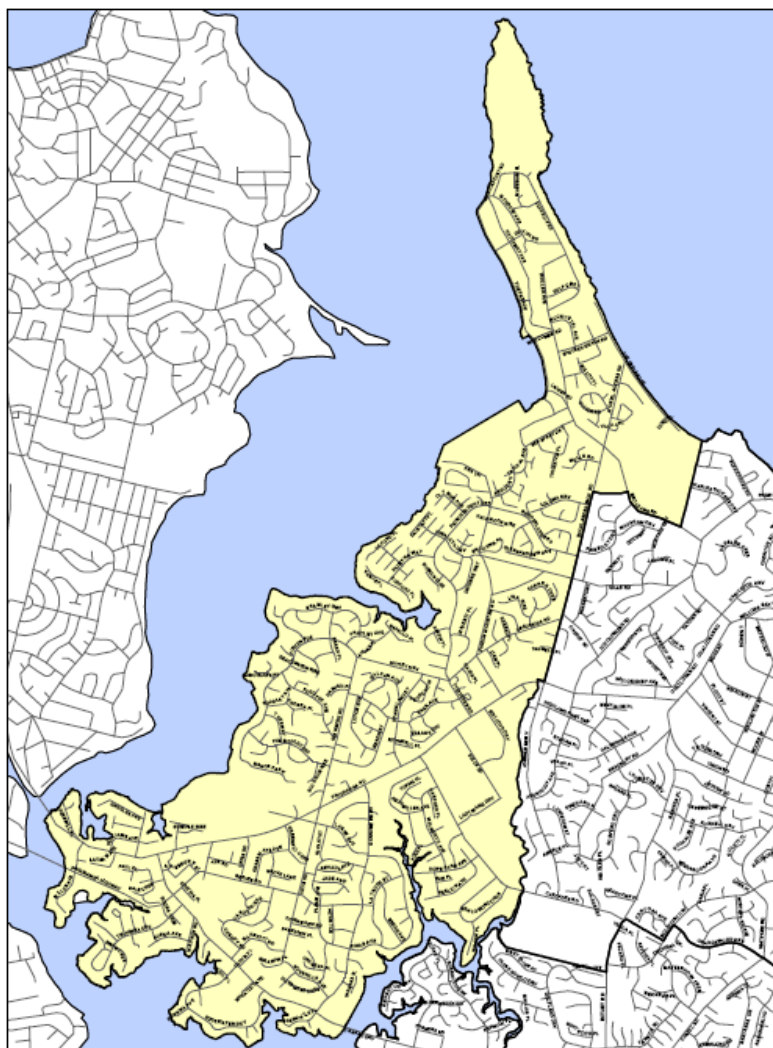
In the 2006 census, the population was made up of Europeans (57%), Asian (30%), followed by Maori (6%) and Pacific Peoples (4%).

² Go to <http://www.towards2060.org.nz/examples-of-sustainable-communities/> for more information.

Pakuranga has the second largest European and third largest Asian population of the wards in Manukau City.

The median age was 36, which was 5 years higher than that of Manukau City as a whole. Pakuranga has the lowest number of young people aged below 20 years, and the highest proportion of elderly at 17%. There is a high level of home ownership with 70% of residents owning, or holding in trust, their properties.

Figure 1: Pakuranga Ward Map



Community Advocacy Plan

Pakuranga's current Community Advocacy Plan³ 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

³ View the Howick Community Advocacy Plan and read about the Community Board at <http://www.towards2060.org.nz/pakuranga/>

Towards 2060 workshop output⁴ can be used by the Community Board to set a longer-term vision which the Advocacy Plan can in part address.

Pakuranga Workshop (day one)

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

The *Zoom* Game

The workshop began with the “Zoom” game, as a warm-up exercise and to introduce the whole group to the concept of systems thinking.



The game stimulated a good discussion about:

1. how the big picture is comprised of individual pictures
2. every person sees a part of the “big picture”
3. how one missing link means the whole story cannot be seen
4. a shy person, who keeps information to themselves or doesn't speak up, could hold a missing link

⁴ See more of the Towards 2060 workshops, including Pakuranga, at <http://www.towards2060.org.nz/outputs-2/>

Key Challenges for Pakuranga

The group discussed the big issues and sustainability issues for the Pakuranga community.

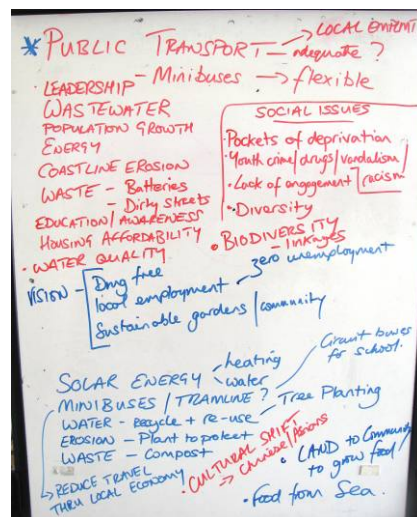
After morning tea we learned about the A-B-C-D planning model (see page 21) and reviewed the "Forces for Change" section of the Towards 2060 website – with a focus on energy, oil supply and uncertainties about the future cost of fossil fuels.

This was followed by a discussion at each table on the key sustainability challenges for Pakuranga.



The group identified the following current issues:

- Public Transport
- Leadership
- Wastewater
- Population growth
- Coastline erosion
- Waste
- Housing affordability
- Water quality
- Social Issues (pockets of deprivation, youth crime, racism, diversity, lack of engagement)
- Lack of education and awareness about sustainability issues



Some ideas about dealing with these issues also came from the discussion:

- Solar Energy
- Minibuses, trams; reducing travel through local employment
- Composting
- Coastal planting
- Locally produced and harvested food

A general discussion followed, to close the day. Some of the issues raised included:

- Some attendees expressed dismay and concern that community board members and councillors had not come to the meeting.
- The Chinese Association could have a greater leadership role in the Pakuranga community.
- The Chinese had created a community for themselves in Pakuranga, but the majority had not adjusted to this – poor attitudes were evident.
- The Chinese had traditionally played a major part in providing food in Auckland, from market gardens.
- The Tamaki Estuary should again be regarded as a food source in the future.

Pakuranga Workshop (Day Two)

Members of the Chinese Association were unable to attend the meeting on the second day, so a smaller group discussed issues around community leadership and marketing of the Towards 2060 workshops.



Some of the ideas that came from the discussion were:

- Difficult to attract people who only think “what’s in it for me?” It’s easy for people to dismiss the future – too far away, too abstract, “not my problem”.
- Personal relationships and community leadership are important. It was important to identify key individuals with strong networks. Talking with service groups was important. Community Board members attended in other areas (Manurewa, Otara, Mangere), bringing people and energy with them.
- It might be useful to stir up public interest by announce that a vision for the future would be released on a particular date. Set a deadline and generate debate in the community.
- It may be better to go to where people are, rather than inviting them to a workshop like this one. Church groups gather 1000 people at a time.
- Older people typically had time, experience and the wisdom to construct a realistic vision of the future. Involve school children in running the workshops.
- More use should be made of local papers (advertising and editorial – the latter more important), local radio, and ethnic media (Chinese newspapers, radio and television). Information could be sent out with rates notices.
- North Shore is developing a grass-roots approach to community-based planning. Engaging with business associations, residents and ratepayers groups, environmental groups. They would like to see the “Natural Step” concept incorporated into their programme.
- In China there are street committees for every 100 households (or so), with unpaid local representatives who create a link from the

community to the government. It's very powerful and effective – but easier because everybody is Chinese!

- Street-level initiatives are really important and useful here too. Examples such as: Living Streets, Neighbourhood Watch, Know Your Neighbours.

Pakuranga Workshop (Day Three)

The whole group reconvened on Saturday 17 July, to continue their conversation from the previous Saturday. We began with a re-cap of the earlier workshop.

- The Zoom Game
- The three circles (strong sustainability) model
- A planning model that looks at “backcasting” from a desired vision of the future, instead of forecasting from the present day.
- Some key issues identified in the “Forces for Change” (awareness), including Oil cost, climate change, biodiversity and pollution.



The Four System Conditions

The group divided into four smaller groups, each considering one of the four “system conditions” for sustainability (see page 18), and how these relates to Pakuranga – in terms of what would be “good” for the future, which was “bad” in the present.

A summary of the results is presented below.



What We Take: consumption of non-renewable materials extracted from the earth's crust and released into the biosphere	
Good	Bad
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are good controls on protecting the natural environment and the beautiful scenery. • A wide range of people participate in community actions like tree planting and stream cleaning. • People care about the future and organise workshops like T2060 to educate and generate awareness. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Transportation – need to change the size of bus according to the time. • More effort needed to develop clean energy like Solar and Wind energy for daily use (light, hot water), and incentives to encourage saving energy. • Sort rubbish properly before sending to landfill. Needs to be dealt with locally. Inorganic rubbish should be collected more often. • Once/twice a year is not enough for collecting used batteries, and we should have more options for disposing of old batteries - how about a bin at the supermarket, and a discount for returning a used battery when buying a new one.

What We Make: manufactured substances that can't be absorbed and recycled by natural processes:	
Good	Bad
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corner beautification • Inorganic rubbish collection • Waste separation (recycling) • Organic fertilizers • No extreme poisons (pesticides and insecticides) • Less use of plastic bags 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor awareness, education, about sustainability issues • Road lights on during the day • No collection of batteries (very common for personal use) • Consumption of water, power, energy • Use of kitchen (household) cleaners

What We Break: the destruction of natural systems on which we rely for our well-being

Good	Bad
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pakuranga Creek • Water quality / monitoring • Re-planting • Waakaraka wetland restored; birds, wildlife • Lots of Trees • Restoration of the Mangamangaroa Reserve • Legislative control of development – when it is carefully monitored 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Untreated Stormwater; its impact on marine life • Zinc, heavy metals • Detergents and other chemicals • Flooding, erosion and siltation • Sewage overflows with heavy rain • Minimal trees, forests (cost to maintain, erosion) • Poor use / management of open space (weeds & pests) • Lack of biodiversity (poor corridors and connections, barriers to fish entering stream mouths)

How we Share: enabling people to meet their needs by sharing resources fairly

Good	Bad
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The environment is well-preserved • Water is clean • 40-hour working week, and good access to health care • Good quality education, schools • Free swimming pools • Good, healthy food 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor public transport – too much reliance on cars • Only 2 bridges to Eastern Suburbs; congestion & pollution • Too much fresh water is used • Cell phones

Solutions

The group then identified solutions it thought would best address the issues and challenges for Pakuranga in the coming decades.

Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better bus services: smaller (minibuses) with more flexible routes • Carpooling • Bus lanes on Pakuranga Highway • Light rail • Public / private partnerships to fund and operate public transport (the current system is, but it needs improving)
Rubbish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve separation and recycling, locally and in households (a small wheelie bin for recyclables) • Use paper bags, biodegradable plastic • Reduce waste: products that last longer • Home composting • Re-use products and materials
Wastewater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-use and re-cycle domestic grey water and stormwater (for flushing toilets, watering gardens)
Solar Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building consents should <i>require</i> solar energy, water re-cycling and insulation.
Health Centres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smaller, more local hospitals and clinics
Education and Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Knowledge changes our fate” • More education for sustainability • Universal, compulsory, tertiary education
Incentives and Punishment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reward good environmental behaviour, not just regulation / punishment • Social: harder on crime
Economy and Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It’s not the economy or the environment: the economy needs to be based on environmental sustainability • Compulsory employment: otherwise no welfare, benefits
Greater self-sufficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant trees, grow vegetables at home • Buy chickens (council allows each household to own six)

Facilitators' Perspective

The Pakuranga Towards 2060 Design the Future workshops were generally well-attended with a high degree of enthusiasm from those who participated.

This was the first of the Toward 2060 workshops that was truly bilingual. The efforts of Yongie Li and Barry Hung, acting as translators for the group, were vital to its success.

It was very enjoyable to conduct a workshop with the Chinese community, who were very engaged, engaging and vigorous participants in the workshop discussions.

Although nearly all attendees are residents of Pakuranga, it might be thought that the workshop was not representative of the Pakuranga community as a whole. It is a shame that elected representatives were insufficiently interested in the workshops to generate greater community interest, or to attend themselves.

Transport stood out most clearly as a concern, from the outset. Given that fossil fuel energy is very likely to become increasingly scarce and expensive, Pakuranga residents' reliance on private motor vehicles for transport will mean the area becomes increasingly vulnerable if something is not done to address these future challenges.

Pakuranga is a desirable place to live, and residents appreciate the beauty of the area and the quality of life they enjoy there. But it is "dormitory suburb" from which people must commute significant distances to and from work via relatively few transit corridors (e.g. Te Rakau Drive and two bridges to the Auckland Isthmus). This contributes to peak hour congestion is clearly a present-day frustration and a source of future economic vulnerability.

The local economy is focused on retail sector, with some leisure, educational, health, and other personal services making up the majority of economic activity. However these are all centralised in a few large shopping centres and commercial zones, and they are not easily accessible without a vehicle. Participants at the workshop saw a role for smaller and more flexible "mini-bus" services to address this.

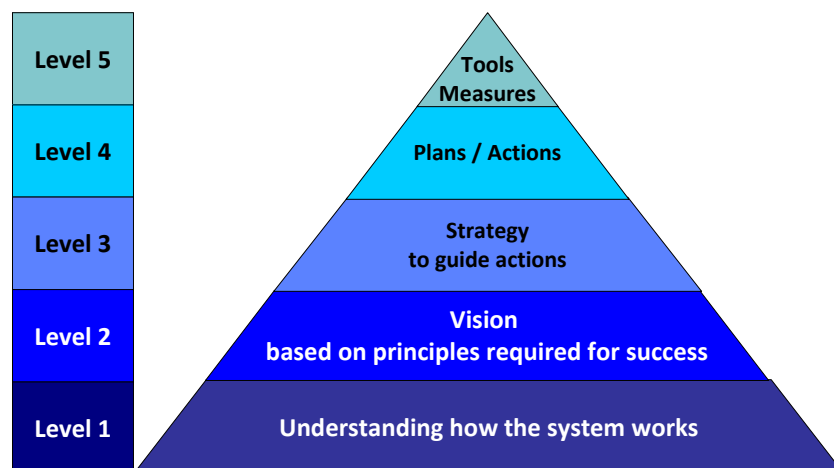
Appendix A: The Natural Step

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 2: 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.

Figure 3: Four System 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

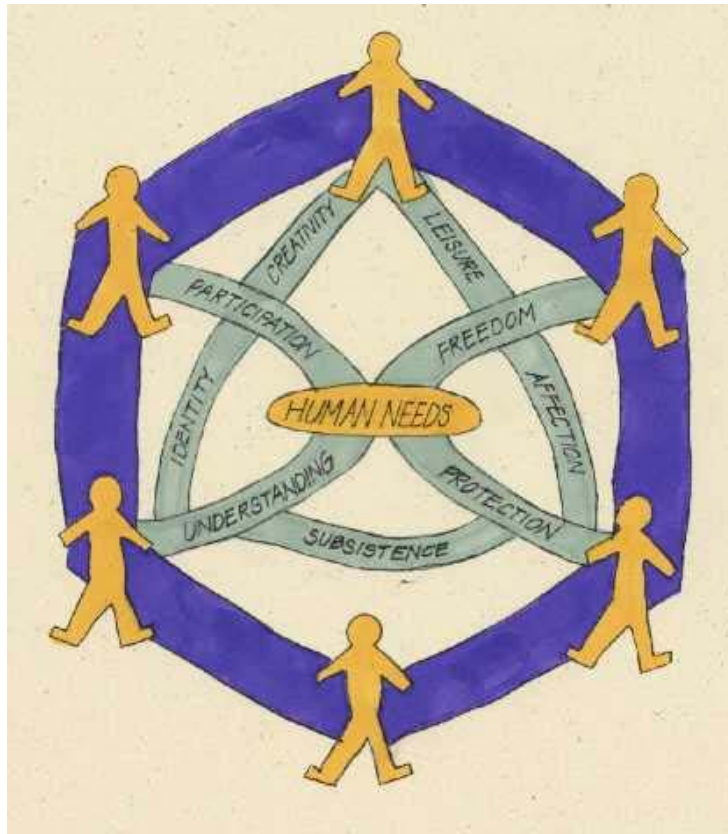
Continually reduce and eliminate our dependence on activities that cause physical encroachment upon the natural environment - *draw resources from sustainably managed eco-systems, restore nature, protect biodiversity*

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*

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.

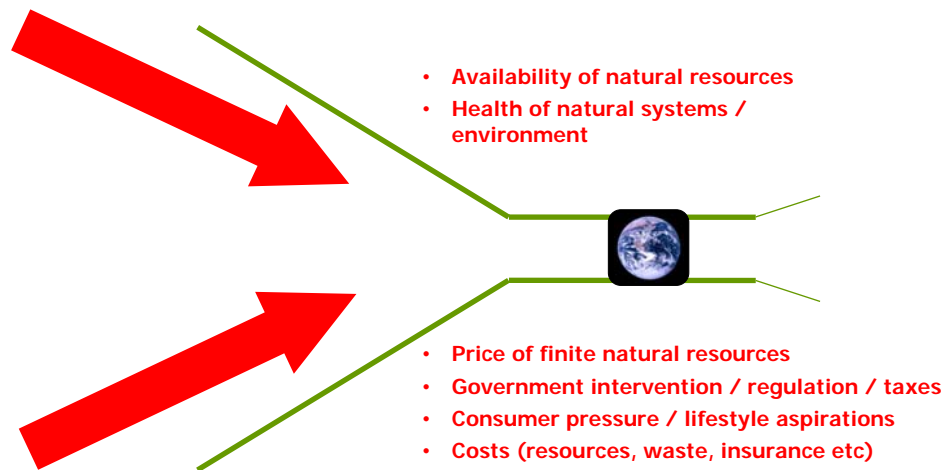
Figure 4: Fundamental human needs as identified by the research of Max Neef



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.

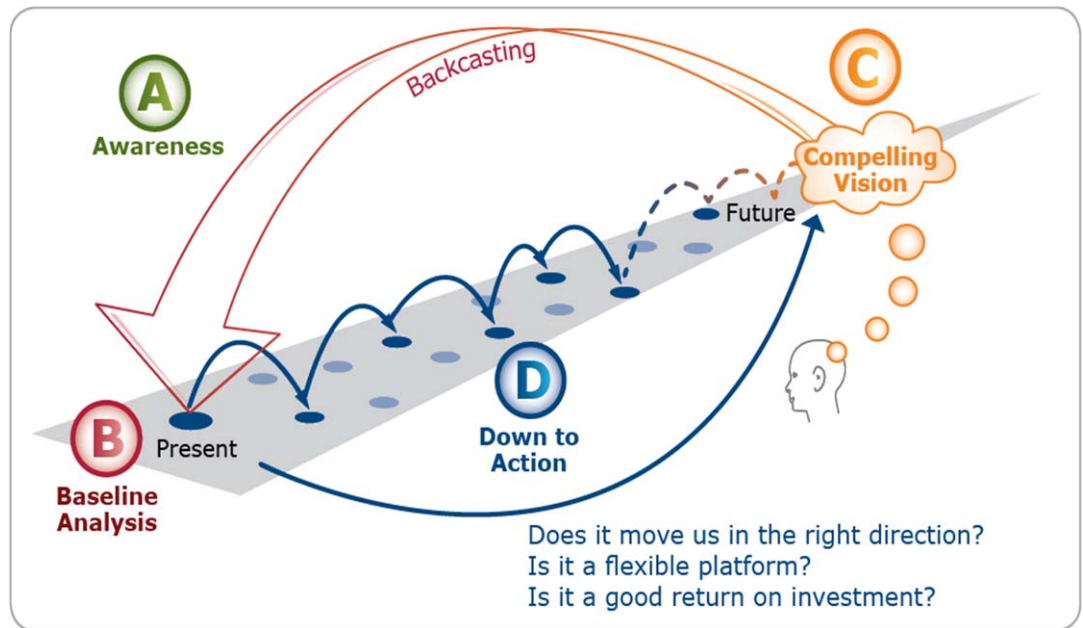
TNS uses another metaphor which helps to focus on key issues for a system, the *funnel*. This describes how pressures are increasing as resources are decreasing. It can be applied to a wide range of situations. The end-game is to stop the sides of the funnel colliding; pass through the apex of the funnel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

Figure 5: The Sustainability Funnel



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 6: The A-B-C-D planning framework



Appendix B: Workshop Participants

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

Attendees

- CHENG Yi-zhi
- SZE Mei-ling
- MAO Pei-xiong
- ZOU Guo-xing
- JIANG Dian-Zheng
- SHI Bao-nan
- Vicky LIM
- Ken TSE
- Mary Ann
- XIE Han-fen
- CAI Xian-mei
- WANG Man-li
- ZHANG Hong-ming
- WANG Shi-hua
- FU Jin-zhi
- Dorothy Giam
- Michelle Zackey
- HUNG Barry
- WANG Xi
- HU Yun
- LI Jian-hua
- HOU Chang-sheng
- WEI Yan-hui
- Julia Tu'ineau
- Colin Shearer

Facilitators

- Simon Harvey BusinessLab
- David Hay Manukau City Council

Also present

- LI Yongjie MCC Community Advisor for Pakuranga, and translator.