

SOUTH WARD

Note: No response was received from Rachel Ward

Julie Calnan

Alan Deverson

Kathy Folley

Mike McVicker

Oscar Nathan

Glenys Searancke

Charles Te Kowhai

Manifesto Policy 1 – A business friendly and supportive approach to development proposals

Improve communication – open meetings, friendly cooperative staff and a more helpful website that contains the right information and contacts and is clear and easy to use. Make it easy for people to find out about requirements and costs

As a small business owner, retailer and minor developer, I have had personal experience of council bureaucracy and of frustrations felt when dealing with council staff. Required processes are unclear, and guidance is often difficult to find unless you are lucky enough to know someone on the "inside", who is willing to help. Cost and amount of fees are ever growing, and I often get a sense when dealing with the staff, that they think I'm personally trying to bring about the ruin of Rotorua! I strongly agree with the recommendations made by the chamber in regard to this matter

An Improvement in communication essential for all residents and business people. The Website urgently needs to be upgraded; it is difficult to access data, and is often incomplete. The website should list requirements for all agencies-RDC, EBOP, OSH and these requirements must be vetted to eliminate conflicting requirements for development,

I maintain that the RDC should have a spokesperson who can have regular meetings with the business community. The RDC website should have all services and prices laid out clearly for all to see. Guidelines should be indicated for time frames of services, especially consent processes. Having workshops or forums for public discussion would definitely make the public more aware of the RDC procedures.

Clearly an over-arching vision statement is a pre-requisite for the development & growth of our city. This is currently lacking at all levels of Council.

It is firstly about a REAL CHANGE IN COUNCIL ATTITUDE towards business. Open, clear and helpful information is as much about the "forms as it is "the discussion" and working to improve customer service not inhibit it

There is always room for improved communication especially between Council departments. If the website is considered unhelpful or difficult to get around then there needs to be discussion with the right people to ensure the pathways are clear and understood. I am sure this discussion could take place with the IT folk in Council.

Encourage Chamber member (inc developers) to build better relationships with RDC staff in planning and consents!

	Julie Calnan	Alan Deverson	Kathy Folley	Mike McVicker	Oscar Nathan	Glenys Searancke	Charles Te Kowhai
Develop a clear, positive vision through the District Plan, setting out how it will be achieved, and communicate that. Change the perception among those surveyed by the Chamber that Rotorua is an expensive and difficult place to do business.		A District plan should have clearly defined areas for – residential, heavy industry; light industry and technological - come office park developments, this plan to have RMA consent. The plan should show services required- roads, communication, water sanitation and waste treatment if appropriate. Once the District plan has been approved then consents for development should be a formality	Rotorua is not an expensive place to do business compared to other areas. Compliance costs however need to be addressed. I would like to see a well researched comparison schedule of all the main centres and costs involved before I can entertain the fact that Rotorua is an expensive place to do business.	A thorough & comprehensive review of the District Plan is also an important priority as we are currently restricted in many areas by a outdated & cumbersome Plan. Emphasis must be placed on both the involvement of all stakeholders, combined with a strict time-table.	Better co-ordination and simplification of the DP for business to consult and suggest improvements. Cut the elephant down into "bite size chunks" and allow the Chamber to format a "no-nonsense" feedback form to asset it's members to contribute to DP	The review of the District Plan has begun with the development of the Eastern and North/Western Structure plans. This process has seen the involvement of many community groups and individuals and will provide a good base for the total review of the Plan. I believe that the perception that Rotorua is an expensive and difficult place to do business is just that – a perception.	District Plan is under review. Now is your opportunity to input into this process!

	Julie Calnan	Alan Deverson	Kathy Folley	Mike McVicker	Oscar Nathan	Glenys Searancke	Charles Te Kowhai
Review and remove unnecessary barriers in Council's policies and procedures and improve certainty and clarity		All policies should be reviewed regularly to improve the delivery of service and eliminate any problems that have been identified.	There is definitely too much red tape. Council should lobby central government to combat unnecessary and over zealous red tape. However a lot of Council's policies are there for a reason and the public should be educated as to why they have to be enforced, especially those covering Health and Safety. Discretion should be applied where necessary	A more " Business Friendly" Council is also a critical requirement if we are to both retain our existing Developers & Investors, let alone attract new Businesses to our district. A more pro-active, & less "risk-averse" attitude of regulatory staff in particular is also an important requirement. A change in "culture" at all levels of Council must occur. Such a change in attitude must be from top down - as even around the Council table there remains an anti-business, anti-profit & even anti-growth philosophy.	Legislation set by central government is one thing. INTERPRETING that legislation and ensuring it is efficiently implemented with clarity and common sense is the domain of the RDC - it should be a two way process - not us vs. them	If there are unnecessary barriers in Council's policies and procedures then there needs to be frank and open forums held to thrash out these matters. These should involve developers, staff and the councillors. People elected to office need to hear first hand the matters of concern and be involved in trying to solve these situations by the creation of new or improved policy matters. Anecdotal evidence is not helpful at all.	Chamber to qualify and identify valid barriers and legislative requirements so its members understand what is negotiable and what is not....
Appoint an adviser outside the regulatory process to liaise with business and major developers on processes and opportunities to reduce time and costs.		An outside adviser should not be necessary- 1 Councillor, 1 RDC official plus 1 business representative should review suggestions / complaints from applicants.	Who would pay and govern such a person? I don't think this is the way to go. The RDC people working with the processes should "shape up" and make the processes more "user friendly" and customer focussed. The RDC needs to create an environment that allows the public to feel they are getting good service and value for money.	Given that the implementation of the Development Contribution Levy, albeit at a reduced level, has caused development to falter in what is a fragile economy, a complete review of its impact to date must be carried out. Council must look to other methods of revenue to fund growth as there is no doubt that this ill-conceived & implemented levy has had a detrimental impact on Rotorua. Targeted rates, or user pays charges, must be directed at the substantial number of tourists to our city for example.	Even better- acquire the now vacant site across the road from the Convention centre (former Credit Union Lakeland) and convert into the country's first "customer focussed" building and development hub for RDC consents and so forth - rather than the mine field it is at present	A possibility perhaps within the Business Development Unit. I have always been of the opinion that this unit should be involved in liaising with major developers to smooth pathways. It used to be when it was first established but has moved well away from this function – back to basics!	Chamber stated consistently that RDC not increase staff members. Chamber to suggest alternative option/s.

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Review consent processes to ensure they reflect best practice, are customer focussed and meet legislative time requirements		At this time historical complaints about the consent process should be recorded (Rotorua Chamber) so that the new council can attend to problems	Yes, consent processed definitely need to be reviewed. In the "building" department there needs to be more admin staff to deal with the documentation that has been passed by the inspectors in a more timely manner. There is a huge burden on the community both financially and time, when they have to wait for all these processes to take place. The public are definitely not getting their money's worth as these costs are too excessive.	The appointment of a Business Development Manager, or facilitator at a high level, must be made to both arrest the exodus of businesses from Rotorua, & attract new start-ups here at the same time.	NRC surveys compare mediocre results against similar benchmarks across NZ councils. Lets push the boundaries creating new standards for consent process approval and efficiency timeframes, create the first ever "customer focussed" open, welcoming space where developers and planners meet over a coffee in a new fresh building designed to set new benchmarks	Rotorua District Council scored in 16 th position in the recent outside audit of consent processes and legislative time frames in local government in N.Z. Once again there is always room for improvement in any business or department and the solution here is again to communicate. Council is the regulator and cannot therefore do the work for developers. Once again some good forums to discuss problems would be of advantage.	I'd refer this issue to the C.E. with some feedback from Manager Planning.

Manifesto Policy 2 – A well defined plan and the provision of suitable infrastructure for strong business growth

	Julie Calnan	Alan Deverson	Kathy Folley	Mike McVicker	Oscar Nathan	Glenys Searancke	Charles Te Kowhai
Identify and classify through the District Plan prime commercial development precincts that meet the needs of industrial and technology business parks	Rotorua's population growth at 2.5% is slow. Promotion of our city as a tourist destination is outstanding, but we also need to promote Rotorua as a great place to live, work and do business. We need a population growth based on business development and work opportunities, and not based on government funded babies born to unproductive young women	A District plan should have clearly defined areas for – residential, heavy industry; light industry and technological - come office park developments, this plan to have RMA consent. The plan should show services required- roads, communication, water sanitation and waste treatment if appropriate. Once the District plan has been approved then consents for development should be a formality	It is important to do this.	As already highlighted, a well structured & comprehensive review of the District Plan, in conjunction with all stakeholders is an essential requirement if we are to move Rotorua forward.	This simply comes down to Rotorua setting a clear and articulated vision for 2020, which defines in development terms "the position" we seek to be in- therefore laying out a path for sector/commercial investment strategies	Yes by all means. But remember the market often drives development and prime commercial development precincts identified in a District Plan may not always serve the purpose of a developer. The Eastern and North/Western Development Plans are done for the very reason of making sure a suitable infrastructure for business growth will exist. Rotorua's infrastructure is well maintained and certainly coping with the demands of its population.	Please see LTCCP.

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Provide encouragement for organisations to establish and develop industrial and technology business parks that meet business needs		The District plan should be readily available to prospective developers who are interested in developing identified sites.	Land should be identified by RDC and business parks need to be encouraged in the right areas. i.e. East Gate is good for traffic going through that side of town but alternatives need to be provided on the other main routes from the City. Also land that has been identified as not suitable for residential building like the land in Old Taupo Road just before the Clayton Road/Lake Road traffic lights, should be turned in an Industrial park, sports field or reserve suitable for pedestrians. There is too much "eye sore" land around.	It would be fair to suggest that in general Rotorua's infrastructure is reasonably well advanced in comparison with our neighbours. This however has been brought about largely as a result of the lack of growth, rather than good planning. Granted, the airport will add another dimension that has not been fully acknowledged by the community at large. If Queenstown's growth is to be illustrated as an example of what an airport can generate, then yes we will need more infrastructure to support the growth we are likely to enjoy.	Again, its about articulating specifics of what we want to achieve, who we want to attract and the skills we need our community to up skill towards. We could become the absolute centre of New Zealand's bio energy sector if we only set the goal to do so	No problem with this. The more industrial and technology business parks we have the better. More jobs and increased pay packets hopefully to raise our socio-economic profile. Council's role is to ensure that we have capacity in our infrastructure, particularly roading, water, sewerage and storm water runoff to cope with such parks.	Chamber and BEAB to clarify business needs so that we have something to target!

	Julie Calnan	Alan Deverson	Kathy Folley	Mike McVicker	Oscar Nathan	Glenys Searancke	Charles Te Kowhai
Increase the priority of roading developments that will provide a safer, more efficient transport network for businesses in Rotorua. Maintain progress on direct route to Tauranga and Victoria Street bypass		Roads already planned should be reviewed as developments have possibly changed requirements, The Mall & Motel developments down Victoria Street might change the by pass route.	I don't see that this is a major priority at this stage.	The funding of this infrastructure will be a major issue for our city, particularly if we do not continue with the D.C. levy in the future	Infrastructure and roading is key -without question. We also need to ensure we re planning roading scenarios for the future, based on growth and new industries	Council continues to work hard in this area, constantly lobbying for our share of roading dollars from Central Government. The four laning of Lake Road is imminent and this will solve one of the few congestion problems we have in the city area. Geotechnical work has been carried out for the Eastern Arterial to establish route security and the two one way bridges on S.H. 36 to Tauranga will be widened to two way this summer	Already being done.

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With Rotorua Regional Airport to gain trans-Tasman capability, consider lobbying Transit NZ to rapidly upgrade highway links between Tauranga and Rotorua. This would allow promote a twin city concept of Rotorua and Tauranga		Roads generally in the Bay of Plenty need upgrading	I don't see why we should promote the twin city concept of Rotorua and Tauranga. We each need our own totally different identity. However I do feel it is important to lobby Transit NZ to rapidly upgrade the highway links between Tauranga and Rotorua. We use their ports and they will use our Trans – Tasman airport. Also tourists of the ships docking in Tauranga frequently come through to Rotorua. We need to improve the transport between these two cities		Absolutely. The airport will need to position itself as the hub for the BOP - it may even be called the BOP airport in the future to attract funding - regardless it still say ROTORUA on the departure board and ticket/destination	This is already happening. The Tauranga Eastern Arterial will provide much needed improvement for access between Rotorua and Tauranga and work continues on the upgrade of S.H.36 – Pyes Pa link. Rotorua's Traffic Demand Management Plan constantly refers to the twin city concept.	In progress

	Julie Calnan	Alan Deverson	Kathy Folley	Mike McVicker	Oscar Nathan	Glenys Searancke	Charles Te Kowhai
Maintain pressure on Transit NZ to re-establish construction of the Eastern Arterial Highway in its ten-year plan		With housing and business development along this route the Eastern Highway is required now	It is not so much pressure on Transit NZ but we need to educate the public. Local residents have caused many delays for whatever reason. RDC needs to negotiate with the affected Land owners and Transit NZ to reach a amicable outcome.		Yes and again ensure planners are taking a good look at the future demands levels of population and industry such as bio fuels etc.	Totally agree and this pressure is being applied constantly. I am disappointed it is not in Transit's 10 year plan in dollar terms but is mentioned in the 'words' section of the plan. Geotechnical work has been completed to establish the best route and Council must continue to lobby and get our slice of the cake	In progress

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Manifesto Policy 3 - A commitment to improving lakes quality

<p>Actively support EBOP in achieving the action plans for the restoration and preservation of the lakes.</p>		<p>I still feel that there is duplication between RDC & EBOP in this area, once an action plan is decided on; areas of responsibilities need to be set.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>The improvement of our Rotorua Lakes remains of paramount importance. Continued lobbying of Central Government & EBOP must be maintained to secure ongoing funding. The current issue of Land Use must be resolved to the satisfaction of all parties - including the Farming community. Projects such as the Crater Lake initiative must set the scene for converting farm land to sustainable residential development.</p>	<p>No brainer. Our ratepayer contribution to EBOP has no higher priority as far as I'm concerned. Although office HQ move to Tauranga is a waste of money!</p>	<p>Totally agree, this must be a joint venture between EBOP, RDC and Central Government. Action plans for all of the lakes are either complete or nearly complete and the big question now is money. We can come up with solutions I am sure but who will pay and how. A huge amount of scientific work and data is now complete and a picture backed by good solid research is absolutely necessary.</p>	<p>In progress</p>
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	Julie Calnan	Alan Deverson	Kathy Folley	Mike McVicker	Oscar Nathan	Glenys Searancke	Charles Te Kowhai
Continue to build sewerage schemes around the lakeside settlements		An essential part of the plan to upgrade the lakes and the environment.	RDC has already begun this work but has had a lot of resistance from residents for various reasons. These sewerage systems need to be built as soon as possible to avoid further contamination to the lakes. Although the residents around the lakes do need to contribute considerably to these schemes, part of the overall bill can be spread across all ratepayers as most residents in Rotorua use the Lakes as some time		Again no brainer. EBOP has a significant responsibility to the wellbeing and management of the Rotorua lakes and environment and sewerage schemes are part of that	Rotorua District Council is ready to go on these sewerage schemes but Central Government are not. We are seeking a 50% subsidy which we did receive for the first scheme – Mourea/Okawa Bay and the pipeline back to town. Plans are complete for Otaramarae and Okere Falls but now the certainty of the 50% subsidy has been withdrawn we are on hold.	In progress and subject to external funding
Support EBOP in obtaining a reasonable financial contribution from Central Government.		Essential if sewerage and other remedial actions are to be carried out. If funds are not forthcoming the various trusts and EBOP should be approached As a last resort a 50 year loan could be taken out	YES. Central Government has already committing to a financial contribution. But more should be forthcoming.		Not just a contribution, but anymore heightened awareness of the deterioration of the lake health level and it is a central government obligation to further invest - if the lakes die so does our vibrant community	Totally agree. Once again this is a joint venture and the lobby must come from EBOP, RDC and the TeArawa Lakes Trust. The lakes are a national treasure and as Taupo has received \$60m from Central Govt. for restoration, then surely we should qualify in the same vein.	In progress and in hand refer Mayor K Winters

	Julie Calnan	Alan Deverson	Kathy Folley	Mike McVicker	Oscar Nathan	Glenys Searancke	Charles Te Kowhai
Ensure preservation and restoration of the lakes becomes a principle driver in the Rotorua District Plan by allowing innovative land use change from intensive farming to more sustainable alternatives.		By concentrating industrial development in defined areas it will be possible to ensure waste is handled appropriately. While recognising that farming should be discouraged in sensitive areas we must accept that farming will be a local activity for many years to come. What is needed is the continuation of good farming practices. Farming is an essential part of the local economy. The lake problem is a complex one and there are many contributing factors-natural, historic, and weather to name a few.	YES. Local Government should also have more say and power to control what goes on around the Lakes		Agre. But there also needs to be a commercial reality as to waht "sustainable alternatives" actually are - particularly if they are to fit into our Rotorua 2020 vision and positioning	Totally agree. Change of land use is the ultimate solution for ongoing pollution and if intensive farming is to be discouraged then the District Plan needs to be sensitive to alternate land use.	In progress. District Plan review to be informed but latest development in these areas.

	Julie Calnan	Alan Deverson	Kathy Folley	Mike McVicker	Oscar Nathan	Glenys Searancke	Charles Te Kowhai
Encourage the tourism industry to widen its focus from Maori culture and volcanic activity to all Lakes district recreational experiences.		Independent travellers are more likely to have time to hike, fish, cycle and kayak. Bus groups always seem to be limited by a tight schedule. The negative publicity about lake water quality does not apply to all of our lakes and in certain instances there has already been an improvement in water quality- let us be positive.	No I think we should stick with what we are world renown for. Our cultural experiences and our geo-thermal activities. WE have a JEWEL IN THE CROWN that we should rather enhance. The other activities should become secondary.		Yes this has been happening but as a promoter you can only push what services/experiences are there. Recreation fishing is NOT for everyone , although developments such as the Tarawera walkway and the Red Stag mountain biking complex and so forth will widen the envelope	I believe the Tourism industry already presents a huge variety of activities in our Lakes district. Adventure tourism is alive and well in Rotorua as evidenced at the recent N.Z. Tourism Awards. The industry will always widen its focus and come up with innovative and great ventures in our district.	Market driven principle. RDTM has them in hand. Strengths based approach in my initiative response to this matter of priority.

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Manifesto Policy 4 – Strong leadership uniting stakeholders to achieve growth

Have a strong vision for the future of Rotorua that can be captured in media and conceptual statements that can create a visual image.		ROTORUA THE PLACE TO LIVE, WORK & PLAY, WE HAVE IT ALL	YES but stick to what we are known for. We can be known as the "TOURISM CAPITAL OF THE WORLD" or "LET'S GET STUCK IN THE MUD	Strong leadership is likewise an essential ingredient for Rotorua to move ahead. Incorporated in this important factor is the requiring for an over-arching Vision, that is lacking today. This vision must be articulated in such a manner that it all sectors of the community are involved. As the Council is charged with providing the leadership & direction of our city, this is where the message must be formulated in conjunction with other stakeholders.	THIS IS MY PASSION. A VISION FOR ROTORUA THAT IS EASILY UNDERSTOOD AND IS SOME EVERYONE STRIVES TOWARDS!!!	Great if you can reach complete agreement without divergent and dissenting views actually capturing the high ground. The media tend to focus on those views as they are often seen as good headline making! But yes we need to be putting forward Rotorua in a positive manner.	Need work to unify our community! Rotorua – Prosperous community, blessed families' Bright future!
Articulate this vision with passion to all stakeholder groups		Move away from the Maori / thermal tourism vision and promote Rotorua as a place to live . work and have a good lifestyle. We need more residents and industry in Rotorua	Work harder at what we are already doing and improve what we are already good at. Work hard at cutting down the crime		Yes. And to do this we need to galvanise stakeholders to a vision/position for Rotorua - such as Rotorua 2020. It is about everyone knowing what value they are/will add to us as a community reaching that goal	Yes this must be done and this is where strong leadership is required from the mayor and councillors to articulate this passion.	As above!

	Julie Calnan	Alan Deverson	Kathy Folley	Mike McVicker	Oscar Nathan	Glenys Searancke	Charles Te Kowhai
Actively encourage a cooperative and unified whole of community approach to achieving that vision		<i>Agreed</i>	We need more competitiveness, and a need to educate locals. Encourage open forums, and more local discounts.		Yes ABSOLUTELY as the above two responses outline	Once again difficult because of the very diverse range of opinions that exist within our community. Vision is a very widely interpreted word and as such there will be a multitude of 'visions' in our community. Economic growth is vital for our community	Assumes community buy-in; however Councils role will be one of leadership, facilitation and encouragement!
Provide leadership to maintain momentum towards the vision.		An annual review of making Rotorua the place to live, work and play	Both the business sector and RDC must support the other "bodies" like Destination Rotorua & Bright Economy Advisory Board, etc as they are the ones to provide leadership in this area.		In local body politics there should be more accountability and clear "outcomes achieved" presented to ratepayers in order for them to gauge performance. This would also assist in assuring there is some form of "continuance" in terms of projects and direction required of incoming councillors . I'm talking a VISION not just a LTCCPOV or DP	Council is constantly striving to unite groups and opinions and this requires strong leadership, particularly from the Mayor.	As above

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Manifesto Policy 5 – A clear, integrated and coordinated vision for inner city Rotorua

<p>Create a clear vision for the future of Inner City Rotorua.</p>		<p>Create a people friendly inner city, pedestrian malls, circular free bus around outer perimeter, park and ride from possibly the race track. Install a roof over certain streets or sections thereof to create a "proper mall" effect. Any inner city plan must consider all the reports that have been drawn. In my opinion one report considering the aspects of revitalisation, heritage, transport, parking and lakefront conducted by a local firm or body would have produced a better result.</p>	<p>To fully utilise the empty shops in the CBD, we need to encourage different cultures in certain areas i.e. have a Chinese quarter, an Indian quarter, Irish quarter etc. We need to show-case our cultural diversity and that is a sure way to do it. We also need to put more apartments and parking in the CBD.</p>	<p>There is no doubt that there is a need for a co-ordinated approach to re-vitalise the CBD. Unfortunately, given the many & various studies & recommendations being carried out to date, it will not happen over-night. This subsequent delay in design etc. will in fact not help the retail sector in Rotorua which continues to struggle from year to year with the traditionally "soft" Rotorua market.</p>	<p>The CBD is the heart of the city. The Council needs to ensure an innovative approach is taken to "re-injecting" the next phase of investment back into it- particularly given the millions spent upgrading. Be it inner city living, more cafes, a specialty retail block or creative arts - be innovative!</p>	<p>This is the most challenging problem the city faces. With the development of Rotorua Central we have been left with a CBD footprint that is too large for just retailing. So we need to encourage other types of business to come into the Inner City. Accommodation, commercial operations e.g. lawyers, accountants, insurance companies, to name a few. However, rates in the CBD are considerably higher than outside the CBD so what would persuade that type of business to shift? Food for much thought and inspired vision!</p>	<p>Please refer CBD and lakefront development. Check my voting history in regard to these two areas!</p>
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	Julie Calnan	Alan Deverson	Kathy Folley	Mike McVicker	Oscar Nathan	Glenys Searancke	Charles Te Kowhai
Clearly convey this vision and the principle concepts to Rotorua residents so they can understand it and embrace it.		Widely publish these idea for public comment and debate to make residents part of the process. Make it clear that all suggestions will be considered.	YES OFCOURSE THIS IS VITAL. By putting more apartments in the CBD, the residents will automatically become more aware of the concepts.	Never-the-less a collaborative approach must be used here, in particular with re-aligning the District Plan to enable the many changes to be effected in the longer term.	This isn't just about the inner city vision, the lack of a vision that residents understand and embrace is something that is void for the entire district. Imagine what powerful, purposeful, community we would have if "Jo Bloggs" could at least say "Yeah - by 2020 Rotorua wants to become the...in the world" - direction (no matter how simple - gives purpose and productivity)	To clearly understand the principle concepts of a co-ordinated vision for the inner city, the people of the city must be involved in the creating of this vision	You won't please everyone! Be prepared for a solution that has intergenerational concerns of the forefront of my decision making here!

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Manifesto Policy 6 - A tourism strategy that positions Rotorua as the premier tourist destination in New Zealand

Continue investment in funding Destination Rotorua Tourism marketing and link the level of funding to an annual index.		A full audit required of the source and spending of funds as well as whom benefits, a number of businesses and ratepayers feel that they receive no benefit from Tourism Marketing. An increase linked to annual index is not supported. If a change is made to the rating system possibly a targeted rate would be appropriate	Yes	Whilst the Tourism Industry here in Rotorua can always do better in a very competitive environment, promising advances are being made at a local level. The Airport is the gateway that will undoubtedly be the springboard for Tourism in Rotorua to leap ahead.	It is important that a) we are innovative and efficient with the funds and people we do have for the task and b) that we keep within a reasonable proximity to the budgets of the other main centres. This can also be offset by the likes of RCCT propping up major events which we know are significant	If you did this with this cost centre of Council i.e. linking the level of funding to an annual index, then I believe in all fairness this same principal would have to apply to all cost centres. Already cost centres go up C.P.I. and salary percentage every year – where do you draw the line?	Refer to my voting history here!
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	Julie Calnan	Alan Deverson	Kathy Folley	Mike McVicker	Oscar Nathan	Glenys Searancke	Charles Te Kowhai
Develop a marketing strategy that positions Rotorua as the premier tourist destination in New Zealand		More effort is required to encourage the NZ holiday maker to visit Rotorua. At present most attractions are focused on catering for international tourists. NZ families also find Rotorua an expensive place to visit, possibly get attractions to use a NZ entry card at possibly \$100 / family of 4, for entry at 3 attractions	YES and improve what we already have. Don't re-invent the wheel.	Of continuing concern is the increasing requirement to look to other methods of funding Destination Rotorua tourism Marketing. At the end of the day the mechanism to target the Industry players must be developed. Further-more, legislation must be initiated that will enable a bed tax to be charged to the 8000 odd over-night visitors to our city. In other words a user pays method must be implemented to take the load of the ratepayer.	This has been underway for sometime and again is just as much about *** partnerships with industry as it is about being innovative with the limited budget we do have available	Definitely and that is exactly what the goal should be.	RDC is doing well here. I will continue my support in this area.
Encourage and facilitate a whole of industry approach to supporting and building on the investment the Council has made in tourism marketing through Destination Rotorua Tourism Marketing.		It is time for the tourist industry to take over and fund tourism marketing without relying on the council	Yes	We must in the near future come up with a solution as to how we can revamp the retail sector & take into account the opportunity to grow retail ,on the back of Tourism.	Again, the sector is all about "flying in formation" - maximising the return on investments (such as the EEC) through solid utilisation and good yielding conference strategies	Yes I have no problem with this concept, particularly the words "a whole of industry approach". There has been some fragmentation in the industry and it would be great to see a 'whole of industry' approach.	As above.

	Julie Calnan	Alan Deverson	Kathy Folley	Mike McVicker	Oscar Nathan	Glenys Searancke	Charles Te Kowhai
Build on Rotorua's strong Maori cultural and geothermal attractions to continue developing attractions based on the district's other advantages		Agreed there are a number of other attractions that should be marketed	Yes		There has been a key function of DRTM and other entities such as Maori in Tourism Rotorua. Utilising events such as TRENZ and Working collaboratively the goal is to ensure Rotorua remain the undisputed cultural and geothermal centre of NZ's tourism proposition	Agreed. I am sure the industry is taking this approach and it will be bigger and even more successful for this type of planning.	Strengths based approach is always a winner! No change in my support here!
Encourage the development, through the CBD revitalisation project, of the CBD as a tourist visitor retail attraction.		Agreed might need late night shopping in summer.	YES, and introduce multi-cultural shopping.		For this to occur there needs to be a vibrancy and attractiveness about the CBD - for starters it has to change its attitude to being IN BUSINESS AND OPEN NOT lifestyle retailers and closed when many of the people visiting come from countries where shops don't close till 9-10pm at night	Much of the CBD revitalisation project depends on the upgrade and even reconstruction of many of the buildings in the CBD. This involves of course considerable financial outlay from landlords and somehow every encouragement must be given for this to happen. Parking is a concern in the CBD and some innovative changes will be made to encourage the development.	Support with some provisions i.e. Chamber and retailers to provide the "right kind" of input with these plans as required, including quicker buy-in from developers, entrepreneurs and retail sectors!

Julie Calnan	Alan Deverson	Kathy Folley	Mike McVicker	Oscar Nathan	Glenys Searancke	Charles Te Kowhai
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Manifesto Policy 7 – More involvement of business through consultation on relevant issues

<p>Commission an annual business ratepayer satisfaction survey on aspects of Rotorua District Council performance relevant to business.</p>		<p>A survey relevant to Rotorua business & ratepayers is essential, the NRB survey of little use as most questions far too general to get feedback on pertinent points. This survey only compares Rotorua to the rest of the country and leads to complacency. The same applies to the recent EBOP bus survey which only surveyed passenger satisfaction, not why people are not using the buses.</p>	<p>YES, this is already being done, but on an annual basis would be better</p>	<p>I believe that the RDC currently adequately consults with all members of the community, including the Business sector.</p>	<p>Completely agree as part of my "let's set new standards ratepayer service" platform. I would strongly like to see this done "independently" and not through NRB survey as my opinion is this particular survey moderates mediocrity as very good</p>	<p>I believe the Chamber is the ideal group to commission such a survey provided the survey is clear and succinct.</p>	<p>Would be prepared to implement on subsection of an annual NBR survey to accommodate them?</p>
<p>Establish a Business Forum chaired by the Mayor that comprises all 12 elected Councillors and 12 representatives from across all sectors of Rotorua business.</p>		<p>Possibly open to all</p>	<p>Yes establish a business forum comprising of elected Councillors and all sectors of Rotorua Business but I don't think it should be chaired by the Mayor. The Forum should elect a more suitable person for this position. The Mayor has too much else to attend to, but can be part of the forum</p>	<p>Both the Chamber & the BEAB are both in effect charged with providing that link between the business sector & Council.</p>	<p>Absolutely. Council should be working with regional reps (elected by their members etc) from the like of Chamber BrightEconomy AND OTHER THAT WILL ENSURE rdc TAKES A FRESH NEW look at how it is maximising decisions affecting business in Rotorua</p>	<p>I have no problem with this. Good face to face discussion and an opportunity to listen to various sectors. Communication is the name of the game!</p>	<p>Duplication of "voices" Need concise advice from authorization bodies, not new committee initiatives!</p>

	Julie Calnan	Alan Deverson	Kathy Folley	Mike McVicker	Oscar Nathan	Glenys Searancke	Charles Te Kowhai
Use the BrightEconomy Advisory Board in developing business-related Council policy, rather than to comment on policy already formulated		No reason why BEAB & Chamber or other interested bodies should not suggest policies for Council consideration, before annual plans are drawn up	I rather think the Forum as in the previous question needs to be the body to do this.	Given that the business sector makes up to 30% of the rates take, this provides all the more reason why both of these groups should be the voice of business in Rotorua	Agree. But lets start with an overhaul of what's there, identifying what's working , what's not, what's missing and what should be	No problem with this. A good think tank session when formulating any new policy or revision of an existing policy is always helpful as long as it is clearly understood that the final formulation of such policy is up to the elected members.	In an ideal world YES. But political reality is that this won't happen!

Julie Calnan	Alan Deverson	Kathy Folley	Mike McVicker	Oscar Nathan	Glenys Searancke	Charles Te Kowhai
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Manifesto Policy 8 – Development of a broadband infrastructure strategy

<p>Investigate methods of optimising the regional broadband network and improving intra-region connectivity from the region to the main Auckland-Wellington broadband highway</p>	<p>Broadband access is an issue quite close to my heart. I live a mere 6 kilometres from the CBD and yet our home is deemed too far out</p>	<p>Link to District Plan; bring pressure on service providers for better links and cheaper access</p>	<p>I think the RDC, Chamber of Commerce, Business Swap, Destination NZ, Bright Economy Advisory Board etc all need to elect suitable members from their organisations who can form a committee who can not only investigate methods but to facilitate the enforcement of a better broadband network encompassing the entire Rotorua region. This is already being looked at but not nearly efficient and needs to be speeded up.</p>	<p>There is no doubt that a regional broadband network is essential for our city to move ahead.</p>	<p>Absolutely. It is embarrassing in this day and age to imagine that parts of Rotorua (not rural but centre) are without broadband. It translates to loss of time, money and opportunity</p>	<p>R.D.C. has already been in negotiation with EBOP and fellow BOP territorial authorities into investigating methods of optimising the regional broadband network.</p>	<p>Support!</p>
<p>Include a requirement for broadband access capability in reticulation of utilities to new subdivisions or replacement of existing utilities</p>		<p>Should encourage Telecom etc to install cabling at the same that other services are being installed or upgraded</p>	<p>If some IP already use wireless (satellite dish) systems where there is no broadband coverage e.g. Hamurana, then why can't Telecom be forced to do the same.</p>	<p>the RDC is currently working to this end in conjunction with EBOP & other Councils in the region.</p>	<p>Absolutely- again it is about proofing Rotorua and its residents and businesses for a future that is inspired not tired</p>	<p>No problem if this can be accomplished.</p>	<p>Support!</p>

	Julie Calnan	Alan Deverson	Kathy Folley	Mike McVicker	Oscar Nathan	Glenys Searancke	Charles Te Kowhai
Facilitate the extension of broadband capability to the rural areas of the Rotorua district		It is Government policy to bring broadband to rural communities and they should force service providers to run uneconomic broadband services in rural areas in return for more profitable access to cities,	Yes, Most definitely		Yes. As per first response box on this page	Once again the extension of broadband capability to the rural area of our district is necessary.	Support!

Julie Calnan	Alan Deverson	Kathy Folley	Mike McVicker	Oscar Nathan	Glenys Searancke	Charles Te Kowhai
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Manifesto Policy 9 – Encouragement to establish new business

Continue the work of the BrightEconomy Advisory Board in addressing the negative responses of the perception survey.		Some of these negative perceptions need to be addressed –Expensive rates, consents costly and slow, red tape from RDC EBOP. If costs were reduced more people and businesses would relocate	YES, but they need the support of the Chamber of Commerce, Business Swap, RDC and the general business community	I have previously promoted the initiative that the RDC would be in a better position if it recruited the services of a Business Development Manager. This role, unlike the current position of a fundraiser, would be to both retain existing businesses & developers in our city, & also promote our city to new investors.	Agree - however to really start changing perceptions we need to start identifying "champions" that being sectors and business within these sectors that are "perception breakers". The BrightEconomy board needs to now step back from its own PR machine and let the sectors and business beneath be profiled and come through	Quite happy for the Bright Economy Board to address the negative responses of the perception survey.	Support!
Continue the work of Destination Rotorua Economic Development in positioning Rotorua as a place to work, live, plan and invest.		Audit funding and benefit produced	YES but with the support of the above.	Another pre-requisite to promote new businesses is clearly a "business friendly" Council.	No brainer. The focus on attracting skilled people to migrate to Rotorua has been great. There needs to be a step up now in terms of attracting TOP SOO companies to invest in Rotorua particularly those in emerging sector areas such as BIO DIVERSITY	The Economic Development Unit has done some excellent work in this area and I would totally support the continuation of their work in promoting Rotorua as a place to work, live and invest.	Support. What, is this new?

	Julie Calnan	Alan Deverson	Kathy Folley	Mike McVicker	Oscar Nathan	Glenys Searancke	Charles Te Kowhai
Create a positive retail environment in the CBD to attract the interest of new retailers by adopting a CBD revitalisation strategy		Improve lighting, wider footpaths, pedestrian precincts, encourage late night shopping.	YES BUT ALSO WE NEED to fully utilise the empty shops in the CBD, we need to encourage different cultures in certain areas i.e. have a Chinese quarter, an Indian quarter, Irish quarter etc. We need to show-case our cultural diversity and that is a sure way to do it. We also need to put more apartments and parking in the CBD.		Agree. The framework and vision for the revised CBD needs to be compelling and attractive to investors. The process to set up business needs to be warm and encouraging and the commitment to an overall layout (creative quarter inner city quarter etc) needs to be articulated	This is the big challenge facing Rotorua. We have far too many empty shops. How do we fill them? How do we attract tenants to occupy these vacancies? Is the footprint too large for retail? If so, what are the alternatives? Council's role is to be responsive to what 'the changing face' might be.	Support
Develop a strategy that will incentivise existing property owners in the CBD to invest in refurbishment and/or redevelopment		Get landlords to upgrade shop fronts and buildings by granting a3 month rates rebate while work undertaken	YES BUT THIS IS NOT THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE COUNCIL, but by all means they should support it		Again no one will do this unless they are inspired by a vision that sets a new standard of expectation - that they and their fellow retail neighbours a) understand and b) can buy into and make a return of	Yes this is an absolute must if we are to see reoccupation of empty buildings in the CBD.	Support

	Julie Calnan	Alan Deverson	Kathy Folley	Mike McVicker	Oscar Nathan	Glenys Searancke	Charles Te Kowhai
Develop a strategy to attract, incentivise and facilitate the establishment of new businesses to Rotorua		Draw up a list of the types of business required in the CBD and suggest a possible location	YES BUT THIS IS NOT THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE COUNCIL, but by all means they should support it		Yep, why not dedicate a CBD vision /facilitation office in town. (in one of the 1 in 4 vacant shops) that is swish, funky and manned by a staffer who exudes passion for the CBD revitalisation and can articulate it to new business, existing retailers and walk-ins off the street!	Economic growth is vital for the city's future. Part of that economic growth is to attract new businesses to Rotorua. A strategy to do so is absolutely essential.	Support How? You tell me!

Julie Calnan	Alan Deverson	Kathy Folley	Mike McVicker	Oscar Nathan	Glenys Searancke	Charles Te Kowhai
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Manifesto Policy 10 – Pro-active approach to environmental sustainability.

<p>Encourage and facilitate recycling from all households.</p>		<p>Decentralise recycling depots. I am against street recycling as items seem to be blown far and wide. Reduce the size of wheelie bins and possibly use wheelies instead of rubbish bags</p>	<p>Yes, I fully agree this should be done by the RDC for several reasons. It would be a good idea to offer a reward system</p>	<p>Curb side Recycling remains one of those areas of Council's responsibility that warrants further understanding & investigation.</p>	<p>A must! Another platform I have. My family routinely head to the recycling centre across from Countdown each week. For every one family like us I know ten who would recycle but can't be bothered taking the time to drive their rubbish in to town</p>	<p>No problem with this. As it is, Rotorua recycles a larger volume of recycling than many centres who have kerbside collection simply because our recycling centres take all recyclable products unlike a kerbside collection which takes only certain products i.e. those that are profitable. It would be very costly to run kerbside and the recycling centres but I have an open mind and favour the "choice" proposal whereby if a household desires kerbside you pay for the kerbside collection but your neighbour may favour the recycling centres and need not be part of the kerbside collection.</p>	<p>In progress. Open to new options its proven to better existing ones!</p>
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	Julie Calnan	Alan Deverson	Kathy Folley	Mike McVicker	Oscar Nathan	Glenys Searancke	Charles Te Kowhai
Encourage and facilitate sustainability in the construction sector		Monitor the waste produced on building sites.	Yes but toda this the Council needs to be more pro-active in reducing the waiting times and also revise the costing structure	The additional cost to the ratepayer may just highlight the suggestion that our current method is the right answer to this issue.	Yes. I would imagine the sector is constantly looking at ways it can achieve this, particularly in this current environment. Whereby materials used and wastage produced are equally frowned upon if not in some way ECO efficient	Agree with this.	Support
Research and facilitate conversion of waste products into fuel.		Essential if energy needs are to be met	Yes but this would be better done by Central Government as it would be very costly exercise and would benefit the whole country	The Council is currently investigating the issue of converting waste products into fuel.	Again this is why we should be brave and back ourselves as the home of NZ's bio fuels sector. The likes of SCION and the dairy industry in and around Rotorua are extremely active and successful in this area already. Not to mention the millions of litres of thermal fluid that flows out of the ground and straight into our gutters and lakes- untapped!	Totally supportive of any such research. The way of the future. Once again Council already active in this area. The tender for conversion of the sewerage sludge for energy purposes is about to go out for expressions of interest.	Support

Julie Calnan	Alan Deverson	Kathy Folley	Mike McVicker	Oscar Nathan	Glenys Searancke	Charles Te Kowhai
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Manifesto Policy 11 – A co-ordinated energy strategy for the district

Develop an energy management strategy that includes an energy management policy and plan for the Rotorua District Council		Encourage reduced energy needs by residents, council,	Yes This could become part of the District Plan	The BEAB - on behalf of the Council - is investigating the area of new local energy generation issues	Agree. This will require consultation dnA DVICE from the numerous public and private sector entities already very active and specialised in this area. Potentially, Rotorua could become an energy hub of NZ through our resources	Agree. As we all are aware climate change is a serious global issue and energy management is something the whole community must be aware of. Council should lead the way.	Support. In progress with the Council
Adopt best practice for energy use by the Council and publish details to establish the Council as a positive role model in energy management		Reduce night lighting in buildings, use fuel efficient cars plus reduction in the number of council vehicles	Yes I fully agree		Again there is not reason RDC can't become a new trend setter in this area. Why not set new benchmarks in a council - starting with an area that apart from other thins would encourage and create efficiencies/cost reduction	Agreed.	In progress at RDC

	Julie Calnan	Alan Deverson	Kathy Folley	Mike McVicker	Oscar Nathan	Glenys Searancke	Charles Te Kowhai
Support and actively enable new local energy management initiatives		Householders to be encourage to use better fuels and upgrade burners.	Yes I fully agree		Yep - no brainer	Council is already working in this direction. The Council is about to appoint an Energy Champion who will work in an advisory capacity to homeowners, industry and businesses.	Support
Set strict carbon reduction targets for the Rotorua District and develop an action plan for their achievement		Link to new development requirements and have ongoing program of emission reduction targets.	Yes I fully agree		To lead by example this would be a prerequisite that Council itself could take the lead on, consult across sectors and publish local sector guideline, for others to follow	I see this as more Environment Bay of Plenty's role in consultation of course with the Rotorua District Council	Show me a proposal that would achieve reasonable goals in these areas?
Develop and support renewable energy generation initiatives including hydro, solar, geothermal and bio fuels		Work with Maori Trusts to identify sources of energy and include in district plan	Yes I fully agree but this would be better done by Central Government		Absolutely - I've mentioned this earlier, on numerous occasions- we have the real opportunity to become a national leader in this area	This is an ongoing focus for Council.	Support!

	Julie Calnan	Alan Deverson	Kathy Folley	Mike McVicker	Oscar Nathan	Glenys Searancke	Charles Te Kowhai
Develop work started by the BrightEconomy Board on local energy resources.		Encourage business to take on board for commercial gain	Yes The RDC should support this		Agree- again this is where the Bright Economy Board now needs the start directing "champions of industry" and start profiling the do-ers off what BEB talks about. We have an abundance of energy options that many people out on the street wouldn't know about as it's too "strategic" at present	No problem. All part of the energy strategy for the District.	Support

Julie Calnan	Alan Deverson	Kathy Folley	Mike McVicker	Oscar Nathan	Glenys Searancke	Charles Te Kowhai
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Manifesto Policy 12 – Reduced size and cost of local government.

<p>Review Council units that provide private goods and services to the public to ensure they operate effectively and efficiently. The review should consider different management models and the benefits of divesting commercially viable activities to private enterprise while retaining a return on the investment.</p>	<p>A full audit of council staff numbers, salary and function urgently required. Before any council activity is privatised it should be considered as to whether it is a public service e.g. the Aquatic Centre used by schools and a place of swimming instruction.</p>	<p>The whole issue of local government funding and the rating system needs to be looked at and this included private goods and services to the public. The rdc needs to review consent processes to ensure they reflect a quick and efficient service and that these services are customer focused and meet legislative time requirements. Council needs to review and remove unnecessary barriers in the policies and procedures and improve certainty and clarity</p>	<p>I firmly believe that we currently have too many Local Bodies in the BOP area & the time must come when the duplicated must be reduced.</p>	<p>RDC should not be afraid (nay should be confident) to put it quasi operating entities to the test at best (two things would happen) - either the operation in question would pass at get a regular audit check or it may not and can set new standards to improve - be it revised private partnership /diversification</p>	<p>Council in the past has examined this question. Almost every unit of Council provides private goods and services to the public. The library, the museum, the Convention Centre, the Energy Events Centre, the refuse collection, the provision of water, the provision of sewerage treatment, the maintenance of roads, the provision of playing fields and so on. A huge debate. Many Councils in N.Z. contracted out these services, only to return to provision by their own Council!</p>	<p>Balance required here! Not convinces "Public Good" ethics would be better served by private interests.</p>
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	Julie Calnan	Alan Deverson	Kathy Folley	Mike McVicker	Oscar Nathan	Glenys Searancke	Charles Te Kowhai
Reduce the size, scope and cost of local government by focusing on core activities of local government.		Concentrate on core services of roads, water, sanitation + refuse, and recreational spaces.	Council needs to spend its money wisely and on the things that really matter	Until the Local Government Act 2002 is changed we will always be accountable for Social & Cultural issues.	Agree. This is where council needs vocal and committed representation to lobby against increased central government functions and imposed social policy positions which detract RDC from excelling its core customer responsibilities and services to ratepayers	I totally agree with this. I believe local government has entered into many fields that they should not be in. The ratepayer is not a bottomless pit and yet local government continues to pick up too much of what should be provided for by Central Government. If Central Government wants Local Government to carry out their wishes, then they should foot the bill!	Not feasible within parameters of LGA 2000. Community outcomes process has increased responsibilities and costs of services.
Desist from moving into areas of commercial operation that compete directly with private interests and expose Council to commercial risk.		Agreed council should not be involved in commercial activities e.g. airport. I do feel that the Aquatic Centre falls under a recreational space and provides a non or low profit service to ratepayers	Yes I agree, Council should not enter into commercial operations unless they are in the interest of the ratepayer	Because the Council must take a leadership role it will always be charged with taking up initiatives with infra-structural items such as airports etc.	Agree RDC is stretched as it is Also - it needs to be brave and look at the real value of increased private sector partnerships, particularly where equal or better services re capable of being provided ultimately reducing rates	I am not sure what is meant by this question so shall simply say that there are many areas of Council operation that could be run by private enterprise e.g. the Convention Centre, the Aquatic Centre, the Events Centre that we already run. Would they be at less cost to ratepayers? If the answer was yes, then I would favour a private enterprise contract.	Balance required along with a more consistent policy approach. I would welcome more policy direction on this issue!