

2030 Just Transition Community Strategy Hui

Saturday 23rd November 2019, Hatherly Hall, New Plymouth

Summary Report

Goals of the Hui

On 23rd November 2019, Climate Justice Taranaki, in partnership with E tū union, hosted the 2030 Just Transition Community Strategy Hui. The goals of the hui were:

- to bring together community groups, unions and individuals in Taranaki working towards a just transition in this climate emergency,
- to share with each other what campaigns and strategies we are already using that align with a just transition,
- to encourage and discuss how we could all work together long term,
- to strategise collectively for a just transition by 2030, starting now with key players in order to set the stage nationally, and
- to provide time and space to up-skill each other in areas we may need it.

Discussion Sessions of the Hui

- Understanding the just transition political playing field: Tapuae Roa and Taranaki 2050 Roadmap.
- Strategy for Community Just Transition by 2030 – What do we want?
Visioning – What kind of future do we want?
Active groups stocktake – What work & strategies do groups already have? What's useful to focus on? Start drawing up 10-year timeline.
- Strategy for Community Just Transition by 2030 – How best to influence society and the powerful?
- Next steps

Participants

About 30 people attended the hui with several apologies received. Tangata whenua, concerned individuals and representatives from the following groups were present:

Climate Justice Taranaki (CJT)
Climate Change & Consciousness 2019 (CCC19)
Council Challenge Action Group
E tū!
Extinction Rebellion Taranaki (XR Taranaki)
Link People
Positive Money
School Strike 4 Climate Taranaki (SS4C)

Sustainable Taranaki
Taranaki Energy Watch (TEW)
Taranaki Timebank
Rapid Reforestation
Regenerative Agriculture

Rationale for a 2030 Just Transition Community Strategy

Current government and council planning for just transition by 2050 does not reflect the urgency for action to deal with our climate emergency. The IPCC special report (2018)¹ calls for substantial greenhouse gas emissions reduction by 2030 to limit global warming to no more than 1.5°C. New research suggests that a number of tipping points have either passed or are dangerously close (Lenton, et al. 2019)². We need ambitious goals, strategic plans and concrete actions at all levels to bring our emissions down and transition to a sustainable and regenerative society. We need clear timelines to guide us towards our ambitious goal.

We feel that recent government processes, notably Tapuae Roa Strategy and Taranaki 2050, lack Māori and wider community inputs and have been overly government and business driven. We believe that by bringing together a wide range of community groups, unions, tangata whenua and concerned individuals, we can begin to chart a much faster just transition roadmap for 2030. This transition process will truly honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi, reflect what the community wants for the future and have far wider and deeper impact on reducing our emissions.

Focus areas at the Hui

The following focus areas emerged during discussions at the hui:

- Te ao Māori viewpoint
- Sharing economy
- Transport
- Housing & infrastructure
- Energy
- Land use / Farming
- Māori economy
- Education

Focus groups began plotting a ten-year timeline for action under their focus areas at the hui. These timelines are now being further developed, incorporating additional research and input where needed. Below are some of the highlights shown through during the hui:

- Create a way of looking at the just transition journey through “*an all inclusive mana / tangata whenua lens*”, a worldview whereby we are “*universal citizens, behaving or being kaitiaki*”.
- Create an economy where “*sharing is at the heart of every part of Taranaki society*” – social and economic models that aim to “*deliver better outcomes by sharing (and valuing) people’s assets, time, knowledge and capacity to change what they do*”.

¹ <https://www.ipcc.ch/sr15/>

² Lenton, T.M., J. Rockstrom, O. Gaffney, S. Rahmstorf, K. Richardson, W. Steffen and H.J Schellnhuber, 2019. Climate tipping points – too risky to be against. Nature, 27 Nov 2019.
https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-019-03595-0?WT.ec_id=NATURE-20191128&utm_source=nature_etoc&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20191128&sap-outbound-id=A57FA3A7FF118DE2031952A0D40199D64F5978D2&mkt-key=005056B0331B1ED88A9951DD949BC2A7

- By 2021, double the public transport budget to \$8 million; by 2022, double public transport budget to \$16 million; by 2023, New Plymouth city becomes car-free; by 2024, electric trains operate between New Plymouth and Hawera; by 2025, no more petrol car imports.
- By 2030, 80% of New Plymouth homes will be carbon neutral and rental housing will be affordable for low income residents with communities with their own renewable energy sources and smart microgrids in operation, providing resilient energy supply to carbon neutral homes and electric transport, creating local jobs while community members become inter-connected prosumers in a thriving sharing economy. Tree planting on street verges and public reserves will be allowed and expectations for planted yards, as opposed to wasteful lawns, will be the norm.
- Over the next ten years, we will transition from pastoral, single use, export, commodity driven farming and monoculture-based forestry to multicrop farming using regenerative agriculture, producing food for local use, and polyculture-based forestry incorporating native species for biodiversity restoration, thereby contributing to much more sustainable and resilient land use with greatly reduced reliance on fossil fuels.
- By 2030, a network has been built around the maunga of *“interconnected, community self-sufficient, climate-resilient pā and co-housing projects with flourishing natural ecosystems, kai and textile production, affordable sustainable housing, strong infrastructure, shared carbon zero transportation, renewable energy micro-grids, inspiring kopae, kura and wānanga, hauora, entertainment and social services with large teams of confident, skilled and resourced workers”*.
- Education: An integrated approach of theoretical and hands-on real project learning in all schools and adult training courses for transition jobs such as engineering renewable energy components, cycle-buses and hand-driven farming equipment, regenerative agriculture, forestry coppicing and carpentry, building localised economies, neighbourhood organising skills and civil emergency training.

Next steps

We are developing a more extensive report which can form the basis of a 2030 Just Transition Community Strategy. We aim to release a final draft for public discussions at the community level around March 2020. The desire is that this strategy can be used by community groups, unions, councils and government to help speed up and make a truly just transition.