Long-term City Planning and a Multi-stakeholder Participatory Approach -
A Snapshot of Auckland’s Journey

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Lessons Learnt from Auckland’s Journey

- governance is vital
- parties responsible for the delivery of the strategy need to be involved in its development. These include:
  - central government
  - local government and there are 8 in the Auckland region
  - communities
  - the private sector.

Landmarks in Auckland’s Journey

- Auckland’s existing governance
- Auckland Regional Growth Strategy
- Auckland Sustainability Framework
- One Plan
- Royal Commission on Auckland governance
- Central Government’s response
  - one unitary council
  - a spatial plan

Auckland is placed 4th equal out of 215 cities – Mercer’s 2009 quality of life survey
The Auckland region covers 500,000ha — 57,000ha urban

Auckland pop. 1,303,068 (1/3 of New Zealand’s pop.) — 180 different cultures

New Zealand’s only world-scale city – will account for >60% of NZ’s growth in next 30 yrs

Auckland’s physical environment is what makes it unique
Unfortunately the built form has not always reflected the beauty of the natural environment.

Existing Governance
- One regional council: Auckland Regional Council
- Seven territorial authorities:
  - Rodney District
  - North Shore City
  - Waitakere City
  - Auckland City
  - Manukau City
  - Papakura District
  - Franklin District
- Auckland Regional Council
- 30 Community Boards
- >40 Council Organisations

Central Government
- bulk funder and provider of services in a number of areas (eg highway networks, rail, social services, police, health services and education)
- more collaboration between central and local government is a key theme in Auckland’s Journey

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Collaborative Governance
Auckland Regional Growth Strategy

Lessons Learnt:
- Strong regional leadership ≠ implementation
- Need for private sector engagement & agreement
- Strategy probably affected by central govt withdrawal

Motivations:
- collaborative regional governance
- collaboration between local and central government
- lift thinking out of short-term (100 year view)

Auckland Sustainability Framework

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- collaborative regional governance
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Lessons Learnt:
- Developed jointly between central and local government
- Local government contributed views of citizens
- lack of representation by business and developers

ASF Implemented by:
- Aligning strategies and projects
- Adapting business as usual
- Identifying responses to achieve goals
- Guiding the development of One Plan

One Plan
- sought to drop down to the micro level (3 – 10 yrs)
- tweak business as usual
- it comprises of a list of projects (eg broadband, transport)
- lack of private sector involvement in ASF has hampered progress

ASF Lessons Learnt
- Provided collaboration between central and local government
- Need for private sector engagement & agreement
- Collaboration in development ≠ implementation

Basis for Royal Commission
Public Consultation

- received 3,500 written submissions
- heard of 550 oral submissions
- conducted numerous workshops with Maori and ethnic groups,
- commissioned a number of background research papers
- undertook their own research
- promoted the process at www.royalcommission.govt.nz
- encouraged media coverage.

Two Systemic Problems

- Regional governance is weak and fragmented
- Community engagement is poor

"... Auckland does not lack plans; it lacks the will and the ability to implement them"

Royal Commission on Auckland Governance
Auckland Regional Spatial Plan

Purpose – Set a broad long term strategy for managing growth and development

Key Functions –
- Articulate long-term (20 – 30yr) vision / strategic direction
- Provide an evidence base
- Align implementation, regulatory and funding plans
- Integrate competing policy goals
- Facilitate effective participation
- Co-ordinate and facilitate agreement between parties in regional growth