

# **EDAP launch and brainstorming session**

Twenty-seven Hervey Bay residents attended Transition Town Hervey Bay's first EDAP session on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. After briefing attendees on the EDAP development process, groups brainstormed potential impacts of climate change and peak oil on the Hervey Bay community over the next 20 years and then the whole meeting identified aspects of a vision for Hervey Bay in the year 2030.

## **Potential impacts**

I have grouped the impacts into different aspects or themes. Some impacts appear under more than one section.

### **Potential Impacts on Transport**

- Less car use
- Smaller cars
- Reduced availability of road freight
- Much less aviation

### **Potential Impacts on Food**

- Less imported food (and also less food exports)
- More localised food production
- Less pre-packaged food
- Less choice of food, local, seasonal etc.
- Times when food security will be threatened

### **Potential Impacts on Lifestyle & consumption**

- Less car travel
- Less holidays by air, especially overseas
- Less use of disposable products, e.g. plastic bags, nappies
- Harsher water restrictions
- No use of clothes dryers
- Less use of air conditioning, pool heating etc.
- Less and more expensive imported consumer goods
- No retail therapy
- Likely greater civil unrest
- Less job security
- Greater reliance on internet?

### **Potential Impacts on Government & infrastructure**

- Reduction in some essential services
- Greater focus on natural disasters
- Slowing construction industry

# Aspects of a 2030 vision for Hervey Bay

Here I have tried to group ideas into areas relating to who might drive the changes that lead to each aspect of the vision. This can, of course, be debated. It must be remembered that TTHB, as a movement, is primarily focused on the community level, and through awareness raising and education, on the personal level. Ideally through partnerships with business and council, TTHB can also influence the adoption of other aspects of the vision.

## Personal

- Home food production
- Home energy harvesting, energy efficiency
- Home water harvesting, recycling and efficiency
- Personal transport – walking, cycling etc.
- Consumer habits – buy local, less packaging etc.
- Reuse, recycle, including composting

## Community

- Community gardens, local food sources including seafood
- Community energy harvesting, e.g. PV, solar thermal, wind
- Reuse, recycling, op-shops
- Sharing equipment
- Cooperatives regarding all of the above
- Education and reskilling
- Farmers markets
- Bartering, local currency, community economic development
- Intentional communities

## Business

- Diversification
- Localisation
- Cradle-to-cradle product vision
- More sustainable buildings and development generally

## Government (especially council)

- Climate protection, natural disaster response
- More sustainable buildings and development generally
- Water recycling
- Rail and other sustainable local transport
- Bikeways etc.
- Biodiversity protection, pest management

## Where to from here?

Everyone needs to consider all of the above and to refine the 2030 vision for Hervey Bay. It would be desirable that we develop a fairly succinct vision statement that captures the essence of the changes that will be needed over that time, but without resorting to bland motherhood statements. Our vision needs to be feasible, unique to Hervey Bay, and directive in terms of what we need to be doing.

People should also be thinking about actions that we might take to head towards that vision. For most community members, it is perhaps best to focus on the community and personal level, but those in business and council will obviously look in those areas. Do not be restricted by the above brainstormed list. By all means see what other communities are doing, especially other transition towns. By mid year we aim to identify a number of projects that will be developed further by committed groups of community members with a view to implementation in 2010 and beyond.

Thank you to those who participated in the initial EDAP session and to others who will join us on the journey towards a sustainable Hervey Bay.

Ian  
EDAP Facilitator.

Richards

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