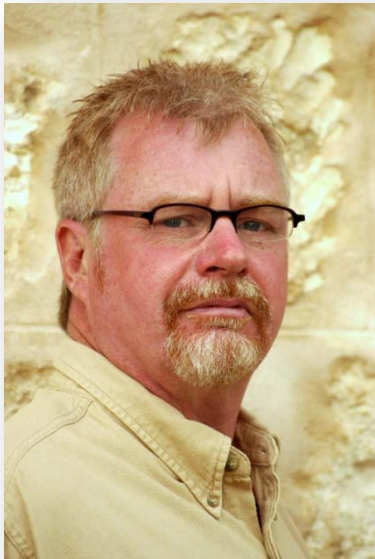


Introduction



Cr. Jon Strachan
City of Fremantle
South Ward



MAKING SPACE FOR THE SEA ADAPTING TO CLIMATE CHANGE IN COASTAL FREMANTLE
THE ROLE OF THE CITY OF FREMANTLE IN ADAPTING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Nyoongar Acknowledgement

- The city of Fremantle acknowledges the land we meet on today is part of the traditional lands of the Nyoongar people and we respect their spiritual relationship with their country. We also acknowledge the Nyoongar people as the custodians of the greater Fremantle / Walyalup area and that their cultural and heritage beliefs are still important to the living Nyoongar people today.
- I would also like to acknowledge any Nyoongar elders here today and thank Noel Nannup for his welcome to country.



Abatement & Adaptation



- Climate change has to be addressed through reducing CO₂E emissions (Abatement).
- “Once thresholds in ice sheet and carbon cycle dynamics are crossed, such processes cannot be stopped or reversed by human intervention.” (Wong 9 July 2009).
- Adaptation is to address the legacy of previous emissions.
- Adaptation is NOT an alternative to Abatement.



City of Fremantle Initiative on Climate Change



Fremantle Council is

- Founding member of ICELI Australasia.
- Member Cities for climate protection.
- First Aust. Council to endorse Kyoto.
- The first Carbon neutral Council in WA.
- Founding member of SMRC.
- Amending our TPS to mandate Green star rating for multiple developments.
- Using split zoning for green buildings.
- Using the Rudd stimulus package money to install PV cells.
- Harvesting rainwater.



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Global warming threats for Local Government



Primary issues are associated with damage to built infrastructure such as

- Roads & footpaths
- Drainage systems
- Buildings
- Ocean & river beaches & seawalls
- Parks & gardens

Secondary issues are associated with

- Loss of services such as power
- Community health
- Climate refugee influx
- Loss of income to Council
- Public liability



Adaptation for Local Government

Local Government is at the coalface when it comes to the effects of climate change. They construct and maintain much of the 'at risk' infrastructure and also respond to community needs in times of stress. As a jurisdiction statutory mechanisms need to be put in place to facilitate adaptation.

A good response to incidents is not going to be good enough, L.G. has to be proactive by identifying the risks, analysing the risks and then deciding how to deal with them in advance and as they strike. This will all need to be budgeted.



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Tools to help local government



For adaptation to be effective LG should;

- Identify risk profiles, using tools such as the ICLEI L.G. Climate Change Adaptive Toolkit.
- Conduct a “Climate Change Risk Assessment”.
- Use existing research and resources such as CSIRO and ACE.
- Have in place a robust assets management system.



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A Whole of Council Approach



Fremantle has 4 Directorates, each with a role to play.

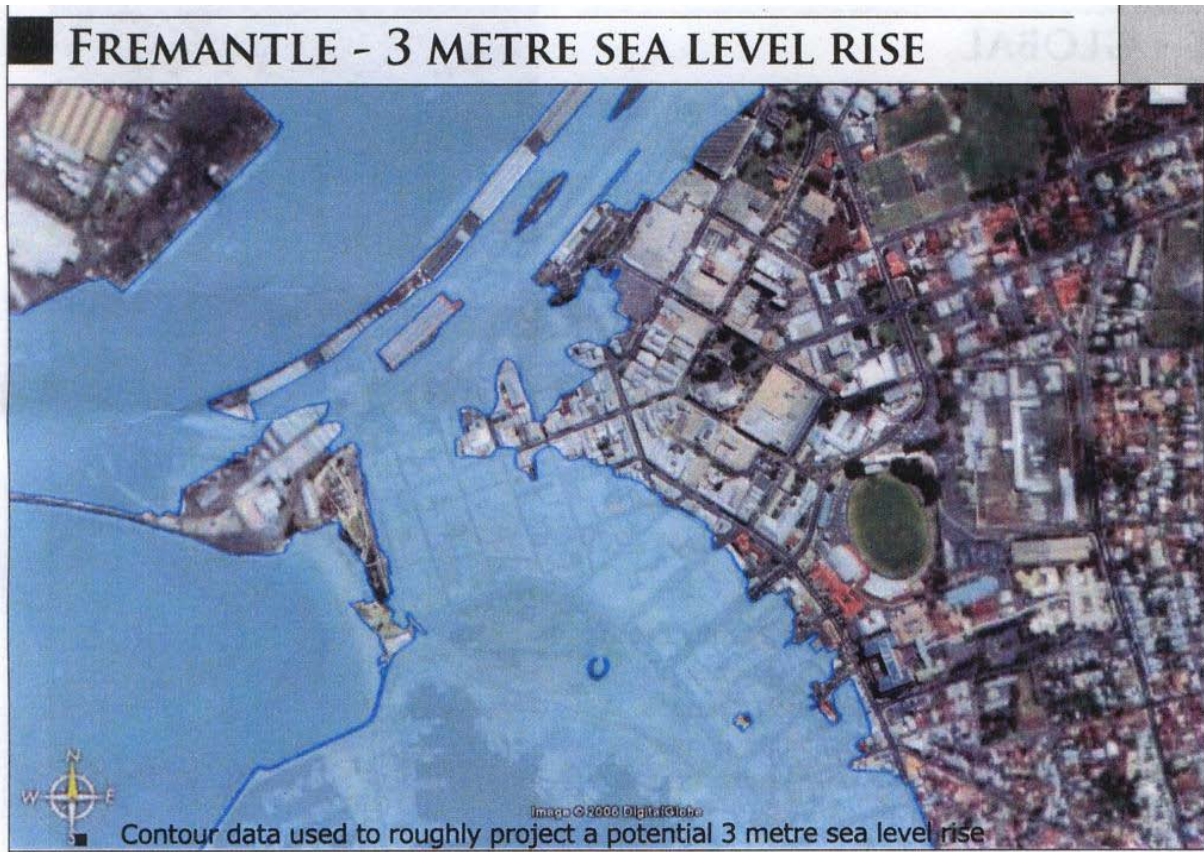
- Planning dept deals with development through TPS.
- Physical Services build and maintain infrastructure.
- Community Development Unit support people in stress .
- Finance and Corporate Services have to budget and coordinate efforts.

The CEO through the Senior Management Group coordinates these efforts.



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Making Space For The Sea



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The End???



References

- Photographs courtesy of Dave Danger, Jon Strachan and Victorian Gov
- Cartoon courtesy of Fremantle Herald.
- Sea level rise map courtesy of the Greens.

