

IT'S TIME FOR A CHANGE

VOTE ROSS MEURANT FOR MAYOR

For the past 10 years I have visited Gisborne twice monthly and together with local tradies have taken the Old Post Office from a derelict edifice with 4 tenants to a fully earthquake-compliant hub of commercial activity with 40 tenants. During this time, I have also watched Gisborne atrophy. It's as if a handbrake has been applied.

Essential infrastructure has been neglected.

- Sewage dumps on our beaches
- Failure to progress water rights which are crucial to the future expansion of horticulture

I ask, not for another term that I might fix what was not fixed last term. I ask for my first term –to immediately rectify that which the current and Council has failed to do.

Resistance to competitive air carriers results in high fares and dwindling tourist numbers. Yet, I have hard evidence a major airline is being shut out. Competitive air travel will result in lower fares and increased tourism.

These above initiatives contribute to:

- Revitalised local business;
- Job creation;
- Opportunities for enterprising young people to create their own businesses.

If Council does not support these initiatives to produce an ENVIRONMENT where the PRIVATE SECTOR creates jobs and opportunities for new business, the next generation will leave the district. Some must for university, but many will leave because of no opportunity.

In spite of a current feasibility report on rail which demonstrates rail can be reinstated at less cost than ongoing road maintenance and upgrades! In spite of widespread community support and widespread commercial support!

The report shows GDC are opposed to reinstating rail? This is inconsistent with their 2014 resolution TO SUPPORT RAIL and contrary to the will and the wish

of 10,000 who signed a petition to reinstate rail.

As mayor, I will drive for support of rail reinstatement. Reinstated rail will reduce freight charges into and out of the region. That means improved profits for growers and forestry and business. This will result in job creation.

I've heard the cry: We must protect our port or jobs will be lost. Rubbish! This is protectionism at its worst. The sheer volume of future log export projections exceeds the capacity of the Port.

Trucks will move the same volume of logs but short distances to rail heads and the bonus will be safer roads.

FUNDING.

A joint venture eco-friendly waste disposal plant with self-generating electricity, has been brought to me. This helps Tairāwhiti help the environment while creating local jobs and a potential alternative electricity supplier.

I will take the seat on ECT available to the mayor. I've said before and I repeat; Something is wrong. EGL invests in Hawaii and Bay of Plenty while Tairāwhiti infrastructure languishes?

What is the relationship between GDC & ECT & EGL? Shane Jones said: "I'm very disappointed that (former Eastland Group chairman) Keith Sutton is no longer involved in the governance arrangements. With Keith Sutton there, the Government had a great deal of confidence in Eastland Port.

What does that tell you?

Something is not right

It's time for a change.

I ask you for your support to help me guide Tairāwhiti - **into the future**

P.S We have just taken an option on a Marinaview apartment, and will live there if I win.



GET GISBORNE MOVING: VOTE ROSS MEURANT