

Summary of Actions for Tāmaki W.R.A.P. Waste Reduction Action Plan



Table of Contents

Community Residence Action Plan Development	3
Community Garden Network	4
Local Champions	6
Awareness of Change	9
Creativity in Action	11
Summary	12

Timeframe	Action
May - August 2013	Community Residence Action Plan - Meetings and Focus Groups - Development of Plan - Presentation to Council and Local Board - Celebration Feedbacks to local residents
August - December 2013	Developing the four WRAP Action Projects - Community Garden Network - Local Champions - Awareness of Change - Creativity in Action

Community Residence Action Plan Development

To create the Tāmaki Residence Action Plan, over 20 meetings took place in the months of May and June 2013. At those meetings, more than 200 residents of Tāmaki were connected with in a variety of interactions. Some in meetings and discussions, others in more in-depth focus groups, presentations and actioning steps.

The action plan was developed through a community-led lens and residents were empowered to voice their own thoughts and help to develop projects that are of value to them. All of this information was then collated into themes and then grouped into four key projects. These projects have been designed to co-occur through the community.

The aim of all of the four projects are to create a new culture in the community of Tāmaki - that reducing waste is achievable and desirable for all. Because of that, social movement through out the whole community needs to take place - which requires time and perseverance.

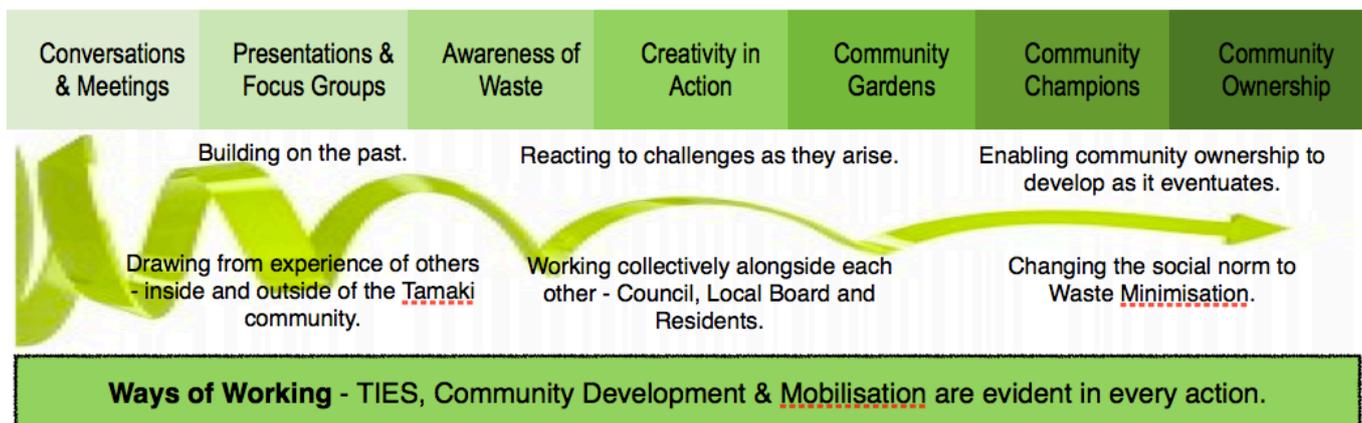
The four projects are:

- Community Garden Network
- Local Champions of Waste
- Awareness of Change Promotion
- Creativity in Action

All of the projects are to ensure that activities already currently happening in the community are empowered to continue with a strong waste reducing focus. It is with hope that the challenges identified and problems that may arise from the changes through Auckland Council's new waste plan, will be minimised by having these four projects actively running in the community. For more information on this action plan, please see the full version of "The Tāmaki Residence Action Plan on Waste Management and Minimisation" written by Tara Moala.

The action plan was presented to Auckland Council and The Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board in July and August 2013. Over the months of August to December 2013, the four projects were kick started in the Tāmaki community by Tara Moala, to help motivate the passion that was sparked through the action plan development.

**Each interaction has the potential to build on the previous.
Creating further activity, drive and community ownership on waste reduction.**



Community Garden Network

A network of community gardens working together - creating a hive of activity spread through out the community - locally driven by passionate residents and being supported by experts. These community gardens would be linked through a co-ordinator that drives their network and encourages the gardens to become hubs of learning - where people can connect with each other around waste reducing, dropping off household organic waste, learning about recycling, upcycling, and creations of waste into produce and product.

The community of Tāmaki are ready and keen for more action to happen within community gardens. After these last few months, the network between the gardens are ready to develop naturally and the potential for access to more local residents will grow because of that.

Working alongside key community gardens

P.E.R.A. - Panmure East Residents Association

After a focus group meeting with PERA during the development of the action plan, they became very interested in opening up to the community and developing some community minded activities. They aligned well with the information that was being presented on the Waste Minimisation and Management Plan and wanted to support other community residents to join them and learn more. The following actions are what I helped them to develop:

- Meetings around how to open up their group for others to join and yet also keep their identity.
- Supporting the designated Community Interaction person assigned to attend meetings and promote PERA.
- Development of ideas for how PERA can encourage new members to join their group - including workshops, open days, community garden road trip and promotion support.
- Application support to the Waste Minimisation and Management Fund.
- Guidance for the bokashi and composting for communities workshop that was held by PERA in December 2013 for community residents and PERA members.
- Connection with other key community gardeners in Tāmaki.
- Ensuring that all of PERA practices are waste reducing and supporting the intake of household organic waste into their composting systems. A bokashi unit was given to the group to trial and from this, the majority of members learnt this alternative method of using their household organic waste and are now beginning to apply it in their homes and at PERA.

Ruapotaka Marae Community Gardens

Ruapotaka Marae has had a thriving community garden in the past, however due to the lack of volunteers willing to work their vege plots, and a composting system fail, they slowed their actions down to the efforts of one volunteer. The following actions are what I helped them to develop:

- Meetings to support their re-commitment to maintain a community garden and for the community garden to be open to all residents that are interested.
- Developing an understanding about how their garden could develop into what will work for the Marae and residents who live near by. That this model may be unique to their own way of doing things, and to ensure that other models of community gardening does not affect best practice for them.

- Meetings and advocacy with TRC (Tamaki Redevelopment Company), NPT (Neighbourhood Policing Team) and Auckland Council Community Development Team to create an understanding about how these interested parties and Ruapotaka Marae can best work together to re-build a Glen Innes community garden for the benefit of local residents.
- Connection with other key community gardeners in Tāmaki.
- Supporting the whole of the marae to work within the Parakore programme through Orakei Marae and begin to put zero waste into practice. Part of this is learning how to compost and separate their waste. Unfortunately, the 4 Ruapotaka Marae members who were meant to come to the PERA bokashi and composting workshop didn't turn up on the day, so a new composting workshop will need to be put on in 2014.

Taniwha St Community Gardens

Encouraging the community gardeners to become involved with the other community gardens and gardeners in Tāmaki.

- Including them in the development of the action plan and then celebration presentations - ensuring that other community gardeners were in these meetings and there was time for sharing of ideas and plans.
- Advocating for their efforts to be acknowledged and respected through other community garden development.
- Including their garden in the Community Garden Road Trip and ensuring their history is recorded and shared respectfully.

Tāmaki Community Development Trust Garden

After meeting with the trust about the action plan, some specific meetings were set up with their youth groups, women groups, and community workers to share information on waste minimisation and management. From these meetings, working the vege plots that had been sitting empty for quite some time, auditing the rubbish bins and re-instating the compost bins for organic waste and planting new seedlings that each of their groups would manage was all put back into place. The trust had a firm skeleton of community gardening and using their organic waste in their gardens, however lacked the motivation and volunteers to get it up and re-running. Having a dedicated person focused on inspiring and encouraging their small community made all the difference they needed.

Point England Community Garden

Attempts were made through council, Point England Primary School and Manaiakalani Trust to support the development of this garden. I was told by all that there is a keen group of potential community gardeners in the Point England community, and that the garden is definitely going to happen, however they are held up by processes at this point. I offered support to everyone and if they wanted me to help in any way, to connect. However no one did.

Community Garden Road Trip and Networking

One outcome of supporting local community gardeners to attend the skill development days that Council put on for waste management and minimisation, was the request for more networking and skill sharing between community gardens. One way of doing that, was to develop a community garden road trip for everyone to see each others gardens. This was used as a tool to gather everyone that was interested in becoming involved in a network and providing activity for them all to interact. From that road trip, a natural network of gardeners have developed that can be supported with further networking opportunities in the future.

Local Champions

Local people connecting with their own links in the community - promoting and championing waste reducing activities. Empower these champions with skills, knowledge and resources and keep their interactions face to face with a street by street, or group by group approach. Enable these champions to create their own initiatives that residents are able to become involved in and link them strongly with the activities of the other projects. Build up the championing from individuals, to streets, businesses and organisations.

As was predicted, the local champion project intertwined with the other projects well. People from each of the three other projects easily developed into local champions within their own mini social networks and naturally spread the message of Tāmaki WRAP. Below is the action that I was active in supporting. However several local champions are now very much independently working well on their own, therefore they very may well have developed aspects of their work further.

Working alongside local residents

Both the focus groups within the Action Plan Development phase, and the celebration meetings afterwards were used by local residents as a way to learn more about waste minimising and reduction. It was evident that a lot of local residents have a lot of basic questions that they feel are unanswered. Almost every workshop or meeting that I held with local residents included some basic question time around what type of waste should go where, or what happens in land fill and what people can do in their own homes to minimise waste. There were often local residents that went away from those workshops and meetings with information that was new to them that they wanted to share with other household members, friends, neighbours and family. If I had enough time through my last 5 months, I would have continued to have held open workshops for local residents to continue to learn and share between each other about waste minimising and reduction practices. This is something that could definitely be further developed.

Working alongside organisations/ groups

Every one of these organisations and groups took the message of Tāmaki WRAP on in different ways. For some they fully embraced the projects, for others it sparked ideas or missions from the past, and for some it brought new information to their groups to ponder about changing their ways.

Tāmaki Community Development Trust

Tāmaki WRAP aligned well with the principles of the trust and they loved the projects. They incorporated the projects immediately into their practice and actively supported everything that WRAP promoted. Examples of this are the workshops that were put on for the different groups that they run, the attendance at almost every WRAP event and eagerness to become involved in skill learning opportunities. The trust are eager to further develop initiatives for their community, however, they struggle with time and resources to be able to fully develop and implement actions.

Dunkirk Road Activity Centre

Tracey at Dunkirk fully supported and promoted WRAP, often offering their premises to hold WRAP activities for free. The centre is now promoting recycling and disposing of organic waste through their new bokashi units that are taken to PERA community gardens

when full. Role modeling waste minimisation behaviour to others coming to their centre became natural over the second half of 2013.

Riverside Community Centre

Tom at Riverside has actively advocated for Riversides involvement in WRAP. Although only two activities took place at Riverside, the residents who attended were very motivated and passionate about waste minimisation. A lot of ideas for what could happen next was discussed, however Tom did lack time, volunteers and resources to develop them himself.

Glen Innes Family Centre

Chris Makoare offered himself up as a local champion early on in the year and the community workers at GIFC won a worm bin after their waste minimal stall at a community event. GIFC are still on their journey towards waste minimisation practices, however the keenness to develop those practices are evident and the request for WRAP to become more involved in their practices was tabled but unfortunately due to time constraints, I didn't manage to connect further.

Glen Innes Business Association

Anita and Gary from GIBA are complete stars of Tāmaki WRAP. They actively promoted waste reduction through to their shops, and were active in their own practices and willingness to learn. So much so, that they are now working with the Waste Minimisation Team from council to develop a plan to educate and minimise waste coming from the shops. This is being completed with Sunshine. The support from GIBA for WRAP to be involved in markets and community events was invaluable for the promotion of the project 'Awareness of Waste'.

Ruapotaka Marae

Karen Nathan from the community gardens side of the Marae is the key champion of Ruapotaka. Her willingness to learn through skill development workshops and skill shares as well as her dedication to getting action happening at the marae - no matter how long it takes to set up - is admirable. The actual marae is still learning about Parakore and needs further learnings that may need to be pushed further from higher leadership at the marae. However the foundation for a strong WRAP organisation is here.

Mad Ave and Omaru Restoration Association (ORA)

Tamati Patuwai has been working within the area of environmental conservation for the last 2 or so years, so he naturally supported and promoted WRAP. Through his work with ORA, waste minimisation practices was promoted to the community with the environmental focus of our Omaru river. Tamati is the key creative ambassador of waste minimisation in Tāmaki.

The Roots Collective

Although The Roots already work within waste minimising practices, they have not been as active in the Tāmaki community as they are in South Auckland. Petelo Esekielu - as a resident of Tāmaki and member of The Roots, was able to join the two and develop some potential projects for 2014. We developed these projects to be based on The Roots core work and also align with Tāmaki WRAP projects.

Each of the Community Gardens

Every community garden that I worked alongside over this time, believed in waste minimising practices, however some didn't practice it completely. So WRAP acted as a reminder to do the right thing and maintain high standards.

Te Waipuna Puawai

The restoration of the earth is within the mission statement of TWP, however they have told me several times that they do nothing to support that part of their mission currently. WRAP has acted as a reminder to them that they need to move into this area and how they can do that. The action plan has given them specific ideas on what they can do and it is TWP's desire to take steps to develop activities to fulfill their mission statement. However resources and time also prevent this organisation from acting further with this. Over this year, TWP has actively promoted every WRAP activity and especially our cloth nappy workshop and waste minimising workshops that were held at the TWP classrooms.

Communication

A casual email loop was developed with these key organisations to share information like; The Environmental Initiatives Fund, The Waste Minimisation and Management Fund, skill development and share days, WRAP events and activities, promotion of composting for community tutors, and sharing of WRAP documentation - for example the action plan. Finally, I am now connecting with interested organisations who could submit a Registration of Interest for the new Waste Facilitator Role.

Development of Resources

And finally, I found it very important through encouraging local champions to ensure that they all had access to documentation that would help them promote waste minimisation and management. For some activities, that meant distributing the appropriate brochures and flyers from council and other like minded organisations. For other activities, it meant creating Tāmaki WRAP own flyers, posters, or information documents - ensuring that the information shared was effective for this specific community.

Awareness of Change

Holistic education around waste reduction - develop a campaign strategy with active learning opportunities for all in the community. Build on events that the community already have running, supporting them to become waste reducing. Create a local community brand that people can identify with and feel empowered by using. Certify through workshops and learning opportunities different groups (shops, organisations, homes) in the community to be able to hold that waste reducing brand, enabling the development of active choice - becoming waste reducing in all we do.

A lot of activities within this project focused on supporting the actions of others. Some groups required support with development of actions while others required support with promotion or implementation. It was great to have the flexibility to support these different actions as and how they needed Tāmaki WRAP to be.

Education Based

Local Businesses and Associations

Both the Glen Innes and Panmure Business Associations are struggling to get their shops to come on board waste minimising practices. Both associations understand that the shift of business practices will take time, however they are both also keen to begin on actions now where they can.

- GIBA (The Glen Innes Business Association) spoke on behalf of WRAP at their business meetings to keep the businesses informed and educated on what was happening in the community. They also encouraged the business to learn more about recycling and minimising their waste.
- GIBA began to run monthly markets this year and they encouraged WRAP to become involved on a monthly basis while the markets were running to educate and support stalls to develop waste minimising practices.
- GIBA also supported community events that were in their shop area to be run on WRAP principles. One key event was “GI 4 Life” who committed to being a waste reducing event this year and planning to be zero waste next year.

Community Workshops

The value of community workshops is being able to reach people that may not link in with any organisation or group in any other way. Several were run over the second half of year. The key to running successful workshops in the community of Tāmaki is to ensure that promotion is strong, it is easy to register your interest, every single lead is followed up with face to face contact and then reminders given in due time. Adding this into the development of the actual workshop can be time consuming, but does bring with it higher success rates.

- Cloth Nappy Workshop - 43 registrations were taken for this workshop and only 7 people did not attend. 40 packs of cloth nappies were distributed and 22 of those participants with packs lived within the community of Tāmaki. So this workshop was highly successful.

- Waste Reduction Workshops were held through Te Waipuna Puawai. Although the numbers of participants were low, the amount of knowledge shared, ideas developed and enthusiasm to continue was all very high. This group could have continued into an actual series of workshops if time was permitting for me to run them.
- After the Action Plan was completed, celebration events were developed, promoted and presented through out the Tāmaki community. This included reporting back to community residents on what the outcome of all focus groups were and the development of the action plan. However it also included the opportunity for different groups of residents with like-minded views on waste to connect. This created a buzz of interaction at every celebration.
- At the very end of this year, I have been supporting the running of composting and bokashi workshops in the Tāmaki community. PERA was able to run one with the support for Dunkirk Road Activity Centre and council. It is with hope that more happen in 2014 with The Glen Innes Playcentre and Ruapotaka Marae at least.

Connecting and Networking

Certain groups were ready and willing to take actions on as soon as possible. These groups simply needed some networking for those actions to take place.

- Supporting Ruapotaka Marae in their commitment to Parakore with Orakei Marae.
- Facilitating the re-connection between Gardens 4 Health and The Glen Innes Chinese Friendship Group to learn more about composting and developing gardens.
- Advocating for GIBA to receive Auckland Council support for a waste audit with Sunshine and other ongoing support for their activities.

Creativity in Action

Develop a series of actions that are creatively developed for further reach in participation from residents. Kick start with a major event involving different art forms and further develop with a variety of different creative actions. From cooking classes, craft workshops, to guerilla art, spoken word, drama and plays through to upcycling, creation from waste, and social enterprise opportunities. Acknowledge the creative activities that are already happening in the community and build on those sustainable waste reducing actions to further enhance the waste reduction messages.

Less action took place within this project. Purely because there were not enough hours in the contract to be able to fully develop all projects in the action plan. There were however some activities.

Holistic Healthy Relationships with HEART

HEART - Healthy Relationships in Tāmaki, is a well established project that is developing a social movement through out Tāmaki. It made sense to become involved in the activities that they did through this year to gain access to larger groupings of people. Their movement is focused on positive movement of local residents to become excited about wanting a different future for their community and creating healthier relationships.

- A Tāmaki WRAP Stall was present at most major HEART events and included interactive education on the ground with fake rubbish, creating recycled paper with the paper making kits and separating rubbish type games. The stalls attracted young as well as old family members and incentives to win prizes helped motivate some competitions.
- From these events, I quickly became known as the rubbish lady around the Tāmaki community.

Supporting what other groups and organisations that are doing well

- The Omaru Restoration Association with support from Mad Ave developed a series of events to plant alongside the Omaru river and clean it up. I helped with the final development stages of these events through suggestions in waste minimising practices, and collection points for the council to pick up rubbish collected. Information on WRAP was also distributed at the events.
- The Roots Collective have plans to develop a collection of projects in Tāmaki around supporting the Glen Innes Music and Arts Centre as a zero waste build. These projects include on the ground support for the construction workers on site, removing all waste and storing it for artists to have access to it with the intention of re-creating art from the waste. I have been meeting regularly with Petelo from The Roots Collective to discuss the logistics, possibilities and networking him with other potential partners within Tāmaki.

Summary

There is a lot of potential for the future of Tāmaki WRAP - in what ever form it develops from here. 2013 has been a foundation year for its development and the action plan enables the project to have a strong voice from the community - advocating for change within a community development model. The last 8 months have been action filled and the community of Tāmaki have quickly embraced the concept of acting to reduce waste.

“The Tāmaki Residence Action Plan on Waste Management and Minimisation” expands in depth on each of the four projects, so I won’t expand on where Tāmaki WRAP could further develop. However I would like to emphasize how the projects could become further successful.

- Strengthening the involvement between Auckland Council, Local Residents and The Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board would enable the projects to be more effective. As an example, the possibility of the Local Board financially supporting some of the larger goals in the action plan could enable faster uptake of waste reduction through out the community.
- Ensuring that Tāmaki WRAP is as community development focused and driven as possible. One way to do that is to ensure that a local organisation takes on the management of Tāmaki WRAP, encourage collaboration to develop the project further, and then hire a local community resident as the key worker.
- Continue to work alongside other organisations that have a similar goal of reducing waste, or a similar way of working. Organisations like Garden 4 Health, EcoMatters and The HEART Movement. Also, working collaboratively with local organisations has been the key to using time wisely and efficiently.
- Ensure that Riverside is allocated a set amount of support through Tāmaki WRAP. Riverside did not receive any of the support that they wanted and asked for. This was mainly because it was not geographically right next to the other communities. There needs to be a conscious decision to allocate a set amount of resources to Riverside to enable activity to take place.