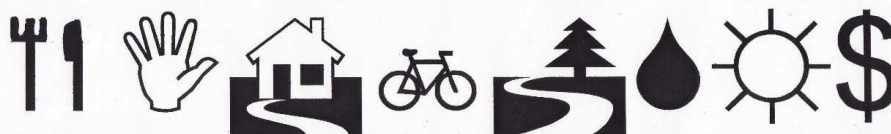


the caldera economic transition program



building resilient local communities, economies and ecosystems

Uki Sustainability Project Report 25-6-09

This project is made possible through funds from Dept of State and Regional Development and co sponsored by Tweed Shire Council and UKIRA.

Thankyou to all those who came and gave us their precious time to help make the information gathering workshop such a resounding success and thankyou to all those who couldn't make the workshop but have since filled out the Questionnaire and dropped them off with me or at the PO, Café or General store.

In Brief

Attendance 75 signed in
25 more having input to date

Ideas identified and considered priorities at the Uki Sustainability Workshop:

- 'Safety & Accessibility for All' Safe pedestrian, bicycle and disabled access in and around Uki, with connections to Murwillumbah, for economic, social and environmental sustainability
- Community gardens, growers co-op, Food Forests and seed bank, planting of edible street scapes,
- Bush regeneration and biodiversity protection through works to control/eradicate invasive vines and weeds.
- Minimal/Appropriate/Non-chemical Uki;
- Skills audit and skills sharing. Survey the community for skills and interests then promote this collective knowledge to the community. Educating, re skilling and sharing of information were considered important in all aspects of sustainability.
- Organic Brewery/Liqueurs using locally grown fruits.

Other ideas identified with good community support to promote and move towards a sustainable future are; (not in order of priority)

- Uki Public School as a 'Sustainable School'.
- Community Events and Celebrations.
- Promotion of sustainability through the arts and film.
- Traffic calming and safety in Uki with traffic diversion around the town.
- Install alternative/integrated sustainable energy systems on public and residential buildings including hydro system at Clarrie Hall dam.
- Improving energy and water efficiency in new and old buildings.
- Closer contact with the local Aboriginal community with appropriate educational displays of their culture and history.
- Local food growers co-operative and distribution centre.
- No non sustainable subdivisions or developments.
- Better public and bike friendly transport, car pooling, shared transport.
- Engaging youth.
- Eco tourism through walking/biking/canoeing and showcasing sustainable practices.
- Revitalise/Beautify/Rehabilitate the village and the environment;
- Solar powered lighting;
- Public parking outside village area connected with safe accessible pathways;
- Centralised compost facility;
- Increase recycling;
- Extend walking tracks along rivers/creeks and around Mt Warning and to areas of beauty;
- Set up a similar system to LETS (Local Energy Transfer System);
- AND many other valuable ideas came forward however space does not allow for their inclusion here. For the full collection of ideas check out the attached documents.

What has happened so far as part of the 'Uki Sustainability Project'.

- A preliminary funding meeting for the Uki Heritage/Platypus Walk.
 - Lodging a Supporting letter/Expression of interest under Jobs Fund through EnviTE for Sections #1-4
 - Further investigation into funding sources.
- An update meeting regarding The Uki Food Forest and possible locations for the Uki Vegetable Garden.
 - Further meetings re Food Forest

- Site location within Sweetnam Pk identified for stage #1 Food Forest
- Date chosen and advertising started for planting day Sunday 2nd August 09 for stage #1 Food forest
- Many plants sourced for this planting
- Possible site location for Stage #2 of a food forest
- Skills Audit
 - Press release being developed
- Uki access for all
 - Discussions, inspection and letter prepared to submit to council requesting works to be carried out to improve pedestrian and cycling safety in Uki from Sweetnam Pk to the Sports Ground and on Kyogle Rd to Murwillumbah.
- Sustainable Jobs through Eco Tourism ‘Green Cauldron Trail Network’.
 - Meetings networking with Tyalgum and other Tweed residents, bicycle users, horse riders and bush walkers.
 - Presentations made to Geof Proverst and Murwillumbah AM Rotary.
- Riparian Regeneration
 - Extensions to the existing regeneration works discussed with TSC and plans prepared for these works.
 - Discussions about further weed control workshops in Uki
- Minimal Chemical Uki
 - Discussions on a suitable project
 - Identification of further sites to work as chemical free.

Keep your eyes open for Working groups, locations and times on the Uki Sustainability Project ‘banner.

Remember Sustainability starts at home!

- What you buy.
- What you waste or reuse.
- What you eat.
- How you get around.
- It **all** counts

Check out the Uki Village web site for the complete details in the near future.

Thanks Uki

Eddie Roberts