

# 1. THE DANCING KITE ANALOGY

**Yin-Yang** : Everything is subject to eternal (re-) balance between opposing forces.

**Idealism must be anchored with realism** if it is not to become unrealistic → “crash & burn”

2. ENZ Transportation Group  
Conference 2019

**ARE WE TALKING REALITY HERE?**  
**ARE THERE ANY REAL ENGINEERS**  
**STILL OUT THERE?**

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### 3. MEANING OF CONFERENCE THEME

First, **what is** this 'Changing Face of Transport'?

Market-Driven or **Centrally-Planned?**

Origins and nature of the **SsG planning formula**

Transport Planning to **promote 'Designer City'**

**1000 yrs to achieve 'Freedom & Democracy'**

ie 'free to choose', meaning 'More Market'  
as req'd by IMF to roll over 1984 bankrupt loans,  
**NOT** 'Command & Control'-style Central Planning  
resulting in ever-greater inefficiency/rising debt.

# **4. SECTION HEADINGS OF PAPER**

1.0 Implications of Conference Theme

2.0 Transport Drivers and Influences

3.0 On Professional Engineering

4.0 Underlying Realities : Humanity, Society, Transport

5.0 Wrong Transport Presumptions and Demonisations

6.0 Summary and Conclusions

7.0 References

# 5. 'SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT' DEFINED

Sustainable Development has been defined in many ways, but the most frequently quoted definition is from the **UN's "Our Common Future"**, also known as the "**Brundtland Report**" :

*"Sustainable Development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."*

**Questions** : What are current needs? How many future generations? What will be their populations, technologies, demands for any particular resource such as energy, the types, quantities, difficulties and costs of their provision?

**Answers** : Sust.Devt. is a **wholly subjective concept**, the answers being a "best guess", which will be influenced by one's world view – and the answers one seeks to reinforce his beliefs and value-systems. Enviro-planners interpret it as "Stop The World" (I want to get off), Stasis and Stagnation for fear of conseq's

## 6. UNITED NATIONS REACH FOR GLOBAL POWER

“I’m from the Government, and I’m here to help” (with your taxes)

UN : Forum for Ambassadorial Debate OR seat of global dictatorship?

What better excuse for taking over government from nations than megaphoning global alarmism (eg runaway global overheating **caused by man alone**) and offering, nay insisting, on raising **big dollops of dosh** so that it can “**play God**” with the climate on our behalf – just so long as we do what we are told to hamper Economic Development.

UN + Agenda21 → UNEP → IPCC + ICLEI

ICLEI = (now) “Local Governments for Sustainability” –by direct inject

## 7. RMA : MfE (Sust. Mgt.) ejects MWD (Econ.Devt.)

Historically, Town Planning had been a Dept of MWD

But an independent '**Commission for the Env't**' had been established after the '**Manapouri Moment**'; this was the seat of efforts to **get rid of engineering despite IMF-required More Market = less planning.**

**Q : "From the outset, environmentalists ... had targeted the MWD as having to go – "as long as (MWD) existed the MfE (*now MfEverything*) would never have control"**  
(from VUW/IPS David Young's excellent "Values as Law" (RMA history))

**IRONIC**, as the very purpose of the RMA was "enablement" (ie Econ.Devt.)

## 8. NOT-SO-SMART USA “SMART (SIC) GROWTH” COPIED INTO NZ, RE-LABELLED “COMPACT CITY”

**SG FORMULA** : Stop sprawl using false arguments, Stop free choice of destination (demonise automobility), Reconstruct to densify, Stop decentralisation, Force recentralisation with radial rail-based transit, Stop choice of housing & location (demonise suburbs), promote “Transit-oriented Development” (ToD : Dom.Rd), promote “Cities are for people”, Hassle car users with parking difficulties, Usurp arterial roadspace for free-rider buslanes, cycle-lanes.

**PROBLEMS** : Such a “designer city” **DIS --“enables” choice**, the very **engine** delivering efficient wealth/welfare as the city’s very purpose

Altogether an **entirely socio-econ. UNsustainable recipe for econ collapse and social division** – as time-lapse photos would reveal



# 9. GROWING DEBT

Anthony Byett's diag

# 10. ANCIENT PERCEPTION “YIN &/V YANG”

ALL SOCIAL ECONOMIC & ENVIRONMENTAL  
SYSTEMS ARE ULTRA COMPLEX AND EVOLVING

(e.g. DEEP SPACE/SOLAR SYSTEM/PLANET EARTH/  
BIOSPHERICAL/REGIONAL/SPECIES/INDIVIDUAL)

TO “ROLL WITH THE PUNCHES”,  
ALL SPECIES HAVE SURVIVAL STRATEGIES,  
ETERNAL (RE-) BALANCING MECHANISMS  
THE ANCIENT CHINESE SAW THESE IN EVERYTHING,  
CALLING THEM  
YIN &/V YANG

# 11. BALANCING MECH'S -- HUMAN NATURE

“It takes all kinds to make a *(open/inclusive/free/democratic)* world”  
-- whose **constraining institutions** (string) **keep the kite dancing** and  
the kite-flier both amused and anchored to the rock of reality

**Individualists, Independents &/V Collectivists, Group-think**

Freedom lovers &/V Security seekers

Cynical, Unafraid &/V Alarmable, Afearful

Impartial, Flexible &/V Partial, Committed

**Realistic, Pragmatic &/V Idealistic, Visionary**

Leaders/Deceivers &/V Followers/Believers

Cost/Effects Conscious &/V Absolutist, Disregarding

**Science-side (Engineers) &/V Arts-side (Planners, Env'talists)**

# 12. BALANCING MECHS – SOCIETIES/NATIONS

**Nationalist, Sovereignty Rules &/V Globalist, Multiculturalist**

Culture matters, integrity matters &/V Multiculturalist, Integrationist

Wall builders Inst'n defenders &/V Free for all-ers, re-distrib'nists

Traditionalist, Law-abiding &/V Unbound, "Free spirited"

**Nature (genes) Steers &/V Nurture is everything**

Society is bound by its past &/V Society is socially engineerable

Truth/Facts/Reality/Costs exist &/V Post-Modernist, Truth relative

We can't ignore truth, debt &/V "This time is different"

**YANG &/V YIN**

# 13. BEFORE & SINCE THE RENAISSANCE

(Dates approximate!)

Before 1500 **DARK AGES** Master-Slave system, no growth/change

1500 – 2000 **MODERN ERA** (Growth, complexity, SoL, Longevity)

2000 – 2020 **POST-MODERNISM** Artificial! Suicidal!

(Derrida anti-fact, Arts derogates/subjugates sci./eng'g  
Unis (esp.USA) overwhelmed by Arts/YIN Progressives)

2020 – B.B. **POST TRUTH** (Scientists/Engineers irrelevant)

..... **UNLESS (refer conclusions)**

# 14. QUOTES for 'Post-Facts/-Realities/-Truth' Era

- **Sir David Attenborough** : “We are building our universities and intellectual communities around the ethos of tribalism (*ie group-think around a central ideology promoted by vested-interest groups*), in-group loyalty, and fervent activism instead of the **once-predominant ethos of truth-seeking**” (*which characterised the 'Modern' era*)
- **H L Mencken** : “The whole aim of practical politics is to **keep the populace alarmed (and hence clamorous to be led to safety)** by menacing it with an **endless series of hobgoblins** (*eg Environmental alarms : many imaginary, most exaggerated*) **all of them imaginary**”
- **H L Mencken** : “For every **complex problem** (*eg Urban Development in an environmentally-conscious era*) there is an **answer** (*eg single universally-applied SsG formula*) **that is clear, simple, and wrong**”.

# 15. LISTENER – “DEEP FAKE” ARTICLES

“ALARMING NEW ERA OF TOXIC FALSEHOODS”

“HOW TO DETECT MALICIOUS POSTS”

“WHY OUR BRAINS LOVE RUMOURS”

**READ THE ARTICLES!**

**THEN APPLY THE SAME PERCEPTION  
TO O.T.T. ENVIRONMENTAL ALARMISM**

**AS THE FIGLEAF FOR A MASSIVE POWER GRAB  
BY THE PROBLEM SOLVER (CENTRAL PLAN) “INTEGRATIONISTS”**

## **16. HAMPER INTER-ACCESSIBILITY TO RESTRICT COMMERCE AND DEBILITATE SOCIETY**

“To subjugate an enemy, first slice achilles tendons”

**Cities exist to ‘enable’ creation of wealth/welfare .....**

**..... not to be dragooned with planet-saving promises**

Inter-accessibility enables city’s commercial function

**Automobility best means of inter-accessibility ‘by far’,**

‘since sliced bread’ and ‘by a country mile’,

**offers hope that poor can be raised to >\$5000pa**



# **17. AUTOMOBILITY FLEXIBLE, MULTI-DIR'NL**

**DIAGRAM SHOWING DESTINATIONS ACCESSIBLE BY  
CAR ARE 20 TO 80X GREATER THAN THOSE ASSESSIBLE  
BY TRANSIT IN THE SAME TIME FRAME**

# 18. SO-CALLED “TOXICITY” OF AUTOMOBILITY

ARC got what it paid for with (one author) Auto-Toxicity Report

**“Cars kill 400 ppa prematurely from toxic exhaust fumes”**

**Questions :** Did they die 5 mins or 5 years “too early”.

How was “previously expected death date” established?

How was actual cause of lung cancer established?

Why is it that average longevity is increasing? ETC, ETC, ETC

**Factors omitted :** Immense benefits of car use Previously, horses used for “range” but required 1/3 of all agric. Land.

Also horses deposited excreta and left for dead on streets.

The two massive expansion eras were enabled trains & cars

# **19. ARC 1974 (last enablement) TRANSPORT PLAN**

## 20. CONGESTION COSTS UNDERESTIMATED

**Recent E-Y Report : Auckland (alone) \$1.9 bill pa cong. cost  
Excludes +/- \$2 bill indirect costs** suffered by private sector

**These 'indirect costs' include (but are not limited to) :**

- **Doubled truck fleets** to do same amount of business
- Imperative for **sub-regional depots for JIT deliveries** (cost of facilities, double handling, extra inventory and storage space)
- Would-be customers taxed or time-frustrated off the limited arterial roadspace left after buslanes and cycleways freeload off space paid for by cars (ie the cost of **“cancelled commerce”**)
- Waste of creative or family time through over-consumption in congested travel **valued far higher** than allowance made

# **21. PUBLIC TRANSPORT NO ENERGY-SAVER**

## 22. WHY ELECTRIC VEHICLES WONT SURVIVE

**eg Swedish Report :** Battery-building major energy consumer  
(Same energy would fly person 22 times Sweden -NY ret)

Intolerable wait-time for high-mileage day-time re-charges  
(Parking, Queues) and what of flat batteries

**And if all vehicles converted to EVs :**

Transmission line network would have to be doubled

Need 2 to 5 times increase in power generation

Night-time recharge demand could'nt use solar power without  
large-scale battery storage. Half carbon fuel price is tax.

(Typical example of **idealism-inspired** political decision, like  
'80s LPG gas tanks in boots – who needs boot space?)

# 23. UNSUSTAINABLE COSTS IN LAND DEVT

Three Basic Personal “rights” to species flourishing driven by genes :  
**Life, Liberty**, able to pursue personal/family betterment (**happiness**)  
(ie to use heart, mind (choice) and whole existence to best effect)  
(the basis of the “social contract” underpinning voluntary societies)

The last right (to self-realisation) implies a right to earn food, clothing  
& **shelter to standards chosen for affordability by person concerned**

That means 1/3 of income should secure affordable shelter – and did,  
until central planners dictated that all meet “world class” standards  
regardless of affordability. **Fully developed/serviced residential land**  
**cost 1/2 a blue collar worker income until early seventies – now 15 X**  
because of no-value ticket-clipping imposed by Govt & Local Govt

## 24. ESSENTIAL ATTRIBUTES OF PROF. ENGR.

True facts get aeroplanes into the air – reliably, sustainably  
(That is, true facts really exist, as admitted by all fliers –  
including the Post-Modernists who deny “true facts” exist

Nature-based “facts” = “reality” = (approximate) “ultimate truth” until further refined empirical experiments better define it.

Truly Professional Engineers are :

Impartial (personal values-ignoring) discerner of “true facts”  
Reality-oriented, Cost/affordability-conscious,  
Honest and reliable “enablers” of real (not artificial or data-  
manipulated) public wandaps Specialise in all the above  
without “muddying the waters” by trying to be ATTAM and  
“Jack of all trades (master of none)” via “SustDevt” mantras