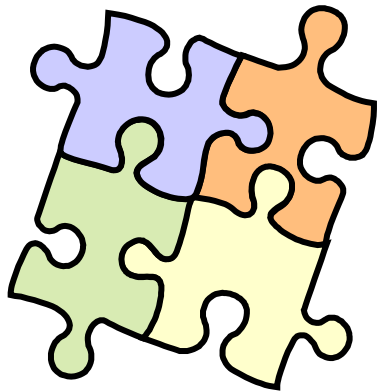


The Oakey Jigsaw

Summary

Of the Outcomes of the Oakey Community Inter-Agency Planning Day

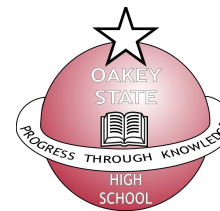


November 28th 2008

Oakey Summary

Oakey is a small town close to Toowoomba with a lower socio-economic profile, education profile and higher unemployment than other towns in the region, and of its “parent” city.

- Its closeness to Toowoomba is a positive and a negative.
- It has significant regional industries, and associated employment opportunities, but some of the opportunity is lost on the town.
- It has good education facilities, retail outlets, average sporting facilities, some social and recreational opportunities.
- Overall education standards are low.
- It has good value housing, but a shortage of rental accommodation
- It lacks public transport links to Toowoomba
- There are a range of social issues



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|--|----------|
| • Population (2006) | 3,657 |
| • Indigenous Population (2006) | 331 (9%) |
| • Median age of persons | 36 |
| • Median housing loan repayment (\$/monthly) | 867 |
| • Median individual income (\$/weekly) | 388 |
| • Median rent (\$/weekly) | 150 |
| • Median family income (\$/weekly) | 995 |
| • Average number of persons per bedroom | 1.1 |
| • Median household income (\$/weekly) | 797 |
| • Average household size | 2.6 |
| • Unemployment (2006) | 6.6% |
| • Single parent families (of all families) | 20% |

Desirable community attributes compared to issues in Oakey, and strategies to address these issues

Oakey Vision: “A safe community with employment opportunities and essential services, where families can thrive and the community positively respects and encourages individuals, creating opportunity for education and personal growth.”

Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs was used as a framework for the responses, with the following summarised results

Maslow’s Hierarchy of needs	DESIRABLE COMMUNITY ATTRIBUTES as identified by the group	Oakey ATTRIBUTES	Oakey ISSUES as identified by the group	ACTIONS TO ADDRESS ISSUES
1. PHYSIOLOGICAL	<i>The basic need for adequate food and shelter.</i>	<i>Cheaper housing than other centres. Public housing available. Housing and services for older people available.</i>	<i>Housing availability, quality and affordability.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approach QHA about building on or selling vacant blocks • Approach Goolburri Housing about condition of Aboriginal housing, and building more
2. SAFETY	<i>Safety, security, stability of employment, income, and health. Access to services and recreation.</i>	<i>Good Health Services, Aged Care, Education, Cultural and Community Services, retail, sporting opportunity, and employment opportunity.</i>	Access to and availability of services and facilities an issue for some segments of the population, particularly Youth and Aboriginal people. Employment Services and Mental Health services a priority.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate service delivery by various agencies • Establish Youth Task Force • Establish Aboriginal group • Facilitate ATSI Survey
3. LOVE/BELONGING	<i>Connected, accepted, nurtured by family, friends, workmates, mentors and the community.</i>	<i>Good churches, community support groups, school chaplains, counselling and support groups</i>	<i>Lack of effective role models / mentors. Family dysfunction. Community division.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage community collaboration, family and parenting workshops, • Facilitate Mentoring opportunities
4. ESTEEM	<i>Identity, respect, recognition and support, such that hope and opportunity can be found and fulfilled</i>	<i>Good Police presence, courthouse, AA.</i>	Drugs / Alcohol. Life Skills. Division. Violence. Crime.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education, activity,
5. SELF-ACTUALISATION	<i>Education, such that we can know, own and direct our circumstances, opportunities and future</i>	<i>Schools implementing literacy and homework support programs.</i>	Literacy and low levels of education are issues making communication of needs on one hand, and services available on the other, a difficulty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult education classes

Complexities/barriers/challenges and strategies to address these issues

ISSUE	CHALLENGE	STRATEGY
LOCATION	Where Oakey is	<i>Identify and implement solutions to the transport challenges faced by some Oakey residents, including expanding and promoting existing bus services, and resourcing new services. Investigate a rail motor service with Queensland Rail</i>
PERCEPTION	What people think of Oakey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Continue to consult with various segments of the community to develop best practice and perceptions for Oakey.</i> • <i>Develop an “Oakey Vision” that is owned by the community</i>
MOTIVATION	Getting people enthused and committed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Strengthen the concept and practice of “Family” within the Oakey community</i> • <i>Conduct an Aboriginal Strengths and Needs Survey</i> • <i>Follow up on previous Youth Surveys</i>
COMMUNICATION	Effectively sharing information	<p><i>Improve communication methods, including</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>published Services Guide,</i> • <i>Community Website,</i> • <i>information displays, noticeboards</i> • <i>training, and word of mouth networking</i>
FACILITATION	Making things happen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Establish a “Shop Front” / “Neighborhood Centre” where funded and volunteer Community engagement workers can coordinate the sourcing, delivery and referral of services.</i> • <i>Facilitate an event to raise community awareness of services available</i> • <i>Facilitate Youth activities and opportunities</i> • <i>Establish an Oakey Aboriginal organisation</i>
ACTIVATION	Accessing resources	<p><i>Seek</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>funding,</i> • <i>facilities,</i> • <i>staff</i> • <i>volunteers</i>
COORDINATION	Working Together	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Establish a Task Group to push these initiatives forward in collaboration with government and non-government agencies.</i> • <i>Establish targeted Project Groups to push specific initiatives – e.g. Transport, Neighborhood Centre, ATSI needs, Youth, Sport etc.</i>