#### Progressive Views on Sustainability from a Metropolitan Road Authority Perspective

#### Road Pavement Forum 8<sup>th</sup> May 2012, Tweedie Krishna Naidoo



#### Durban's vision

To be

"Africa's most caring and livable city by 2020" (IDP)

- To achieve this there must be:
  - Ease of movement in the city
  - A safe environment
  - A clean and green city
  - Access to economic opportunities
  - Homely neighbours
  - Access to services



### And so the green brilliance commenced.....

- We wrote on both sides of a page
- Switched of lights before leaving the office
- Fixed leaking toilet cisterns
- Viewed as opposed to printing
- And so.....

But is this progressive or just common sense



#### What is sustainability

Wiki definition

Just plain common sense



Living within the carrying capacity of our plant

Brand differentiation



#### Or is it

#### Changing your life and not the our world



#### Local government

- Multi-disciplinary roads, power, health, waste, water, economy, etc
- Coal-face of service delivery
- Coal face of steward-ship of environment
- Flat operational structure?





Obligatory marketing blurb?

### Sustainability is not an add-on but part of our brand and process DNA

How is it catching on in our organisation?

The boss is not easily swayed:



#### What I heard.....

You cannot even do HMA properly and you want to waltz off with WMA!

Give me a #\$^%^\*g break!

You sort your guys, consultants and contractors to do HMA properly, then come talk to me about WMA. #\$^%^\*g .....



# Same as most companies – we naturally gravitated towards improving efficiencies

- Obvious inefficiencies
- Externally observed inefficiencies
- Internal investigation to find inefficiencies
- Externally led investigation to find in-efficiencies bench-marked against external reference.
- But this could still result in us doing bad things very efficiently.



#### **Initiated Change**

Understanding the true value of the natural resources on which we undoubtedly rely and working to reduce these input costs, will mean that when the cost of these resources soars in response to rising demand and declining availability, the business has in-built resilience.





#### Change - engineers

- This opened the flood-gates.
- Change management is an unspoken skill.
- Nothing is sacred.
- Dialogue and debate is encouraged both vertically and across.

### Are situations choosing us or are we choosing situations?

What are you deeply passionate about? = VALUES

What can you be the best in the world at? What drives your economic engine? i.e. what can you make money from or derive greater value from



#### Catalyst, facilitator or/& agitator

We cannot do it alone, we need partners

We therefore play different roles at different times



#### How's that working out for you?

- Are we really implementing best practice: Training: Doing the right things better
- Direct Innovation: Reclaimed concrete & masonry
- Innovation incubator: WMA & HiMA
- Facilitator: WMA conversion



#### Our in-efficiencies Better skills = better quality = longer life

NQF 1 – 4 – people who really carry our industry.

AsAc gap analysis and training for large scale road works



#### Doing it right first time: Impact of NQF 1-4

Immediate improvement of quality, understanding and morale.

Aqua have done the same and have same findings.

Policy: Will be a requirement for contractors for future contracts



#### NQF 4 up

- Significant need for improvement of knowledge of recycling irrelevant of age or qualification.
- Complained to "that" German company.
- Initiated SARF BSM course.
- Policy: Will be a requirement for future contractors and consultant appointments.



#### Engineering for Change Reclaimed materials

- All materials will be selectively reclaimed.
- Materials reclamation shall be a designed process.
- All reclaimed materials shall be selectively stockpiled.
- All reclaimed materials shall be re-processed to extract maximum value from them.



### Unloading our landfill sites

- All construction and demolition concrete & masonry was considered as waste & sent to landfill sites.
- Major problem is finite space in landfill sites.
- Negative affect on decomposition of organic material in landfill sites.
- Initiated reclaimed concrete & masonry research with UKZN & international partners.





Courtesy: Valentia Zedda

#### Wearing our hearts on our sleeves

- Roadspan is giving all material extracted from freeway maintenance projects to eThekwini.
- Concrete pavement.
- Reclaimed asphalt.
- Rotating material within a geographical area

#### RA was also going to landfill sites

**BSMs WMA** 



#### HiMA + RA synergy

Very heavy , slow moving traffic on perhaps country's most strategic road – South Coast Rd.

High frequency of layer replacement – new materials (bitumen & aggregate) & traffic disruptions.

Needed a longer life pavement.



#### HiMA + RA synergy

Hosted the first public road trials in SA.

Agitating

Proposed combining HiMA with BSM/in-place recycling – Come on VKE

Agitating

- Tabling HiMA as a pavement option for IRPTN
- Proposing that HiMA come standard with high % of RA
  - Agitating
- Hush-hush talks about alternatives to HiMA.





#### WMA + RA synergy

Chair of WMAIG

Helped with compilation of WMA Manual 32

Facilitating more companies converting to WMA.



# Facilitating companies converting to WMA



Had meetings with Cape Town guys

📕 Aqua

- Grinaker-LTA + AmmannN3TC
- Roadspan





### innovation in Durban region?

- National Asphalt
  - Econat Rejuvenator
  - Econat WMA Technology
  - Econat Release Agent
- Will be brought to market using WMAIG & Template.
- Research phase into bitumen pen reducers.



#### Aqua's conversion to WMA

- Excellent support from WMAIG & National & Much – asphalt industry's commitment to improve itself.
- Aqua invested close to R500m to refurb its plant & plant lab
- Professional support from Naidu Consulting & SRT.
- Catalyst for lab ISO accreditation
- UTFC WMA



#### Aqua's NQF 1 to 4

- Aqua is following eThewini's example of improving efficiency by skills recognition and development.
- AsAc have been employed to undertake gap analysis and training.





#### Grinaker-LTA conversion to WMA

- Driven by Douglas Judd (N3TC)
- Successful lab trials, mix being paved this month.
- Grinaker-LTA now also partnering with Ammann.
- Supported by WMAIG
- Attending Aqua WMA conversion meetings to see the "how".
- Supported by WMAIG



### Green procurement: Reclaimed concrete

- Concrete is also from private sector
- Create value and value chain for material
- Create crushing and screening skills for private sector
- Create specification for reprocessing and reuse.



#### Green procurement: reclaimed asphalt

Savings realised by using RA



% Reclaimed asphalt

### Bright spark or green shoots

- Green shoots coming out of the woodwork and growing at different rates.
  - Recycling
  - 📕 RA
  - 📕 WMA
  - Materials Management Plan
  - Traffic accommodation Plan
  - Rotating Reclaimed Material over the network
- This is bringing change to our organisation and the way we do business.



#### Sustainability

- No formal policy
- No definition
- No formal specification
- Response has therefore been mixed from Consultants, contractors and staff.
- Do we specify sustainability?
- Perhaps it will offer us a standardised minimum and point of departure for managing all the green-shoots.



#### Is GreenRoadsSA the answer?





- We do not have a policy or definition for sustainability in roads
- However our contractors have responded positively. Why they see that the can achieve a better bottom line through sustainable practices and also there is legislation that must comply with.
- Consultants at best their response has been mixed. Why they think that it will affect their bottom line negatively ie they will have to spend time and money getting up to speed with new and better ways of doing things they have the grocery list approach which they know. There is no legislation that they need to comply with, BUT what about ECSA code of conduct. Slowly some consultants are realising that sustainability has some brand value, particularly those with an international foot-print are needing to comply with stating issues of sustainability forming part of good corporate governance and this needs to be declared so there is some light.
- What we have done is look to to GreenRoadsSA to offer us a point of departure for policy, specification and monitoring mechanism for meeting of specification for all parties.

