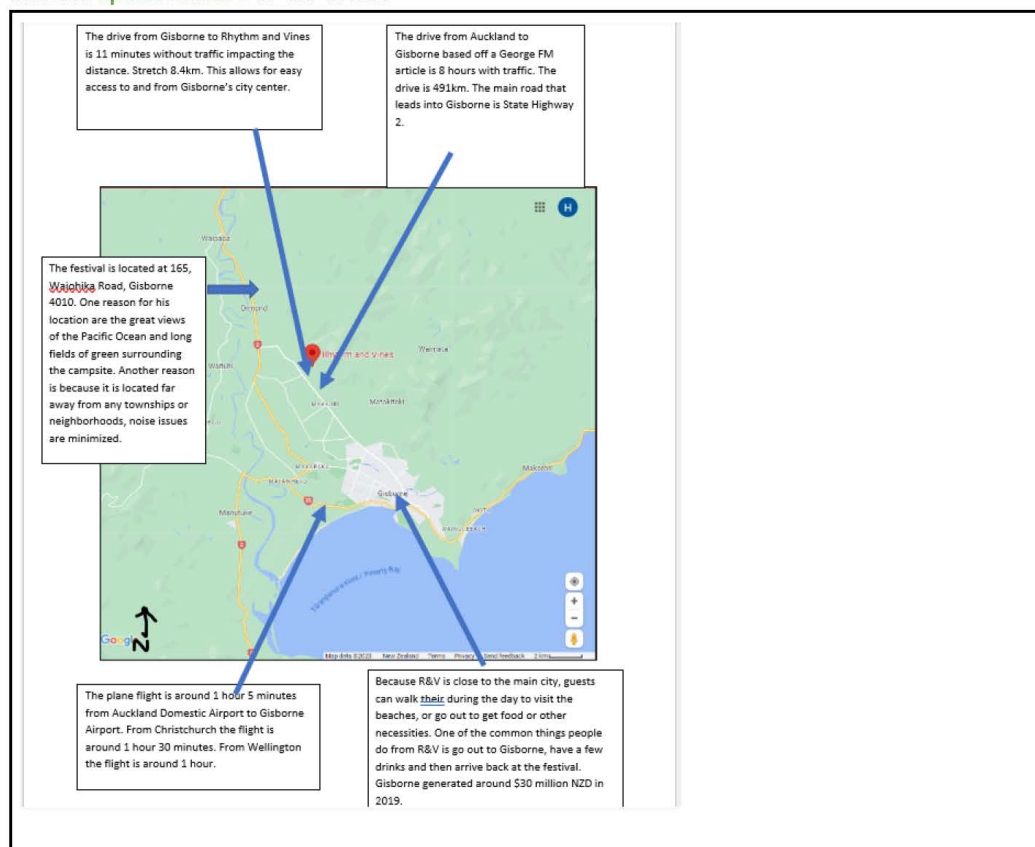


Outline the nature of the event.

What are the specific features or characteristics of the event?

The festival takes place in the Waiohika Estate in Gisborne where the first-ever Rhythm and Vines festival began in 2003 attended by an audience of 1800 and was originally intended as just a party for friends and family as a new year's party in January. The first band invited to rhythm and vines was the black seeds which was a reggae/dub style band but over the years the festival has expanded their demographic and lineup to more streamlined-based music and more popular acts to attract a larger audience. Nowadays, there are audiences of 18,000 people who attend rhythm and vines who stay for three days in Gisborne to attend the festival, most of the festival-goers come from the Auckland Region. Tickets are now sold starting and \$580.

What is spatial nature of the event?

How does the event show interaction between people and the environment?

The Rhythm and Vines Festival interacts between the people and the cultural environment because it has a positive impact on the economy on a local scale for the town and the residents of Gisborne. This is because when the people come down from all over the place and are around your town for a couple of days, they will spend money, which influences the economy and helps both large and smaller businesses. The environment also influences the people and the festival as it limits its size as it is located in a valley which also acts as a natural amphitheater, increasing the decibel sound of the noise and encapsulating it within the valley. This limits the amount of noise that reaches the nearest towns. The landscape prevents crowding at the front of the main stage, as the people at the back of the crowd can also see what is happening due to the gentle slope further back from the stage allowing the view to be maximized.

How do people influence the environment?

There is an interaction between the people and the natural environment, however, the impact the festival has on the environment is fairly negative. Factors affecting the air quality for festivals generally can be traffic congestion and fumes created by the food trucks around the festival. What most festivals do to minimize this is control the amount of traffic going to the festival by organizing transport e.g. buses because more people can fit into a bus than a car, limiting traffic and air fumes. Factors affecting land pollution in festivals are damage to the soil (is a small negative impact because the land used for festivals is generally never farmed on). There is rubbish waste, festivals do provide bins but not everyone follows the rules and people will litter. This is controlled by providing biodegradable cutlery and plates and materials made out of wood. A factor that affects water pollution is the excrement waste left after the festival is over. Festival organizers are careful to ensure the waste is not dumped into the water. Festival organizers plan for this and slowly mix in the waste left from the festival into the local town's sewage over a few weeks to safely contain it and minimize any threat to the local rivers and lakes and the local water eco-system.

Significance

Every New Year since 2003 Gisborne's population swells, as much as doubling in size as tens of thousands of partygoers flock in from out of town for Rhythm and Vines. Every year the festival injects about \$12 million into the local economy according to the region's most recent economic impact report, taken in 2010. The town mayor Meng Foon reckons each festivalgoer spends between \$600 and \$100 each, 80 percent of which he estimates lands back in the pocket of Gisborne locals. The social significance of the festival is also positive as every year it brings a thriving buzz to the community and brings positive vibes to the huge region as well as putting Gisborne on the map. Some former festivalgoers were inspired to move into Gisborne to start families because they liked the region so much, showing that the festival not only increases the town population temporarily but in some cases permanently.

Explain and evaluate the planning and decision making involved in the event

Describe and EXPLAIN the planning and decision-making BEFORE the event.

Before the festival of Rhythm and Vines, the event organizers must create a proposal for the event, stating and describe the nature and type of event they are wishing to host. Their proposal must state the key characteristics of the event, for instance, the main features of Rhythm and Vines include; a

crowd of approx 35,000 attendees, the festival will last from a period of 3-5 days, there will be seven main stages, four campsite areas, Alcohol will be served in the bar and on sight with no exceptions of BYO alcohol, and throughout the site, there will be rubbish bins to keep up with the waste the festival. The event organizers must state the site which is the Waiohika Estate, Gisborne, a 6.7-hectare estate It has a valley which acts a natural amphitheater, and it is considered farmland/a rural area. The organizers create a resource consent application that must abide by the Resource Management Act(RMA). Essentially, the RMA is the overarching legislation that promotes the sustainable use of the NZ environment and natural and physical resources such as land, air, and water. The principles of the RMA are reflected in the Gisborne District Council's (GDC) planning process. Rhythm and Vine's planning application must meet the set standards and criteria set by the GDC if they are to be given consent each year to hold a three-day event. It is important that the planning application follows the RMA for negative environmental impact to be minimized and mitigated. This process requires an application to be submitted to the GDC, who then refer to the district plan and notify the affected parties and consult the local Iwis received submission, conduct a hearing, and inform parties who can appeal the decision and the environmental court.

When the event organizers are filling out their resource consent application they determine the date they wish to hold the event as well as the location and specify whether the land is privately owned or council-owned. Event activities are considered such as food and drink sales, and it's up to the event organizers to ensure the safety of the food at the festival. If alcohol is sold they need to obtain a special liquor license whilst also acknowledging smoke-free areas. As it is a large event, it will require a noise management plan as well as traffic plans, a site plan, structure and service plans, and health and safety procedures. These are the key features organizers must consider before actually organizing the event.

The council needs to be notified if there will be any amplified sound will be produced at the event, and since it is a large event, Rhythm and Vines will require a noise management plan where event organizers must provide information about the noise being produced e.g PA systems, DJ's, Live Bands, etc. Noise will be controlled to levels stated in the district plan for rural zones. The event organizers must ensure that the distance of the camps from the nearest dwellings provides a buffer from a normal camp noise such as voices and vehicle noise. Event organizers also have to account for the location and timing of any noise-generating events activities so they can design them to minimize noise effects for neighboring residents.

Another factor that must be considered is the management of waste water. This requires a Toilet Plan. The planning application recommends 1 toilet for every 350 people. The organizers consider what shower facilities will be available and how many provided. The location of any holding tanks must allow access for service vehicles to avoid any containment issue and portable toilets on sight will also be regularly serviced as well to avoid any adverse environmental effects maintaining trucks on sight to pump out tanks as required. Service trucks will also be stationed at the ready for emergency issues. After the event is over, the waste will be reticulated into the local sewage system via an approved discharged point.

When planning for medical facilities, the event organizers plan so that the camping and main event areas have main routes for emergency vehicle access. This is done in consultation with emergency service providers such as St Johns, NZ Police, and NZ Fire Service. Evacuation plans are put in place for the rapid movement of people from the campsites to the main car parks and plans are distributed to staff. First-aid details will be included in the escape plan. A suitable provision is made for first aid on sight to ensure that medical services are able to provide for emergency medical requirements. First-aid medical kits are stationed around each campsite for immediate medical emergencies, this way medical professionals can respond quickly enough to any injuries on sight.

To significantly mitigate traffic congestion, the organizers provide a traffic management plan. This is because the two large urban populations of Auckland and Wellington are massive supporters of the festival with 51% of RnV are from Auckland and 11% of RnV attendees are from Wellington. Before this is done, the GDC are informed and they must apply for a traffic control permit to enable efficient traffic management prior, during, and post-event. Road closure is not necessary, but the organizers are required to pay for at least two different billboard advertisements informing the citizens of Gisborne about the expected number of attendees (35,000 people approx), the estimated number of vehicles, as well as the number of traffic support and marshalls. Due to the large number of vehicles used to transport the attendees to the event, as part of the planning procedure the traffic management team cater to the need for parking, approximately 2500 parking spaces. To enforce further health and safety regulations, and to remove any extra unnecessary risks, Police are present in and around the parking boundaries. This car park will uphold a strict alcohol ban which is aimed to prevent those who are intoxicated and potentially incapable of appropriate decision making (driving whilst intoxicated) from getting into the car and making themselves a risk to themselves. Temporary signs and police checkpoints will also be put in place which are key tools for traffic and road safety in the holiday period.

Over the years, the policy of BYO Alcohol has changed, and currently this is banned. The measures come as an answer to curb intoxicated campsite antics, after riots broke out among festival-goers at BW campgrounds on New Year's Eve in 2014, ending in 63 arrests and more than 80 people injured. The campgrounds have now come under Rhythm and Vines management, with organizers banning BYO alcohol at the Treble, Lakeside, and Beachfront sites, opting to set up camp bars in their place and now campers must consume alcohol in specific bar areas. This is superior to the initial plan where campers could bring unlimited amounts of alcohol to the BW campsites. The festival requires a special liquor license to sell alcohol on the premises. This allows the holder to sell, and supply alcohol on the premises or conveyance named on the license, to any person attending as approved by the license for the duration of the occasion or event. They also have a certified manager on duty at all times when liquor is being supplied to the public.

Food can be bought on sight at the festival. To sell food at a market, an event, or online in the Gisborne district you need to register a food business and meet the same requirements as other registered food businesses unless you're exempt. The Animal Products Act 1999 states that home-kill and recreationally caught food such as fish and game, must not be sold. Food must be safe and suitable to eat and must meet the health and safety requirements. Event organizers monitor food sellers and facilitate food safety at the event. All registered operators are able to provide a copy of their registration. These protocols are in place to protect the health and safety of the attendees of the festival by preventing the risk of food poisoning.

The organizers are aware of the waste Rhythm and Vines have created in past, and have now become more sustainable and environmentally aware, by practicing the recycling and reduction of waste. Before any waste management, the festival produced 65 tonnes of general waste. To maximize recycling at the festival, the organizers placed a ban on single-use plastic bags and have over a hundred recycling and rubbish bins throughout the site. Organizers have encouraged festival-goers to check out the local tip's second-hand charity shops for supplies. BOOKATENT is an organization that offers sustainable pre-set tent solutions, reducing single-use tents. It is estimated that 30% of festival-goers still use single-use tents. This response was needed as in 2018 there was 39 tonnes of single use tent waste and in 2019 there was 59 tonnes. For water, wine, and cocktail consumption, organizers will provide Globllet reusable cups (approx 20,000). Will also provide additional compostable cups available for wine and cocktail beverages. Food vendors are required to provide compostable cutlery and plates. Before this, the festival used over 100,000 disposable cups each year. Again, these methods of recycling are both innovative and have positive impacts on the local Gisborne environment in the long term because the city and the surrounding area will not have to deal with the

aftermath of the tremendous amount of rubbish invading the area. By doing this, the festival organizers have reduced the negative impacts Rhythm and Vines usually have on the environment.

One of the most important things the event organizers must consider is the security of their attendees. They ensure this by installing security fencing to regulate movement in and out of the camp, and to provide a secure and safe location. The event organizer employs security staff members and locates them around the perimeter of the premises to check that only authorized persons are allowed in the festival and that they are not trying to smuggle contraband such as drugs and outside alcohol. Safe egress from the site in the event of an emergency will be provided, with staff instructed in the procedure for opening exit points to patrons as part of site evacuation procedures. The police service will provide a response service for any incidents as required, to support security operations. Ongoing consultation with the police will ensure that adequate response is available for events and camping operations. This is to mitigate the risk of injury and even death in the event of an emergency and increase the safety of the festival-goers.

These are the vital factors the event organizers must consider when they are filling out the Resource Consent Application.

Describe and EXPLAIN the planning and decision-making DURING the event.

It is the duty of the event organizers to maintain the temporary facilities up to standard. Facilities such as shower/laundry, toilets, and water disposal facilities. During the event, potable water will be provided on-site at all times, either supplied directly through a water tanker, or held in an on-site water tank with suitable tap supply points. Water that has not been classified as potable may be used for ablution facilities and will be indicated as not suitable for drinking. During the event, ablution, laundering facilities will be regularly supplied and serviced, with effluent being disposed to the reticulated sewage system via an approved vantage point. Greywater (wastewater generated from showers, laundry, and toilet flushing) from shower facilities will be drained in an approved manner, or collected for later disposal to land, or an approved disposal site. The proper disposal of waste is an important aspect the event organizers have to consider because disposing of wastewater in a proper manner will mitigate any negative effects on any environmental areas, including natural waterways, in the Gisborne area.

Refuse from the site will be managed by the provision and regular servicing of refuse containers, secure storage of collected refuse in a manner that it will not attract vermin or create a nuisance form odor for the festival-goers. Disposal of waste and recycling from the site must be shipped to approved disposal or recycling facilities.

Given that the Waiohika farmland estate is a massive, remote, rural area which makes it subjectable to adverse weather which has the potential to increase the risk of injury of the attendees at the festival. Rhythm and Vines has been known for having torrential rain in the years 2012, 2017 and 2018. The remote nature of the event can make it difficult for emergency services to reach the site location, in the event of an unexpected and adverse weather event and due to poor planning of the festival. To plan for emergencies like this, each year the event organizers request for around 30 St Johns Medics to attend on-site each day of the festival for an immediate medical emergency response to mitigate the risk of death at the event. As well as this, two medical clinics were also established on-site along with a number of 'Four-Wheel Drive' vehicles for patient transport out of the remote and rough terrain.

The event organizers have planned on responding to health and safety issues that occur during the event. A text helpline was implemented in previous years proving to be a success as it was an efficient method of responding to medical emergencies on-site as the attendees were able to reach out

directly to the festival's Operations Team. The Zoned Areas and signs around the Festival Site will let the Operations Team know where the emergency is, and they will be able to send the appropriate response teams to the location to assist. The campsites around the festival are designed for emergency services to easily access and maneuver around. Evacuation plans have been integrated into the camp plan and each festival-goer and each staff member has been provided a camp map for easy coordination around the camps. First aid and medical sites have been located around each campsite for immediate response to injury that occurs on sight. Cases commonly treated at RnV include skin injuries, sprains/strains, fractures/dislocations, intoxication, skin inflammation, abdominal pain, eye injuries, hyperventilation, asthma, and a few drug or alcohol overdose cases. The St John team also tended to blisters, headaches/migraines, and a range of pre-existing medical conditions.

Describe and EXPLAIN the planning and decision-making AFTER the event.

Gisborne is a "zero waste council" this means that they take particular care of the environment. The organizers of Rhythm and Vines took care when handling rubbish and had labeled bins for General waste and Recycling. They also used environmental practices as all the packaging products used by food vendors (Coffee cups, Plates, etc) were biodegradable, which means that it will not harm the environment as it will break down much faster inside a landfill. This allows for a more efficient clean-up of the area as fewer non-biodegradable materials are being used at Rhythm and Vines, further lowering the risk of any inverse environmental effects occurring after the clean-up of the site. All the food waste is to be fed to nearby livestock or put into worm farms. The organizers placed "Green Police", which are people who would monitor the bins to help others know what bin they should place their rubbish in. This helps not only the environment but to educate those attending the festival. Rhythm and Vines Recycle 2/3 of all rubbish meaning that the planning for disposal of rubbish is very effective. This is due to having green police as mentioned above to help with pre rubbish selection, this helps to decrease the effect that this event has on the environment.

The transportation of people leaving the event is one of the key factors the event organizers consider ensuring everyone can get home efficiently and safely. Buses can carry more people than regular cars which eases traffic congestion for people wishing to leave the site location. To further protect the safety of the people leaving Gisborne after the festival, police are stationed on the north and south roads leading out of Gisborne to breathalyze drivers and check that drivers are not speeding along the roads but instead driving safely.

EVALUATION of the planning and decision making involved in the event.

A SWOT analysis can be used to evaluate the event.

A strength that has occurred from the effective planning process of the Rhythm and Vines event laid out by the Gisborne Council is that the festival has been successful. Environmental sustainability principles such as land air and water were incorporated into the planning process and the RMA has also been managed successfully. RnV's success can be measured by how long it has been running, as the first festival debuted in 2003 and has continued to run for the past 19 years and the event is sold out each year. The long-term impact is that the festival funds itself so has positive effects on the Gisborne economy as local businesses are injected with an economic boost every January.

A weakness that has occurred from the planning process, as well as the decision-making process, is the excessive drinking of BYO (Bring Your Own Alcohol). In 2015, mob mentality took over a minority of festival-goers which sparked a massive New Years' Eve riot in Gisborne which led to 63 arrests and 83 people injured. It was estimated that more than 30 tents were torched and many others were flattened by people jumping over them. The Tairāwhiti area commander was quoted saying "It was

pure luck someone did not lose their lives." Various projectiles were thrown at the police and frightened festival-goers were hiding under their mattresses for protection. There were some significant short and long impacts for the minority who were convicted and injured during the 2015 riots. This did not give Rythym and Vines a positive reputation and the event planners were forced to change their BYO policy by putting a ban on any outside alcohol, a decision that was not received well with attendees.

An opportunity the festival can try to improve on is the existing traffic management plan. The festival organisers should consider; lift share programs, where the festival organizes various car share companies to provide vehicle transport from Gisborne to the Waiohika Estate, and giving people free access to public transport. Event planners should consider charging people to park around the festival site, this will influence the festival-goer's decision to travel via public transport. These suggestions would reduce congestion.

A threat is the cancellation of the festival due to weather. Recently the festival has struggled to apply for permission due to the presence of COVID-19, and in 2021 the festival was canceled finally after months of postponement. The decision to cancel mitigates the spread of the virus and potentially any deaths caused by the virus.

Using the SWOT analysis, I can see the planning for the event is successful because the weaknesses are mitigated every year due to the strengths of the planning process. Because of this, there are not many opportunities to improve the planning and decision making of the event, and the threats are unavoidable as they are natural events. Because the planning is successful, the event is held every year to large numbers and is sold out.

Explain and evaluate the social, economic and/or environmental impacts of the event.

Describe, explain, and evaluate the economic impacts of the event

The festival injects \$12 million into the local economy every year. It is estimated that each festival goer spends around \$100-\$600 each and is that 80% of this money will land back into the Gisborne locals. An example of this economic impact is that in 2008, small businesses, as well as corporate businesses run out of stock, such as BP which ran out of pies and petrol, and the McDonalds in the area had recorded their highest turnover in years. Even though supply had struggled to keep up with demand, there is a clear example of the economic influence Rhythm and Vines has on Gisborne. While being a short-term positive economic effect, the festival also creates a long-term positive effect from an economic viewpoint because the festival acts as a promotion for the town of Gisborne as a popular holiday destination. The festival gives people a reason to go and experience the things there are in Gisborne.

The Economic impacts are on a local scale and short-term as the money circulating within the Gisborne economy does not have a lasting effect for the locals. However, a long term impact which is economically beneficial is that the festival gives the Gisborne region long lasting publicity. So overall, the economic impacts of the festival are significant they are short term and are not the most significant impact of the festival.

Describe, explain, and evaluate the environmental impacts of the event

The environmental impacts of the event are negative and short term impacts because methods have been taken by the event organizers have been planned in order to mitigate the environmental impacts before, during and after the festival has taken place. But every year the festival does create some short-term negative environmental effects such as noise, water, air and land pollution. Noise pollution is short-term. This is implied because although there is noise projected by the music and the traffic, it only lasts

over a period of 3-5 days. They can mitigate the effects of noise pollution because they have planned their festival within the confines of a natural amphitheater (valley) which both increases the decibel sound of the music within the valley and conceals any noise from escaping the area which creates a minimal nuisance for dwellings outside of the Waiohika Estate. Water pollution is also a short-term environmental impact but is mitigated to the point that any environmental effects are minimal. This is largely due to the well-managed wastewater distribution plan and Toilet Plan. The plan states that any wastewater holding tanks must allow access for service vehicles to avoid any containment issue and portable toilets on sight will also be regularly serviced as well to avoid any adverse environmental effects by maintaining trucks on sight to pump out tanks as required. Service trucks will also be stationed at the ready for emergency issues to respond to emergencies. After the event is over, the distribution of the remaining wastewater and greywater will be reticulated into the local sewage system via an approved discharged point leaving a minor, short-term environmental impact. One of the aspects the event organizers need to improve is the traffic management plan as festival-goers leave a significant carbon footprint with a large number of vehicles on the road in Gisborne at one time. The land pollution rhythm and vines pollution is reduced every year due to innovative and useful methods from the event organizers such as changing certain aspects like 100,000 disposable cups to now using approx 20,000 reusable goblet cups. Single-use plastics have all been banned and the festival and all cutlery and plates are compostable. An example of how these methods have mitigated the environmental land impact is that in 2014, 38 tonnes of waste were produced and then in 2016, 14 tonnes were produced. However, it was reported that in 2018 there were 39 tonnes of single-use tent waste and in 2019 there was an increase of 58 tonnes of single-use tent waste. Although there are methods in place to mitigate the amount of land pollution, land pollution is still a significant long-term impact because each year the festival contributes to the worldwide pollution problems every year as the amount of waste left from the festival still adds up from the 17 years the festival has been running.

The environmental effects of the festival have is what I consider to be the most significant impact to the Gisborne region and the Waiohika Estate. Unfortunately, this is a negative effect towards Gisborne and the surrounding environment because of the general waste that is produced. And although there is a decrease in the amount of waste produced every year by the festival, it still adds up over time. Each year the festival contributes to the increase in landfill and the carbon footprint no matter what methods are taken to mitigate these adverse affects. But over the course of 17 years the impact has been significant and long-term on the environment. This is why I consider the environmental impacts of the rhythm and vines festival to be the most significant.