

# WAITARA COMMUNITY BOARD PLAN 2023-2026



The Waitara Community Board Plan sets out the visions and aspirations of the Waitara Community Board. This Plan has been reviewed with input from the community via a survey and discussions. The Plan provides the New Plymouth District Council with an insight about the matters that are important to the Waitara community board area, and where investment and action is needed.



Te Kaunihera-ā-Rohe o Ngāmotu

**New Plymouth  
District Council**

**Acknowledgements**

Waitara Community Board thank the members of the community who participated in development of this plan by providing their feedback to the Community Board.

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### From the Chair

To Members of the NPDC, the Waitara and Lepperton Community Board, and out people of the area of the Waitara and Lepperton Communities

I would like to begin by acknowledging the importance of community boards in our local governance structure. As the primary link between the community and the Council, our role as representatives, advocates, and connectors is crucial for promoting stronger community well-being in the rohe of Waitara and Lepperton.

As stated in the Local Government Act 2002, our responsibilities include representing and acting as advocates for the interests of our community, considering and reporting on matters referred to us by the territorial authority, maintaining an overview of services provided by the Council within our community, preparing annual submissions for community expenditure, and undertaking other responsibilities delegated by the Council.

It is important to recognise the constraints within which we operate. We must adhere to the budgetary constraints set by the Council, and at times, rely on Council staff for support in preparing documents, submissions, and issue analysis. However, despite these limitations, we remain committed to promoting social, cultural, economic, and environmental well-being across our community.

Our recently developed Waitara Community Board Plan reflects our community's needs and preferences. Through collaboration with residents, surveys, and direct engagement with community members, organisations, and businesses, we have identified the most pressing issues facing our community. These issues fall within four key focus areas: Hauora, Community, Quality Infrastructure, and Recreation.

These focus areas are interconnected, and progress in one area can have a positive impact on the others. By addressing these focus areas, we aim to enhance the quality of life in Waitara and Lepperton. We have identified specific initiatives, projects, and deliverables that we would like the Council to undertake on our behalf. Additionally, we will advocate to external agencies such as the Taranaki Regional Council and Waka Kotahi to ensure that our community's interests are represented.

Collaboration with Mana Whenua is a fundamental aspect of our work. We are dedicated to fostering relationships with our hapū of Manukorihi, Pukerangiora, and Otaraua. By working together, we can ensure that our projects, actions, and decisions lead to better outcomes for our rohe.

I would also like to highlight the appointed members to the Waitara Community Board, Cr Tony Bedford from the North Ward, and Cr Te Waka McLeod from Te Purutunga Mauri o Pūmanawa Ward. These members bring valuable perspectives and expertise to our board, representing their respective wards and serving the interests of our community.

However, turning our plan into action requires the collective effort of the community, the Community Board, and the wider Council family. We have prioritized our project requests and will advocate for their inclusion in the Long-Term Plan and Annual Plans. We will also make sure that community views and preferences are known to Council to assist them in their decision-making. Collaboration with Council staff, community groups, and partners will be crucial in supporting the delivery of these projects.

In terms of funding, we have various sources available. Council invests in new facilities and major upgrades through general rate funding. We also have the Community Boards Discretionary Fund, which allows us to allocate funding for minor local projects. We will advocate for the continuation of this fund in the upcoming Long-Term Plan. Additionally, we may explore external funding assistance, and Council officers will support us in preparing applications to external funders.

Our Community Board initiatives and projects must align with Council's Strategic Framework, which sets the Council's vision, mission, and goals. The goals outlined in the Strategic Framework are the community outcomes we strive to achieve.

In conclusion, the Waitara and Lepperton Community Board is committed to our community's well-being. We will continue to advocate for the interests of our community, work towards enhancing our quality of life, and promote a sense of togetherness and abundance. We will prioritize the development and maintenance of quality infrastructure, support and enhance recreation opportunities, and engage with our community to foster a strong sense of belonging. Thank you for your dedication to our community and for your ongoing commitment to our people.

"Caring for our community, environment, and people through effective governance is the key to building a stronger and more inclusive society. As **Sir Edmund Hillary**, once said, 'It is not the mountain we conquer but ourselves.' Let us conquer the challenges before us with dedicated governance, ensuring a better future for our community."

Kāre te maunga e whakataetae e tātou, engari tātou anō.

Jonathan KP Marshall

**Chair**

**Waitara Community Board**

Meet the Waitara Community Board Members 2022-2025

	Jonathan Marshall Chair	Phone: 06 754 8254 Email: jonathan.marshall@npdc.govt.nz
	Jane Parker-Bishop Deputy Chair	Phone: 027 350 8687 Email: jane.parkerbishop@npdc.govt.nz
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	Joe Rauner Member	Phone: 06 754 7065 Email: joe.rauner@npdc.govt.nz

**Waitara Community Board Plan 2023-2026**

 A portrait of Tony Bedford, a man with a mustache wearing a dark suit jacket over a light-colored shirt, standing in front of a dense green fern background.	<p>Tony Bedford Appointed Councillor (October 2022 – 30 April 2024)</p>	<p>Phone: 021 452 870 Email: <a href="mailto:tony.bedford@npdc.govt.nz">tony.bedford@npdc.govt.nz</a></p>
 A portrait of Te Waka McLeod, a woman wearing a dark top and a wide-brimmed hat with a colorful band, standing in front of a dense green fern background.	<p>Te Waka McLeod Appointed Councillor (1 May 2024 – October 2025)</p>	<p>Phone: 021 024 44617 Email: <a href="mailto:tewaka.mcleod@npdc.govt.nz">tewaka.mcleod@npdc.govt.nz</a></p>

### About Community Boards

Community boards play an important role in local governance, serving as the primary link between the local community and the Council.

New Plymouth District Council's Community Boards are not committees of Council. They are unincorporated bodies providing a voice for communities outside of the New Plymouth City area. The Community Boards are representatives, advocates and connectors of those communities, promoting stronger community wellbeing for our diverse communities. When compared to the role of councillors, Community Board members spend a greater proportion of their time on representation matters and proportionally less on governance.

The Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) provides the statutory framework within which boards must operate, including rules and processes which govern how they work. The role of a community board is set out in section 52 of the LGA:

To represent, and act as an advocate for, the interests of its community

- ◆ To consider and report on all matters referred to it by the territorial authority, or any matter of interest or concern to the community board.
- ◆ To maintain an overview of services provided by the territorial authority within the community.
- ◆ To prepare an annual submission to the territorial authority for expenditure within the community
- ◆ To undertake any other responsibility that the Council delegates to the Board.

The LGA also sets out things a community cannot do including acquiring, holding or disposing of property and appointing, removing or suspending staff.

### Representation and advocacy

As part of their role representing and advocating for their communities, Community Boards are driven by the need to promote social, cultural, economic and environmental wellbeing across their community. Community Boards represent and advocate for their communities in many ways including providing recommendations to Council on policies, plans and bylaws, processes and procedures and the allocation and distribution of resources.

There are some constraints on advocacy. For example, boards must act within budgetary constraints set by the Council. They may need to rely on the Council staff for support helping to prepare documents, submissions or analysis of issues.



### **Decision-making and delegations**

New Plymouth District Council has delegated the following authority to community boards:  
Determine parking prohibitions and restrictions within the relevant community board area.

- ◆ Determine Temporary Road Closure applications under Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 1974 where the area of the closure is within a community board area.
- ◆ Determine applications for non-commercial Licences to occupy and encroachment licences within the relevant community board area and not within the delegation of a Council Officer. In the case of a reserve, the application must be consistent with the relevant reserve management plan and the delegation is subject to the Reserves Act 1977. (Noting that any decisions made by Council as delegatee of the Minister for any decisions under the Reserves Act 1977 must be made by full elected Council and may not be delegated).
- ◆ Fund minor projects (with the exclusion of roading projects) from the Community Boards Discretionary Fund and in line with the Community Boards Discretionary Funding Framework.

### **Appointed members to the Community Board**

At least every six years, the Council undertakes a representation review which establishes the districts community boards, including the area they cover and how many elected and appointed members there will be.

For the Waitara Community Board, the appointee to the Community Board is Cr Tony Bedford from the North Ward for the period October 2022-30 April 2024, and Cr Te Waka McLeod from Te Purutunga Mauri o Pūmanawa Ward for the period 1 May 2024 – October 2025.

Only ward councillors can be appointed, and the Mayor and councillors who stood “at large” are ineligible for appointment to a community board.

### Community Board Plans

Community Board Plans are designed to address the needs of local communities providing a framework for future development and improvement.

Our Community Board Plan is a guiding document for future development and improvement in our community on our communities' views and preferences. Collectively we have identified the most pressing issues facing our community and the projects and actions which will address them. Our community board plan can help Council and other decision makers ensure that resources are allocated in a way that reflects the needs of our community.

### Developing our plan

Our plan has been developed in collaboration with local residents. We have done this by reviewing the 2020-2023 plan, running a survey, and meeting directly with community members, organisations, and local businesses.

As a result of the information we have gathered, and the demographic data for our area, we have identified the most pressing issues facing our community. This has allowed us to determine the key focus areas for our community:

- ◆ Hauora
- ◆ Community
- ◆ Quality Infrastructure
- ◆ Supporting and Enhancing Recreation Opportunities

These key focus areas intertwine with each other. They are interconnected but also independent. Progress in one area can impact on, and be impacted by, progress in the other areas.

Using these focus areas, we have determined the initiatives, projects and deliverables we would like Council to deliver on our behalf, and those areas where the Community Board can advocate on your behalf to external agencies – such as the Taranaki Regional Council and Waka Kotahi.

### **Working with Mana Whenua**

The Waitara Community Board are dedicated to fostering the relationship and iwi and hapū in our area with invites extended to representatives from Manukorihi, Pukerangiora, and Otaraua hapū to have a voice at the Community Board table. By working collaboratively with mana whenua we can ensure projects, actions, and decisions lead to better outcomes for our rohe.

### **Turning our Plan into Action**

Turning plans into reality takes many people working together – the community, the community board and the wider Council family.

To deliver against the outcomes in this community board plan, we:

- ◆ Have prioritised our requests for projects (and budget)
- ◆ Will advocate to Council for these projects to be included in the Long-Term Plan and/or Annual Plans
- ◆ Will make community views and preferences known to Council to assist them in their decision-making.
- ◆ Work with Council staff, community groups and partners to support delivery of projects.

### **Indicative Budget and Funding Sources**

There are a number of ways that community board initiatives can be funded:

- ◆ Council is the decision-maker on investment in new facilities and major upgrades of facilities. This includes any major projects that have been submitted by community boards. Major projects require planning and design. These are primarily funded through general rate funding.
- ◆ In 2021 Council established a Community Boards Discretionary Fund and delegated authority to the community boards to allocate funding for minor local projects for 2021-2024. The Community Boards are advocating for the continuation of this fund for the 2024-2034 Long-Term Plan.

Some projects may require external funding assistance. Council officers will assist the Community Boards with applications to external funders.

## New Plymouth District Council’s Strategic Framework

New Plymouth District Council’s Strategic Framework sets the Council’s vision, mission and goals. The goals are Council’s community outcomes.

The Strategic Framework is widely used across the organisation, and a critical tool for setting the Long-Term Plan 2024-2034. Community Board projects and initiatives must therefore align with Council’s Strategic Framework.

Vision: Sustainable Lifestyle Capital

Mission: Ensuring Taranaki is a place of opportunity where people want to live, learn, work, play and invest now and into the future with a focus on kaitiakitanga.

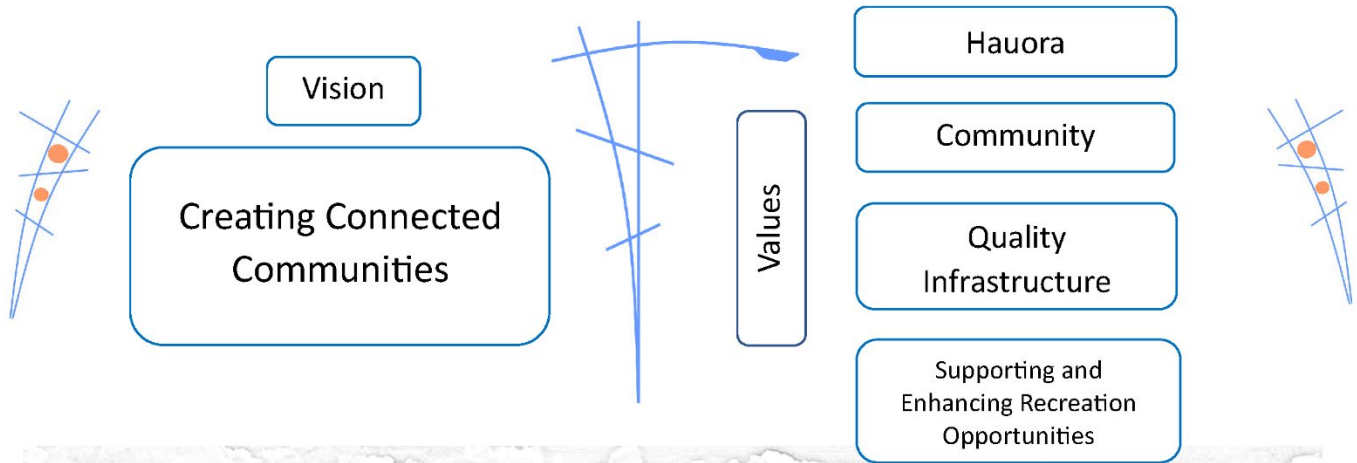
### Goals (Community Outcomes)

Trusted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthening Te Tiriti partnerships with hapū and iwi to improve well-being.</li> <li>• Building trust and credibility with community, business, fellow councils and government</li> <li>• Demonstrating leadership and striving for operational excellence</li> </ul>
Thriving Communities and Culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connected and engaged communities</li> <li>• Safe and active communities</li> <li>• An equitable and inclusive approach to delivering for all our people and communities</li> <li>• Communities that embrace Te Ao Māori</li> </ul>
Environmental Excellence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restoring our ecosystems</li> <li>• Mitigating further environmental impacts</li> <li>• Tackling the challenges of climate change</li> <li>• Delivering resilient infrastructure efficiently</li> </ul>

Goals (Community Outcomes)

Prosperity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Developing and supporting initiatives to achieve a diversified high-performing economy</li><li>• An equitable economy where people have access to quality employment and opportunities to build wealth</li><li>• Contributing to NZ Inc's environmental sustainability and economic performance</li></ul>
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**Waitara Community Board Vision**



**Our Key Focus Areas**

**Focus Area 1      Hauora**

Waitara and Lepperton offer many natural amenities and community spaces including rivers and parks. These provide residents with ample opportunity to engage in outdoor activities, connect with nature and build meaningful relationships. The preservation of these amenities allows for a variety of community events in the rohe and promotes an active, connected, and enjoyable community experience.

### *Cultural*

Alongside mana whenua our community is the kaitiaki of an area with a unique natural environment and significant heritage. By promoting the celebration of arts, culture, and heritage we can encourage strength, togetherness and belonging, te kaha, te kotahitanga me te mana.

### *Environmental*

Our natural environment is highly valued; the community embraces the awa as a means of escape from the hustle and bustle of the urban lifestyle. Continued investment in walking tracks and cycleways makes the outdoor-lifestyle more accessible, promoting a greater connection with nature and bringing our communities together.

### *Economic*

A thriving economy is built from the foundation up. To continue our strong local economy requires an emphasis on supporting community enterprises and providing opportunities for community members to thrive. Our people's, heritage and natural environment are our greatest assets. They give the rohe of Waitara Community Board a solid platform to draw in more business, encourage local enterprise and attract visitors. Waterfront dining is a great example of capitalising on the inherent value of an area, in a way that enhances rather than detracting from it.

The Board will strive to continue its work with partner organisations looking for opportunities to offer the right support to our young people into employment ensuring they are well positioned to thrive in a meaningful and sustainable career pathway.

### *Social*

With the continued population growth and changing demographics a strong economy and investment in robust transport options are vital for sustaining a quality lifestyle for the community.

The Board will encourage preservation of multi-use green spaces, entertainment, and recreational events, to make vibrant outdoor living easily accessible for friends and whānau. Promoting festivals will allow us to showcase our local people while attracting visitors to the region, giving our community a chance to connect and foster meaningful relationships.

*We are committed to our community and their wellbeing.*

### Focus Area 2      Community

The Waitara community board area is a mixture of old and new with a vibrant local history and we are committed to a thriving future. All awa and waterways in the rohe are the lifeblood of the area and their water runs through the communities' veins. Our community celebrates its heritage and values an active lifestyle. This duality provides an excellent context for growth and development, looking for the future, with respect for the past. Progress should focus on promoting opportunities for community togetherness and abundance.

#### *Kotahitanga*

A strong sense of community implies a feeling of moving together in the same direction, caring and supporting each other along the journey. To do this we have various services, support and amenities that cater for our tamariki and whānau.

#### *Outdoor Living*

We place a high emphasis on recognising the benefits that come from exploring our backyard by creating and maintaining parks, quiet nooks and crannies for tamariki to explore, green spaces for leisure, walking and running trails, sports fields and recreational facilities.

#### *Cultural Diversity*

Embracing cultural diversity means together we celebrate and respect the differences among the community. We value our history, the various backgrounds, traditions, languages and perspectives that everyone brings. We will encourage cultural exchanges, multi-cultural events and promote an inclusive environment where everyone feels welcomed and valued.

#### *Community Engagement*

Active participation is vital for fostering a strong sense of community, and leads to strengthen cooperation, learning opportunities and better outcomes from local and central services. We will support development of those connections for volunteers, clubs, organisations and business owners so our people can connect and engage with others who share their passions.

*We are committed to bring our community on the journey as the Waitara area continues to move forward.*



### **Focus Area 3      Quality Infrastructure**

Development and maintenance of infrastructure is essential for the wellbeing and security of our community. We believe that every individual including our children, elderly, infirm and vulnerable has the right to an environment that promotes their safety, accessibility and overall quality of life.

#### *Stormwater Management*

The lack of adequate stormwater management systems poses significant risks to our community. During heavy rainfall and storms, our communities are prone to flooding, which endangers both properties and lives. We call for the continued implementation of comprehensive stormwater infrastructure that can efficiently handle excessive water flow, preventing flooding and protecting our homes. By investing in proper drainage systems, we can mitigate the risks associated with water accumulation and safeguard the well-being of our community.

#### *Kerb and Channelling*

The absence of kerbing and channelling exacerbates the challenges faced by our residents, especially those with limited mobility. Currently residents are, forced to share the roads with vehicles, leading to hazardous situations. We urge the relevant authorities to prioritize the installation of kerbs and channels, By creating a safe environment for everyone, we can encourage active lifestyles, improve accessibility, and enhance the overall sense of security within our community.

#### *Footpaths*

The provision of well-maintained footpaths is essential to enable safe and convenient movement for all residents, regardless of age or physical ability. Currently, the absence of adequate footpaths hinders the mobility of children, the elderly, the infirmed, and other vulnerable individuals. We advocate for the development of a comprehensive footpath network that connects key areas within our community. These footpaths should be designed with accessibility features, such as ramps, and suitable surfaces, to accommodate the needs of individuals with disabilities. By prioritizing inclusive infrastructure, we can foster a sense of belonging, promote community engagement, and ensure that everyone in the community is on our journey.

### *Transport*

Our urban areas are not a contiguous part of the city. We need transport choices to access the wider district facilities and events. We remain disconnected to the district and wider region.

Effective transport choices include walking, cycling, public and private transport. When our residents feel safe to walk, play, and interact with their surroundings in the region, their overall quality of life improves. By investing in vital infrastructure projects, we can create a safer and more liveable environment, nurturing the physical and mental well-being of all individuals who call Waitara and Lepperton home.

*We are committed to being the voice of our community, so we have fair representation when it comes to quality infrastructure.*

### **Focus Area 4      Supporting and enhancing recreation opportunities**

Recreation facilities including parks have numerous benefits to a community. They provide spaces for various sports and activities, preserve the history and culture of a community, promote togetherness, foster a sense of celebration and pride, and contribute to the overall well-being of individuals.

### *Historical Preservation*

Parks often serve as repositories of a community's history and cultural heritage. They may contain landmarks, memories, monuments or interpretive displays that showcase our history, traditions and stories of the community. By preserving and promoting the historical aspects of a community, parks help foster a sense of identity, wellbeing and pride among residents. -

### *Environment*

The awa and the moana bring the pathways of our history together and weave us into this community and binds future generations to the pathways those before us laid.

The river and sea offer ample opportunities for active water-based activities which promote physical health and skill development. The dynamic nature of water allows Waitara and Lepperton to be unique for the adventure seeker and those looking for a holistic reprieve with the healing qualities water bodies provide.

### *Facilities*

It is important to us that users of our facilities have every opportunity to thrive and develop a sense of belonging. Recreation facilities that meet diverse needs and provide safe environments are essential to promote health and wellbeing and create a connected community. Along with creating new spaces, we need to ensure our existing amenities are fit for purpose, fully utilised and well maintained.

### *Community Togetherness*

Recreation spaces offer a place to gathering, where community members can come together to discover who they are as individuals and who they are as members of a group. Communities that participate in sports and recreation develop stronger social bonds fostering a sense of togetherness and unity among families, neighbors, and the weave of families into Ora of Whanau.

We will continue to look for new and innovative opportunities to bring our community together to promote safe spaces which promote a sense of belonging and enable people to engage with each other and in nature.

*We are committed to being the voice of our community, developing recreation opportunities and look for further opportunities as they arise.*

**Our Priorities**

Waitara Community Board’s priorities for inclusion in the Long-Term Plan are detailed below.

<i>Aspiration/Issue</i>	<i>Key Initiative</i>	<i>Key Focus Area</i>	<i>Community Outcome</i>
Years 1 – 3			
<b>Kerb and channelling upgrades</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Waitara need footpaths and kerbing, to improve movement and ensure safety and access for all people. Due to a lack of spending in recent history over stormwater.</li> <li>◆ Upgrade Lepperton footpath and channelling</li> </ul>	<p>Hauora Community Quality Infrastructure</p>	<p>Trusted Thriving Communities and Culture Environmental Excellence</p>
<b>Storm and Wastewater upgrades</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Upgrade the stormwater and wastewater systems in Waitara and Lepperton.</li> </ul> <p>NPDC is not meeting stormwater levels of service for a significant number of properties in Waitara.</p> <p>There are opportunities to improve the health of our natural waterways and the community’s relationship and connectivity with the natural environment.</p>	<p>Hauora Community Quality Infrastructure</p>	<p>Trusted Thriving Communities and Culture Environmental Excellence</p>

<i>Aspiration/Issue</i>	<i>Key Initiative</i>	<i>Key Focus Area</i>	<i>Community Outcome</i>
Years 1 – 3			
<b>Enhancement of community amenities in Lepperton</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Develop a multiuse green space/open space, including rubbish bins, shade shelters, seats, barbeque area, and playground near the main centre of Lepperton. This will enable the community and visitors can come together.</li> <li>◆ Provide a public toilet. This is currently kindly provided by a local store cafe.</li> <li>◆ Provide additional seating in the village centre for the elderly and visitors to enjoy their surrounds.</li> </ul>	<p>Hauora Community Quality Infrastructure</p> <p>Supporting and Enhancing Recreation Opportunities</p>	<p>Trusted</p> <p>Thriving Communities and Culture</p> <p>Environmental Excellence</p>
<b>Lepperton Anvil</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Install an Anvil in Lepperton Greenspace in conjunction with Puketapu and Pukerangoria</li> </ul>	<p>Hauora Community</p> <p>Supporting and Enhancing Recreation Opportunities</p>	<p>Trusted</p> <p>Thriving Communities and Culture</p>

<i>Aspiration/Issue</i>	<i>Key Initiative</i>	<i>Key Focus Area</i>	<i>Community Outcome</i>
Years 1 – 3			
<p><b>Promotion of Cycleways and Walkways</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Upgrade walkways in Waitara and Lepperton including Dick Wilson, Ranfurly Street, Whakaahurangi Track and the walkway to Pukekohe Domain.</li> <li>◆ Improved maintenance of current river walkway and gathering spaces including barbecues are places where families gather.</li> <li>Priority 1    West Quay to Te Tuna</li> <li>Priority 2    West Quay to the Bypass Bridge</li> <li>◆ Improve access to the walkways in Lepperton.</li> <li>◆ Advocate for a clip-on cycleway and walkway on the Waitara Bridge Bypass</li> </ul>	<p>Hauora Community</p> <p>Supporting and Enhancing Recreation Opportunities</p>	<p>Thriving Communities and Culture</p> <p>Environmental Excellence</p>

<i>Aspiration/Issue</i>	<i>Key Initiative</i>	<i>Key Focus Area</i>	<i>Community Outcome</i>
Years 1 – 3			
<p><b>History and heritage trail, Waitara History Centre/museum</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Improved signage to local Pā sites in Waitara and Lepperton</li> <li>◆ Te Kōhia Pa become a history centre/museum.</li> <li>◆ Develop a history and heritage trail from Te Kōhia Pā including all local Pā sites and up the Waitara Road through the various redoubts into Pukerangiora Pā.</li> <li>◆ Develop a history and heritage trail from Poroporo Pā and through Lepperton including all local Pā sites.</li> </ul> <p>The aspiration is to see, feel and to know (with a sense of intimacy) our community history. Locals and visitors alike can walk these sites, feel the environment, and understand the politics of the day and how families were affected.</p> <p>All our history matters. Te Kōhia Pā is a great start.</p>	<p>Hauora</p> <p>Community</p> <p>Supporting and Enhancing Recreation Opportunities</p>	<p>Trusted</p> <p>Thriving Communities and Culture</p> <p>Environmental Excellence</p>

<i>Aspiration/Issue</i>	<i>Key Initiative</i>	<i>Key Focus Area</i>	<i>Community Outcome</i>
Years 1 – 3			
	<p>In 2016 NPDC purchased 1373 Devon road, Brixton on which is situated Te Kōhia Pā. Constructed on 15 March 1860 by Wiremu Kingi Te Rangitaake and his followers, the pa was attacked by British forces on 17 March 1860, marking the commencement of the First Taranaki War, a pivotal event in the history of Taranaki.</p>		
<p><b>Waitara Festive Lighting</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Support the current plans to rejig the lighting poles and sails in Waitara Township</li> <li>◆ Rejig the star on Manukorihi hill.</li> <li>◆ Investigate potential options for festive lighting to be installed in Lepperton.</li> <li>◆ To continue maintenance and upgrading of our festive lighting</li> </ul>	<p>Community</p>	<p>Thriving Communities and Culture</p>



<i>Aspiration/Issue</i>	<i>Key Initiative</i>	<i>Key Focus Area</i>	<i>Community Outcome</i>
Years 1 – 3			
<b>Waitara Memorial Hall Theatre Upgrade</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ The Waitara Memorial Hall Theatre is in urgent need of an upgrade including new dressing rooms and backstage area.</li> <li>◆ New toilets as they have not been upgraded for some time.</li> </ul> <p>This is an important community asset.</p>	<p>Hauora</p> <p>Community</p> <p>Supporting and Enhancing Recreation Opportunities</p>	<p>Trusted</p> <p>Thriving Communities and Culture</p> <p>Environmental Excellence</p>
<b>Waitara Community Library Upgrade</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Support the upgrade of the Waitara Library to ensure it can service the needs of Waitara district and the area’s growing population.</li> </ul>	<p>Hauora</p> <p>Community</p> <p>Quality Infrastructure</p> <p>Supporting and Enhancing Recreation Opportunities</p>	<p>Trusted</p> <p>Thriving Communities and Culture</p> <p>Environmental Excellence</p>

<i>Aspiration/Issue</i>	<i>Key Initiative</i>	<i>Key Focus Area</i>	<i>Community Outcome</i>
Years 1 – 3			
<b>Waitara Pool Accessibility Upgrade</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Install a neutral changing room (family room) to provide an accessible friendly facility to ensure the safety of community users requiring caregiver or parental assistance.</li>   <li>People with disabilities and individuals needing parental or caregiver assistance, find it inappropriate to use small, single-sex changing facilities.</li> </ul>	<p>Hauora Community</p>	<p>Thriving Communities and Culture</p> <p>Environmental Excellence</p>
<b>Waitara Pool – future planning</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Undertake a feasibility study of the long term needs of the Waitara Community for the use of the Waitara Pool to ensure its ready for replacement at the end of its life.</li> </ul>	<p>Hauora Community Quality Infrastructure Supporting and Enhancing Recreation Opportunities</p>	<p>Trusted</p> <p>Thriving Communities and Culture</p> <p>Environmental Excellence</p>

<i>Aspiration/Issue</i>	<i>Key Initiative</i>	<i>Key Focus Area</i>	<i>Community Outcome</i>
Years 1 – 3			
<b>Recreational Spaces</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Upgrade and enhance play and recreation spaces, in both Waitara township and Lepperton - including the Lepperton Greenspace/Open Space, and Pukekohe Domain.</li> </ul>	Hauora  Community  Supporting and Enhancing Recreation Facilities	Trusted  Thriving Communities and Culture  Environmental Excellence

<i>Aspiration/Issue</i>	<i>Key Initiative</i>	<i>Key Focus Area</i>	<i>Community Outcome</i>
Years 4 – 10			
<b>Marine Park</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ The Board support the ongoing development at Otupaia/Marine Park.</li> </ul>	Hauora Community Supporting and Enhancing Recreation Opportunities	Trusted Thriving Communities and Culture Environmental Excellence
<b>Upgrade and Enhance West Quay Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Create a boardwalk along the riverbank.</li> <li>◆ Develop a recreation space, with art, sculptures, stories, and signage.</li> <li>◆ This area has the potential to be a multi-use green apace with picnic tables, barbecue's, shaded areas, and rubbish bins.</li> <li>◆ Key Partners program with ANZCO</li> </ul>	Hauora Community Supporting and Enhancing Recreation Opportunities	Trusted Thriving Communities and Culture Environmental Excellence Prosperity

**Advocacy**

The Waitara Community Board will continue to advocate on behalf of the Waitara and surrounding community on the following issues as and when required.

<i>Aspiration/Issue</i>	<i>Key Initiative</i>	<i>Key Focus Area</i>	<i>Community Outcome</i>
<p><b>Rural and Urban Planning</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Advocate for appropriate land use in our area including:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Lepperton Village and surrounding area</li> <li>– Papakainga Housing</li> <li>– Increased protection of new and existing green spaces</li> <li>– Increased protection of sites of cultural significance</li> <li>– Contributions by third parties when appropriate</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Hauora</p> <p>Community</p> <p>Quality Infrastructure</p> <p>Supporting and Enhancing Recreation Opportunities</p>	<p>Trusted</p> <p>Thriving Communities and Culture</p> <p>Environmental Excellence</p>

<i>Aspiration/Issue</i>	<i>Key Initiative</i>	<i>Key Focus Area</i>	<i>Community Outcome</i>
<b>Housing Strategy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocate for implementation of Council Housing Strategy</li> </ul>	Hauora Community	Trusted  Thriving Communities and Culture  Environmental Excellence  Prosperity
<b>Welcome to Waitara Signs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Board will advocate strongly for Waka Kotahi and Hapū to include bilingual "Welcome to Waitara" signs being placed at entrances to Waitara at Raleigh St, Bayly St and Nelson St. in the transport planning programme.</li> </ul> <p>Waitara, as a town, would have better exposure to visitors if signs are well placed.</p>	Community	Trusted  Thriving Communities and Culture

<i>Aspiration/Issue</i>	<i>Key Initiative</i>	<i>Key Focus Area</i>	<i>Community Outcome</i>
<b>Lepperton Awa Access</b>	◆ The Board will advocate for the residents to have access to the awa.	Hauora Community Supporting and Enhancing Recreation opportunities	Trusted Thriving Communities and Culture Environmental Excellence
<b>Environmental enhancements, (river, walkway and beach clean-up, planting, signage, environmental enhancement programmes)</b>	◆ This is ongoing– advocacy role for Board.	Hauora Community Supporting and Enhancing Recreation Opportunities	Trusted Thriving Communities and Culture Environmental Excellence
<b>Regional Water Centre</b>	◆ Support the river users with a view to provide a home for waka ama, canoeing, rowing and all river-based activities.	Hauora Community Supporting and Enhancing Recreation Opportunities	Trusted Thriving Communities and Culture Environmental Excellence Prosperity

<i>Aspiration/Issue</i>	<i>Key Initiative</i>	<i>Key Focus Area</i>	<i>Community Outcome</i>
<b>Enhance the representation and governance arrangements for Māori across all tiers of Council organisation and authority.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At the discretion of the Chair following consultation with the Community Board, representation from Iwi and Hapū are invited to sit at the community board table with speaking rights.</li> </ul>	Community	<p>Trusted</p> <p>Thriving Communities and Culture</p>
<b>Accessible Boat Ramp</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Board will advocate for further community engagement to be undertaken in relation to an accessible boat ramp for Sailability Taranaki.</li> </ul> <p>Sailability Taranaki Trust made a deputation to Waitara Community Board in June 2018 and made a request for Council to assist their disabled sailors to access boats from their wheelchairs in the more sheltered tidal boat ramp area by their club rooms. There is an existing floating pontoon further towards the river mouth that is used but can be difficult for disabled sailors to use as the ramp is steep and during certain winds moves around a lot.</p>	<p>Hauora</p> <p>Community</p> <p>Quality Infrastructure</p> <p>Supporting and Enhancing Recreation Opportunities</p>	<p>Trusted</p> <p>Thriving Communities and Culture</p> <p>Environmental Excellence</p>



## Background Information

### Community Board Area

The Waitara Community Board aims to make our community a better place to live by representing and acting as an advocate for, the interests of the Waitara and surrounding community. The geographic area of the community board extends from north of the New Plymouth airport to Lepperton and across the eastern boundary of the Waitara Urban area.

The iwi and hapū within this rohe are Te Atiawa, Manukorihi Hapū (Owae Marae), Otaraua Hapū (Mangaemiemi Marae) and Pukerangiora Hapū (Kairau Marae).



The vision for our community can only come to life because it is innovative, forward looking, focused and cohesive. The hope of the Waitara Community Board is that the issues and aspirations of the community, as set out in this document, will be translated into action and investment by the New Plymouth District Council. This is a 30-year plan (reviewable every three years) and the community know that it will take this length of time for some of the investments into the community to be made.

The Waitara Community Board recognise that the Waitara and surrounding community cannot expect to get everything that is wanted in the short term. However, it is important that the Council consider the views of the community and invest in the areas that have been identified as important.

### How to submit a Service Request or Report an Issue

To report any issues relating to Council facilities and assets, Service Requests can be submitted by the following means stating the issue, location and, if possible, a photo.



**PHONE US**  
06 759 6060 (available 24/7)



**EMAIL US**  
enquiries@npdc.govt.nz



**VISIT OUR WEBSITE**  
[www.npdc.govt.nz](http://www.npdc.govt.nz)  
Report and Issue



**WRITE TO US**  
New Plymouth District Council  
Private Bag 2025,  
New Plymouth 4342

Reporting State Highway Issues  
Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency (available 24/7)

Call on 0800 4 HIGHWAYS (0800 44 44 49)  
Send a request [www.nzta.govt.nz/contact-us/feedback-or-comments/](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/contact-us/feedback-or-comments/)

### Appendix 1 Connecting to Relevant Plans and Strategies

#### Long-Term Plan (LTP)

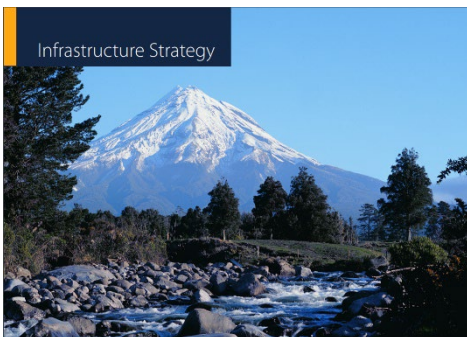
Long-Term Plans are key planning tools used by Councils. A Long-Term Plan:

- ◆ Describes the Council's significant activities and the community outcomes it hopes to achieve.
- ◆ Provides integrated decision-making and coordination of the resources.
- ◆ Provides a long-term planning focus.
- ◆ Shows accountability to the community.

Members of the public have an opportunity to participate in the development of Long-Term Plans through informal pre-consultation, and submission and hearing processes.

The Council's Long-Term Plan is currently under review in preparation for adoption by 30 June 2024 for the period 2024-2034. The Community Board Plans are key inputs into developing the draft Long-Term Plan. Community Boards will have the opportunity to formally submit on the Draft Long-Term Plan.

#### Infrastructure Strategy



The Infrastructure Strategy identifies the significant infrastructure issues the New Plymouth District is likely to face over the next 30 years.

It takes a long-term view of the infrastructure and services the New Plymouth district will need over time, and how the Council might provide them.

The Infrastructure Strategy details the implications of the options Council has for managing infrastructure issues, including likely costs.

In developing the Infrastructure Strategy, the Council considered:

- ◆ The infrastructure required to implement the strategic vision.
- ◆ How much the district will grow and where and when that growth will occur.
- ◆ The current state of the district's assets and the issues likely to arise over the next 30 years.
- ◆ The possible solutions to these issues and estimate of how much they are likely to cost; and
- ◆ The impact of any decisions on levels of service, rates and debt.

### District Plan

Council released its District Plan on 13 May 2023.

The New Plymouth District Plan (the District Plan) assists Council to meet its obligations under the Resource Management Act 1991 (the Act). The Act provides the regulatory framework which manages the use, development and protection of land and other natural and physical resources in New Zealand.

The purpose, function and contents of the District Plan are directed towards achieving the purpose of the Act which is 'to promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources'.

The District Plan contains objectives, policies, rules and standards about how the people of the New Plymouth District can use, develop and subdivide their land. The key function of the district council is the integrated management of the use, development, or protection of land and associated natural and physical resources of the district. The District Plan therefore seeks to manage and protect the natural and physical resources that are important to the community, and to ensure that environmental qualities and values are safeguarded for future generations to enjoy.

The rules of the District Plan set out the activities that you are allowed to do as of right (permitted activities) and the types of activities that require a resource consent.

The District Plan is available electronically on the Council's website.

- Appendix 2**      **Census 2018  
Separate Document (ECM9009997)**
  
- Appendix 3**      **Community Survey Data  
Separate Document (ECM9009999)**
  
- Appendix 4**      **Community Survey Data (July 2023)  
Separate Document (ECM 9040863)**