

Council Briefing Agenda

Date: Tuesday, 25 August, 2020

Time: 1:00 pm

Location: Council Chamber
Forum North, Rust Avenue
Whangarei

Elected Members: Her Worship the Mayor Sheryl Mai
(Chairperson)

Cr Gavin Benney

Cr Vince Cocurullo

Cr Nicholas Connop

Cr Ken Couper

Cr Tricia Cutforth

Cr Shelley Deeming

Cr Jayne Golightly

Cr Phil Halse

Cr Greg Innes

Cr Greg Martin

Cr Anna Murphy

Cr Carol Peters

Cr Simon Reid

For any queries regarding this meeting please contact
the Whangarei District Council on (09) 430-4200.

1. Apologies

2. Reports

2.1 Placemaking Programme Update

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2.2 Waterfront Precinct Plan

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3. Closure of Meeting

2.1 Placemaking Programme Update

Meeting:	Council Briefing
Date of meeting:	25 August 2020
Reporting officer:	Alicia Lawrie (Strategic Urban Designer) Tony Horton (Manager – Strategy)

1 Purpose

Update elected members on the Hikurangi and Tikipunga Placemaking Plans:

- Present the community feedback received from the online survey.
- Discuss the process and next steps.

2 Background

At the Planning and Development Meeting on 16 May 2019 Council approved the Draft Whangarei District Growth Strategy for public feedback. The Draft Whangarei District Growth Strategy included the proposed placemaking programme (formerly spatial planning programme) along with proposed criteria to prioritise the programme.

On 20 February 2020 at the Strategy, Planning & Development Committee meeting, elected members made the decision to begin this programme of work in Tikipunga and Hikurangi. This decision was based on several strategic drivers:

- Population growth (current and projected)
- Identified growth (historical and future development potential)
- Infrastructure (existing and future infrastructure issues and opportunities)
- Previous planning (amount of planning within the last 10 years)
- Community readiness (active community groups and requests for spatial planning).

3 Discussion

3.1 The Placemaking Plans

Whangarei is growing and developing but there is a gap when it comes to understanding how this affects specific locations in our District.

This gap has led to:

- Reduced quality outcomes and lost opportunities to maximise the community benefits of development.
- Unclear vision for how a specific community will develop over the medium/long-term.
- Fragmented communities due to infrastructure such as roads, parks and pedestrian networks,
- Reduced levels of amenity through poor urban design, and subdivision design.
- Communities who feel disconnected from key planning and development decisions.

A 'one size fits all' approach is not the best for our diverse District because each place is different. Communities have their own set of qualities, unique characteristics and people who make them special.

3.2 Process

We have completed Stage 1 (Set Direction) of our overall process which included our first round of community engagement in the form of the online placemaking survey.

Our findings from the community engagement, internal workshops, discussions with external stakeholders and the preliminary analysis have helped us to identify key themes, issues and opportunities and set the direction for the Hikurangi and Tikipunga Placemaking Plan. These findings will feed into Stage 2 (Testing & Developing) of our process which is a critical part as it will inform the actions within the plans.

3.3 Placemaking Survey

The initial approach to the first round of community engagement was disrupted by the COVID-19 Level 4 Lockdown. The absence of face-to-face interaction required us to be creative in our approach to the preliminary community engagement.

Whangarei District Council (WDC) chose to conduct an online survey which focused on:

- Building a better understanding of these areas and what matters most to these communities.
- Educating the public about the placemaking programme. What it is, why we need it and how these plans will work.
- Establishing and maintaining contact with key groups and individuals in these communities to contribute and provide input into the development of these plans.
- Acknowledging the context of COVID-19 and how it has affected people and their feelings towards their local neighbourhoods.

WDC wanted to explore a new approach to engagement. The key drivers for the engagement programme included:

- Conversational style questions to help encourage engagement and get the community talking about what is important to them.
- Use of short, sharp, simple and visual information to assist in explaining the placemaking programme.
- Maximise use of our online platforms and social media to promote our online survey.
- Directly engaging with key stakeholders and community groups.
- Managing expectations about what these plans will and will not inform and achieve.
- Use other alternatives to accommodate those who do not have access to the internet.

The online survey was live from 10 June 2020 – 8 July 2020. The survey was not limited to people who live in Hikurangi or Tikipunga. People who regularly visit these areas to work,



shop, visit friends and whanau or use the parks, sportsgrounds and other facilities in these areas were also encouraged to take part in this survey.

We have received a total of 300 responses to the survey. The additional views, reactions, comments and shares shows us that there was further awareness of the placemaking programme and people chose to engage with us in other ways such as through Facebook comments. These were also included in the overall summary of feedback.

As with many engagement tools there were limitations with the online survey and the ability to reach everyone within the community. Alternative methods of engagement were explored however these received less response than our online campaign.

3.4 The Hikurangi Placemaking Plan

The placemaking survey received 140 responses from Hikurangi.

There are 71 people who would like to be kept informed about the development of the Hikurangi Placemaking Plan.

Key Themes

From the feedback received, there were several reoccurring themes. These will be used to inform the development of the Hikurangi Placemaking Plan. These are:

- *Connectivity*
Greater choice, connectivity, accessibility and activity to, from and within Hikurangi.
- *Heritage and Character*
Protection and enhancement of Hikurangi's unique built heritage, natural character, history and strong sense of community.
- *Destination*
Enhance Hikurangi's profile as a visitor destination as well as a place to live, work and play.

Issues and Opportunities

From the feedback received, there were some key issues and opportunities raised which the Hikurangi Placemaking Plan can look to address.

- *Beautification*
Many people noted their concerns about the rundown quality of streets, parks and buildings in Hikurangi, and how it creates a negative perception and leads to people feeling unsafe.
- *Activities and Amenities*
Many people noted their concerns about the rundown quality of streets, parks and buildings in Hikurangi, and how it creates a negative perception and leads to people feeling unsafe.
- *Active Transport*
Many people would like to see more choice when it comes to transport. Several people mention opportunities to increase walking and cycling options within the Hikurangi village, linking the village centre with key areas such as Lake Waro and Hikurangi Sports Grounds. There was concern about driver behaviour and speeding on certain streets and intersections which make people feel unsafe as a pedestrian. People also want to see a public transport link established between Hikurangi and Whangarei City.

- *Community Support*

The people of Hikurangi value their community. They believe that more can be done to support community initiatives and volunteers in Hikurangi. Some also feel as though they have been neglected as a community.

3.5 The Tikipunga Placemaking Plan

The placemaking survey received 160 responses from Tikipunga.

There are 82 people who would like to be kept informed about the development of the Tikipunga Placemaking Plan.

Key Themes

From the feedback received, there were several reoccurring themes. These will be used to inform the development of the Tikipunga Placemaking Plan. These are:

- *Change*

Tikipunga is experiencing a significant amount of population growth and with that growth comes change. These changes include increase in housing and pressure on public spaces and infrastructure.

- *Diversity & Character*

Character is ever changing, and Tikipunga has a very diverse and eclectic community which gives it a unique character.

- *Connectivity*

People would like to have more choice when it comes to movement and transport and be better connected to their community amenities and surroundings. They would also like to see safer streets and intersections for vehicles and pedestrians.

Issues and Opportunities

From the feedback received, there were some key issues and opportunities raised which the Tikipunga Placemaking Plan can look to address.

- *Growth*

A large portion of the feedback received was in concern of population growth and increase housing development. Although growth was highlighted as an opportunity people also commented on the negative effects it would have on their community.

- *Safety and Perceptions of Safety*

Many people commented on safety, security, anti-social behaviour and crime. Many aspects of this fall outside the scope of council, but such comments are often associated with rundown and uninviting public spaces and facilities in Tikipunga.

- *Driver behaviour/Road safety*

The feedback had comments about driver and pedestrian safety along busy roads and intersections in Tikipunga. This is strengthened by concerns about population growth and the increased demand on infrastructure.

- *Active Transport*

Walking & Cycling was a key activity during the COVID-19 lockdown for many individuals and improving on Tikipunga's walking, cycling and public transport networks was noted as an opportunity. Many people want to be better connected to the surrounding features and amenities and the wider Whangarei networks (i.e. City Link busses, Kamo shared path).

3.6 Next Steps



We now have key themes for Hikurangi and Tikipunga which will inform our thinking as we move into the testing and development stage of this plan. Each location also has identified key issues and opportunities to be addressed.

Collaboration between internal staff and the community will remain a key factor as we move in to the testing and development stage of the process.

Within the second round of engagement we hope to establish more interactive and workshop based connections. We will invite the community to contribute and support their vision by providing input and advice as well as challenge Whangarei District Council. This will help create a robust shared vision for Hikurangi and Tikipunga.

We will continue to face challenges with the possible risk of further COVID-19 restrictions. Within our process we aim to be flexible, adaptable and creative to ensure we gain the best possible outcomes for the communities we are working with, while continuing to progress with the placemaking programme. We will continue to learn from and document the limitations of our methods of engagement for future rounds of Placemaking plans.

4 Attachment

Attachment 1 - Placemaking Plan - Summary of Feedback Report

Placemaking Programme

Summary of Feedback Report

Hikurangi & Tikipunga Placemaking Plans

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1 Placemaking Plans

The Placemaking Plans are a response to the changes that are happening in our local communities and the key challenges and opportunities that come with this.

Whangarei is growing and developing but there is a gap when it comes to understanding how this affects specific locations in our District.

This gap has led to:

- Poor quality outcomes and lost opportunities to maximise the community benefits of development.
- A lack of vision for how a specific community will develop over the medium/long-term.
- Fragmented communities due to infrastructure such as roads, parks and pedestrian networks.
- Low levels of amenity through poor urban design, and subdivision design.
- Communities who feel disconnected from key planning & development decisions.

A 'one size fits all' approach is not the best way forward for our diverse District because each place is different. Communities have their own set of qualities, unique characteristics and people who make them special.

The Placemaking Programme will generate a series of Placemaking Plans to create a 20-30 year shared vision for key locations and communities across the District. The plans are driven by:

- Growth and changes
- Infrastructure needs
- Good quality design
- Community and Mana Whenua Values
- Spatial features
- A changing climate

1.1 Where are we in the process?



With this report we have completed Stage 1 of our overall process. Our findings from the community engagement, internal workshops, discussions with external stakeholders and the preliminary analysis have helped us to identify key themes, issues and opportunities and set the direction for each placemaking plans.

These findings will feed into Stage 2 of our process. The testing and development stage is a critical part of our placemaking plans as it will inform our short, medium and long term actions.

2 Community Engagement

The Placemaking Plans are a collaborative planning process and engagement with the community to understand their values and aspirations is key to the success of these plans.

The Hikurangi and Tikipunga Placemaking Plans will be put together by Council alongside the community, mana whenua and key stakeholders to build a future shared vision for each location which is inclusive and meaningful.

Community engagement will be done in three rounds, starting in the early stages of the plan's development. The first round of engagement was intended to educate the public about the placemaking programme and help us gain an understanding of the qualities, issues and opportunities within each location.

The second round of engagement will test our learnings and analysis and the final round will seek feedback on the draft Plan. While engagement is targeted to three rounds, we want to be flexible and agile in our approach. Ongoing conversations will be held throughout the process with key groups and stakeholders so we can do our best to work alongside the community at a pace comfortable to them.

2.1 Placemaking Survey

The initial approach to the first round of community engagement was disrupted by the COVID-19 Level 4 Lockdown. The absence of face-to-face interaction required us to be creative in our approach to the preliminary community engagement.

Whangarei District Council (WDC) chose to conduct an online survey which focused on:

- Building a better understanding of these areas and what matters most to these communities.
- Educating the public about the placemaking programme. What it is, why we need and how these plans will work.
- Establishing and maintaining contact with key groups and individuals in these communities to contribute and provide input into the development of these plans.
- Acknowledging the context of COVID-19 and how it has affected people and their feelings towards their local neighbourhoods.

WDC wanted to explore a new approach to engagement. The key drivers for the engagement programme included:

- Conversational style questions to help encourage engagement and get the community talking about what is important to them.
- Use of short, sharp, simple and visual information to assist in explaining the placemaking programme.
- Maximise use of our online platforms and social media to promote our online survey.
- Directly engaging with key stakeholders, community groups and hapu representatives.
- Managing expectations about what these plans will and will not inform and achieve.
- Use other alternatives to accommodate those who do not have access to the internet.

The online survey was live from 10th June 2020 – 8th July 2020. The survey was not limited to people who live in Hikurangi or Tikipunga. People who regularly visit these areas to work, shop, visit friends and whanau or use the parks, sportsgrounds and other facilities in these areas were also encouraged to take part in this survey.

The questions were conversational and aimed at getting people to think positively about their community, as well as think long-term. The questions asked were:

- 1. With everything that has happened during the COVID-19 lockdown, and the time you have spent in your community, how have your feelings towards Hikurangi / Tikipunga changed?**
During COVID-19 what did you do differently? Has it changed the way you move around this neighbourhood? During lock down, was there enough to do in your neighbourhood?
- 2. What do you value and cherish in Hikurangi / Tikipunga?**
What about this community do you like the most? And why?
- 3. What problems and issues do you face in Hikurangi / Tikipunga?**
What needs to be improved? And why? What do you think is missing in this community? What would you like to see more of?
- 4. What are some of the changes you think will affect Hikurangi / Tikipunga in the future?**

2.2 Online Survey Limitations

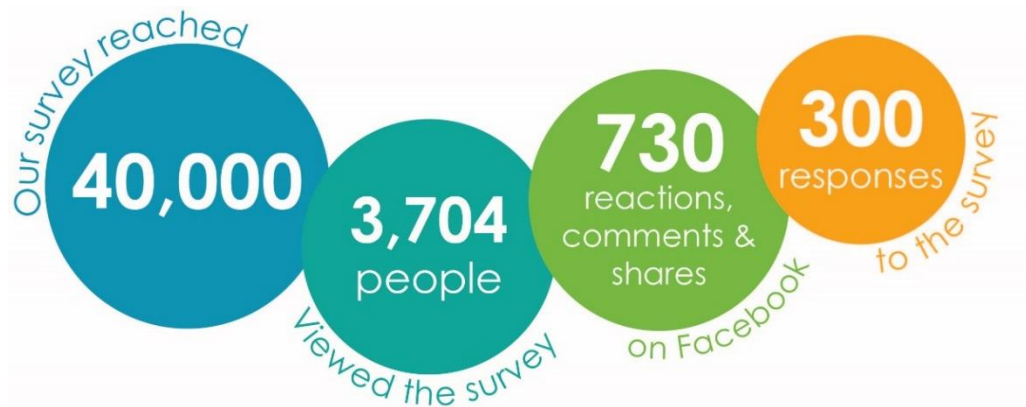
As with many engagement tools there were limitations with the online survey and the ability to reach everyone within the community. As part of the online survey campaign we also included alternative methods for people to get in touch with us. These included:

- Printed surveys stationed at Tikipunga and Hikurangi Libraries.
- Contact details included on all our campaign material encouraging people to email WDC or call our customer services team to assist in filling out a survey.
- Stories and display ads on Council News throughout the campaign.
- Linking in with community groups and their regular newsletters which are distributed to community households.
- Encouraging our key community contacts to share the information and encourage their own networks to engage and fill out the survey.

As far as we know these alternatives received less of a response than our online campaign did.

Prior to the first round of engagement WDC was facing a time where we had to limit face to face meetings and interactions with our communities. However, this is often the most beneficial and rewarding approach to engagement for both parties and something we want to continue as we progress these plans. This was evident during our online campaign as we found the individual community relationships and the buy-in we had built prior to restrictions was a key aspect in getting people to engage with us online.

3 Response in brief



We have received a total of 300 responses to the survey. The additional views, reactions, comments and shares shows us that there was further awareness of the placemaking programme and people chose to engage with us in other ways such as through Facebook comments. These were also included in the overall summary of feedback.

A small number of comments raised within the survey were deemed too low level or out of scope of the Placemaking Plans and have been passed on to other WDC teams or raised as CRM's.

4 The Hikurangi Placemaking Plan

Hikurangi was chosen as one of the two locations to begin the Placemaking Programme. A key aspect of this decision was due to active community groups, community readiness and requests for this type of long-term spatial planning.

The placemaking survey received 140 responses from Hikurangi.

There are 71 people who would like to be kept informed about the development of the Hikurangi Placemaking Plan.



We have also held meetings and had discussions with the Hikurangi Business Association and Revive Hikurangi. Written updates were sent to key community contacts during the COVID-19 lockdown. The Hikurangi Bulletin, and the Hikurangi Community website were used as a tool to keep the community informed about the plan, our process and engagement.

The Hikurangi Business Association and Friendship House have formed a Steering Group for the Hikurangi Placemaking Plan with representation from the Hikurangi Business Association, Friendship House, Hikurangi School, Co-operative Village Market, Hikurangi Police, The Lions, Sport Northland and Whakapara Marae.

The purpose of the steering group is to support Council in building a long-term vision for Hikurangi. The steering group will contribute to and support this vision by providing input, advice and challenge Whangarei District Council on matters of interest, concerns or opportunities identified by the communities they represent. The representatives on the steering group will be able to advocate their communities' interests, concerns, ideas or potential projects.

4.1 Key Themes

From the feedback received, there were several reoccurring themes across each question. These will be used to inform the development of the Hikurangi Placemaking Plan.

Connectivity

- Better connectivity within the Hikurangi between key destinations such as Lake Waro, Hikurangi Sports Park, Hikurangi School and the village centre.

- Improved connectivity and greater transport choice between Hikurangi and the wider Whangarei area.
- Accessible and safe walking and cycling opportunities.
- Safer and attractive roads and connections to and within Hikurangi including from State Highway.
- Improving connectivity, walkability and activity through design to enhance safety and perceptions of safety.

Heritage & Character

- The strong and unique built heritage, natural character and history of Hikurangi is important to the people in the community.
- Protection and enhancement of Hikurangi's unique identity and natural environment is important as they adapt to population and demographic changes.
- Strong sense of community and the friendly and diverse people are also a key aspect of Hikurangi's character.
- Unique and well-designed public spaces, streets and buildings.

Destination

- Enhance Hikurangi's profile as a visitor destination as well as a place to live, work and play.
- Celebrate Hikurangi's unique character and local community.
- Enable growth and change.
- More diverse and well-designed activities, facilities, and amenities to cater to their community as well as attract visitors.

4.2 Issues and Opportunities

From the feedback received, there were some key issues and opportunities raised which the Hikurangi Placemaking Plan can look to address.

Beautification

Many people noted their concerns about the rundown quality of streets, parks and buildings in Hikurangi, and how it creates a negative perception and leads to people feeling unsafe.

Community feedback:

- It was suggested that council could increase their level of maintenance in certain areas, but also that some of the responsibility falls with private landowners.
- Key buildings in the main village are rundown and the beautiful old buildings are in need of a facelift.
- Opportunity to clean up the privately-owned site on George Street next to Friendship House in the Hikurangi village centre.
- Opportunity to improve street environment with higher quality footpaths, furniture, trees, and street lighting.
- Rubbish and fly-tipping an issue on Boundary Road and next to the skate park.
- Beautification and investment in the village will attract more people to visit Hikurangi.

How can the WDC and the Placemaking Plan address this:

- Explore options to increase the level of service in certain areas.
- Explore opportunities with the community to empower private land owners to improve the quality of their properties.
- Support good quality design outcomes in Hikurangi through the Placemaking plan to drive key actions and future investment and development by council and the community.
- Identify and prioritise projects which achieve good quality design outcomes, connectivity, activity and create safe and inviting spaces.
- Identify and prioritise projects and initiatives which celebrates Hikurangi's unique character and identity to generate community pride and sense of place.

Activities and Amenities

The community would like more diverse experiences and activities to enjoy as well as to attract visitors to Hikurangi. People feel there is not enough to do or see in Hikurangi, particularly for children, youth and older people.

Community feedback:

- More things for youth to do such as an improved skate park or a bike park.
- No activities for parents and kids.
- A regular bus service from Hikurangi could provide youth and older people access to the amenities in Whangarei.
- Young people in need of constructive activities or additional learning opportunities.
- Hikurangi needs more facilities such as swimming pools, restaurants, cafés, petrol stations, dog parks and playgrounds.
- Recreational opportunities such as shared paths along the railway and along SH1 to connect to Kamo and Tikipunga.
- More outdoor amenities at Lake Waro, such as an outdoor BBQ and outdoor exercise equipment.
- Advertise Hikurangi a little more. Local businesses can benefit from local northland visitors.

How can the WDC and the Placemaking Plan address this:

- Explore and identify opportunities, such as strategic locations which could provide future activities and amenities for children, youth, and older people.
- Support connectivity, walkability and accessibility between key amenities in Hikurangi.
- Identify opportunities to promote Hikurangi's unique character through design and assist in promoting Hikurangi as a destination.
- Work with council planners to ensure development and activities identified can be achieved within planning regulations.

Active Transport

Many people would like to see more transport choice. Several people mention opportunities to increase walking and cycling options within the Hikurangi village, linking the village centre with key areas such as Lake Waro and Hikurangi Sports Grounds. There was concern about driver behaviour and speeding on certain streets and intersections which make people feel unsafe. People also want to see a public transport link established between Hikurangi and Whangarei City.

Community Feedback:

- Currently a lack of walkways. Lake Waro is a great walk but a very short loop.

- Extend the cycle and walking tracks along the old railway track and eventually join up with Tikipunga and Whangarei.
- Better and safer walking options, for example a path that is pram friendly.
- Some form of affordable public transportation into Whangarei is the biggest thing missing from the community.
- A direct train service or bus service between Hikurangi and Whangarei.
- A bus service or Park n' Ride to be used by Hikurangi commuters.

How can WDC and the Placemaking Plan address this:

- Support connectivity, walkability and accessibility within the Hikurangi Placemaking Plan.
- Explore and test opportunities to create a walking and cycling network within Hikurangi in reference to the wider Walking and Cycling Strategy.
- Support good quality design and traffic calming outcomes in Hikurangi.
- Work with Northland Transport Alliance (NTA) and Northland Regional Council (NRC) to identify public transport opportunities in Hikurangi.

Community Support

The people of Hikurangi value their community. They believe that more can be done to support community initiatives and volunteers in Hikurangi. Some also feel as though they have been neglected as a community.

Community feedback:

- Volunteers and volunteer run facilities could be better supported.
- There are less people who are willing to engaged and/or volunteer in the community.
- We live in a friendly, caring and tightknit community with a people focus.
- Local businesses and business owners.

How can WDC and the Placemaking Plan address this:

- The Hikurangi Placemaking Plan will be a shared vision between the Community, Council and key stakeholders and will provide a vehicle for community input into planning and development decisions.
- It will be a key tool for the community and council to feed into statutory processes, such as the District Plan, and be considered for Long Term Plan and annual plan funding.
- It will provide guidance to the community, including those seeking to develop.

Growth and Development

Due to their proximity to Whangarei City and the lifestyle Hikurangi offers, the community see their potential for population growth. They would like to see more infrastructure and housing development to accommodate this potential. Many also have concerns that the changes that come with this growth will lead to a loss of community, unique character and heritage.

Community feedback:

- Hikurangi needs to be growing and attracting more businesses and residents.
- There is a need for more infrastructure to support the extra people.
- Lots of people are interested in houses in Hikurangi but there is not a lot on offer.
- Lack of affordable housing available. Need to have the opportunity for more housing centrally within Hikurangi.

- Hikurangi has potential to accommodate growth (vacant land) but would likely change the character if too rapid.

How can WDC and the Placemaking Plan address this:

- Identify opportunities for redevelopment, infill and greenfield development potential in Hikurangi to guide future subdivision and diverse housing development.
- Provide a level of certainty for infrastructure providers, communities and potential developers and guide future investment in the District.
- Identify and prioritise projects and initiatives which celebrates Hikurangi's unique character and heritage.

5 The Tikipunga Placemaking Plan

Tikipunga was chosen as the second location to begin the Placemaking Programme. A key aspect of this decision was due to significant amount of population growth that has happened in Tikipunga, as well as the continuous projected growth.

The placemaking survey received 160 responses from Hikurangi.

There are 82 people who would like to be kept informed about the development of the Hikurangi Placemaking Plan.



We have also held meetings and discussions with the Tikipunga Community Led Projects Team, Tiki Pride, Tikipunga Highschool, Te Ora Hou, and Pehiaweri Marae trust. Written updates were sent to key community contacts during the COVID-19 lockdown. Information about the Tikipunga Placemaking Plan has also been published in the Tiki Pride newsletter - Otihau News.

5.1 Key Themes

From the feedback received, there were several reoccurring themes. These will be used to inform the development of the Tikipunga Placemaking Plan.

Change

- Tikipunga is experiencing a significant amount of population growth and with that growth comes change.
- These changes include increase in housing and pressure on public spaces and infrastructure.
- With this change comes the opportunity for the community to benefit by becoming better connected, increased facilities and amenities.

Diversity & Character

- The community love the place they live, the natural environment, the rural backdrop and the diverse people who live in Tikipunga.

- It was highlighted that people would like to better connect to and celebrate Tikipunga's cultural landscape, history and heritage.
- Tikipunga is very diverse and eclectic this gives them a unique character. Character is ever changing and this is something which should be celebrated.

Connectivity

- People would like to have more choice when it comes to movement.
- A lot of individuals enjoyed walking/cycling during the COVID-19 lockdown and enjoy the amenities which allow for this kind of passive recreation – such as Whangarei Falls.
- With increased growth and subdivisions people are noticing an increase in traffic movement and would like to see safer roads and intersections for driving and pedestrians.
- A key thing that they value is their proximity and connections to the city, and the coast.
- People want to see better quality, accessible footpaths.

5.2 Issues and Opportunities

From the feedback received, there were some key issues and opportunities raised which the Tikipunga Placemaking Plan can look to address.

Growth

A large portion of the feedback received was in concern of population growth and increase housing development. Although growth was highlighted as an opportunity people also commented on the effects it would have on their community.

Community Feedback:

- Increase in housing over the last five years and will continue to increase. Housing has impacted Tikipunga as it is much busier.
- Population increase will likely put stress on local services and outdoor spaces.
- Traffic congestion on roads will increase.
- Infrastructure problems following housing developments.
- Houses being built but no sense of community.
- Continued growth and gentrification.
- Development taking away the natural beauty, farmland, bush and waterways surrounding Tikipunga.

How can WDC and the Placemaking Plan address this:

- Highlight Tikipunga's unique and diverse character as a key feature to be considered within the Placemaking Plan and development opportunities.
- Support population growth with actions around the provision of infrastructure, amenities and key transport links to meet potential demand and capacity.
- Identify diverse housing and development opportunities in appropriate locations of Tikipunga to guide the community and potential developers and protect natural environment.

Safety and perceptions of safety

Many people commented on safety, security, anti-social behaviour and crime. Many aspects of this fall outside the scope of council, but such comments are often associated with rundown and uninviting public spaces and facilities in Tikipunga.

Community Feedback:

- It feels unsafe to walk the streets and at the Paramount shopping centre.
- Intimidating and anti-social people at the Tikipunga shops and shopping centre.
- There is a lack of street lights and CCTV cameras in Tikipunga.
- There is an obvious lack of pride in Tikipunga. Some areas need to be maintained better or beautified.
- There is a lack of activities for the youth in Tikipunga. Suggestions included a skate park, climbing structures, bike park and basketball court.
- Better and more diverse playgrounds and park facilities.

How can WDC and the Placemaking Plan address this:

- Explore options to increase the level of service in certain areas.
- Identify and prioritise projects and initiatives which celebrates Tikipunga's unique character and identity to generate community pride and sense of place.
- Support good quality design and CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) outcomes in Tikipunga to drive key actions and future investment and development by council and the community.
- Identify and prioritise projects which achieve good quality design outcomes, connectivity, activity and create safe and inviting spaces.
- Explore opportunities to develop amenities and activities for young people and families within the community.

Driver behaviour/Road safety

The feedback had comments about driver and pedestrian safety along busy roads and intersections in Tikipunga. This is strengthened by concerns about population growth and the increased demand on infrastructure. Streets and intersections were noted throughout the feedback, including Kiripaka Road, Corks Road, Herekino Street and Paramount Parade.

Community Feedback:

- Traffic and traffic speeds are a key concern.
- Need for slow streets in Tikipunga like Denby Crescent which has speed bumps.
- Intersections such as Kiripaka Road, Corks Road and Heretaunga Street is very hazardous at peak hours.
- There are not enough pedestrian crossings. There is a need for one on Corks road and on Kiripaka Road by Tikipunga High School.

How can WDC and the Placemaking Plan address this:

- Identify key streets and intersections and their current and future role in the wider Whangarei network. Identify gaps in the current transport network where future population growth needs to be accommodated for.
- Work with NTA and WDC design staff to explore and test opportunities to improve the transport network for all users.
- Support streetscape design and traffic calming initiatives for key streets and intersections in the placemaking plan.

- Support safer pedestrian crossings and walkability along the Tikipunga streets and at key intersections.

Active Transport

Walking & Cycling was a key activity during the COVID-19 lockdown for many individuals and improving on Tikipunga's walking, cycling and public transport networks was often noted as an opportunity. Many people want to be better connected to the surrounding features and amenities and the wider Whangarei networks (i.e. City Link busses, Kamo shared path).

Community Feedback:

- Better bike tracks to allow safer cycling to the city centre.
- Create a better link through Otangarei to the Kamo cycleway.
- Safer, better maintained and better lighting on walkways between streets and more suitable street tree planting to make streets more attractive.
- A need to upgrade and widen the footpaths for accessibility.

How can WDC and the Placemaking Plan address this:

- Support safety, connectivity, walkability and accessibility between key amenities in Tikipunga to create a stronger sense of a community heart.
- Explore and test opportunities to enhance and connect the walking & cycling network within Tikipunga, and outside Tikipunga in reference to the wider Walking and Cycling Strategy.
- Support good quality design and traffic calming outcomes in Tikipunga.
- Work with NTA and NRC to identify opportunities to improve the public transport network in Tikipunga.

6 Next steps



6.1 Stage 2 - Testing and Developing

We now have key themes for Hikurangi and Tikipunga which will inform our thinking as we move into the testing and development stage of each plan. Each location also has identified key issues and opportunities to be addressed.

What are we doing with this information:

- Discuss identified issues and opportunities with relevant internal staff and link identified issues and opportunities to future/existing council projects and strategies to further support this plan.
- Conduct further spatial analysis/mapping to identify key locations, sites and areas to look at in more detail.
- Test ideas and concepts with internal staff to align thinking and provide certainty around opportunities.
- Test ideas and concepts with key external stakeholders and community contacts.
- Begin identifying key outcomes, transformational moves, strategic locations and short, medium and long-term actions.
- Begin structuring the Hikurangi Placemaking Plan and the Tikipunga Placemaking Plan.

6.2 Community Engagement

Collaboration between internal staff and the community will remain a key factor as we move in to the testing and development stage of the process.

- The first round of engagement was intended to be simple, conversational and far reaching. This was to encourage engagement with those who would not normally engage with Council and include diverse perspectives.
- We have established key contacts with individuals and community groups as well as other external stakeholders. We will continue to update our contacts and invite them to engage with us further as we develop these plans.
- We will continue to run online discussions through our social media channels to build upon and maintain meaningful relationships with the Tikipunga and Hikurangi Community.
- Within the second round of engagement we hope to establish more interactive and workshop based connections. We will invite the community to contribute and support their vision by providing input and advice as well as challenge Whangarei District Council. This will help create a robust shared vision for Hikurangi and Tikipunga.

We will continue to face challenges with the possible risk of further COVID-19 restrictions. Within our process we aim to be flexible, adaptable and creative to ensure we gain the best possible outcomes for the communities we are working with, while continuing to progress with the Placemaking Programme. We will continue to learn from and document the limitations of our methods of engagement for future rounds of Placemaking planning.

2.2 Waterfront Precinct Plan Briefing

Meeting:	Council Briefing
Date of meeting:	25 August 2020
Reporting officer:	Injoo Riehl (Strategic Planner Strategy)

1 Purpose

The purpose of this briefing is to provide an update on the Waterfront Precinct Plan, a key action from the Whangarei City Centre Plan (2017) and to seek feedback on the proposed programme and scope.

2 Background

The Waterfront Precinct Plan is an action identified within the Whangarei City Centre Plan (approved by Council in December 2017).

Over the past 25 years, numerous plans and/or strategies have been developed and projects completed for the waterfront area. The proposed Waterfront Precinct Plan will bring these together to develop a cohesive vision for the waterfront area drawing on past work, planned budgeted projects and guiding future development in a consistent and integrated way.

3 Discussion

3.1 What is the proposed Waterfront Precinct Plan

The proposed Waterfront Precinct Plan will identify issues, opportunities and actions. The aim of the Plan is to create an integrated plan for the waterfront area with a 20-30-year shared vision for how the waterfront will guide change and development.

The Waterfront Plan will:

- Provide a strategic and design-led framework for the waterfront.
- Assess and present the key qualities, constraints, and opportunities.
- Align planning with the infrastructure programme in the Long-Term Plan.
- Balance infrastructure, amenity and environmental outcomes.
- Provide a level of certainty for infrastructure providers, communities and potential developers and guide future investment in the waterfront.
- Identify and prioritize projects based on Mana Whenua/community values.
- Provide a vehicle for community input into planning & development decisions.
- Acknowledge and incorporate existing and future planned and funded projects
- Recognise the Waterfront's history and cultural significance.

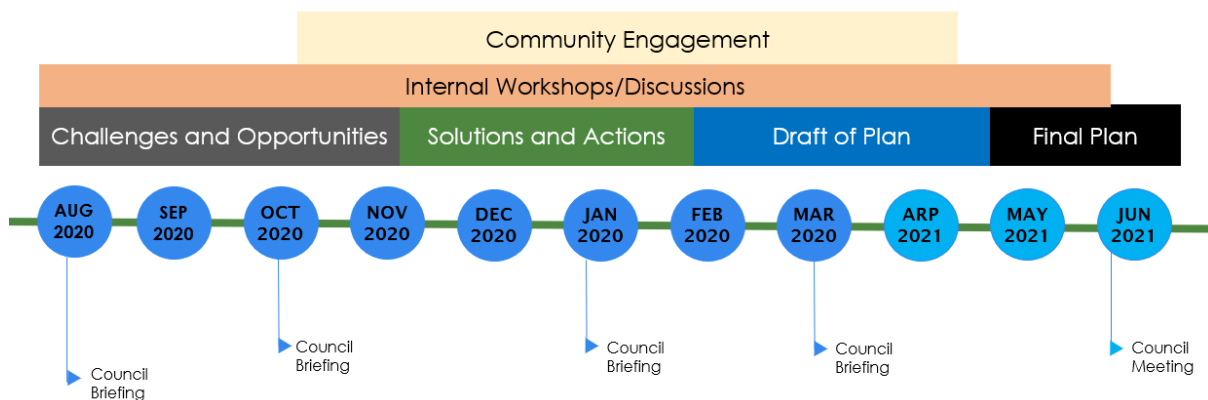
The Waterfront Plan will not:

- Be a statutory plan which can be enforced.
- Address detailed operational matters or the management of specific assets.
- Look at detailed design of projects, but rather trigger projects and provide a brief.
- Be fully implemented or achieved in the short term.

3.2 What process will be used?

The Waterfront Precinct Plan adopts a collaborative plan development process and engagement with elected members, mana whenua, key stakeholders and the community is key to understand their values, aspirations and vision for the Waterfront which will drive the Plan.

Elected Members will be regularly updated on the project and plan development process. During briefings Councillors will have opportunities to workshop and provide input into the Plan. There are in total 5 briefings planned, with the final Council Meeting planned for June 2021.



Engagement with Mana Whenua and key stakeholders will be targeted. This will mainly consist of meetings and workshops. Two rounds of wider community engagement will be undertaken in October/November 2020 and March/April 2021. The first round will be educating the public on the plan, understanding the qualities values, issues and opportunities and direction setting. The second round will ask the community for feedback on the draft Plan.

Ongoing conversations with our hapū partners and key stakeholders may be held throughout the process. The project timeline will assist to guide the development of the Plan however, we would like work alongside elected members, hapū partners, key stakeholders and the community at a pace comfortable to them.

3.3 Next Steps

Dependant on feedback from elected members the next steps will include:

- Continue work on qualities, issues/challenges and opportunities (including desktop mapping).
- Develop communications and engagement plan for the first round of engagement.
- Bring both the engagement plan and the issues analysis back to elected members for feedback.

4 Attachment

Attachment 1 Waterfront Precinct briefing presentation



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WATERFRONT PRECINCT PLAN

Council Briefing

Tuesday 25th August 2020

- What is a Precinct Plan?
- Rationale
- Plan scope
- Timeframes
- Public Engagement
- Discussion



What is a Precinct Plan³¹

Precinct Plans outline a 20-30 year vision and set the direction for an area. The plans are:

- Collaborative
- Design led
- A tool to integrate land-use and infrastructure planning
- Outcomes driven



Why do we need the Waterfront Precinct Plan?³²



- Action from Whangarei City Centre Plan
- Vision for our Waterfront
- Co-ordinate planning and infrastructure investment
- Identify opportunities
- Vehicle to work in partnership with Mana Whenua, key stakeholders, the private sector and the community

Building on our previous work³³

(1996) 20/20 Traffic Management & Central Area Study

(2006) 20/20: + living the vision (20/20 Plus)

(2015) Hihiaua Precinct Plan

(2013) William Fraser Memorial Park on Pohe Island Reserve Management Plan

(2016) Whangarei 20/20 Momentum

(2017) Whangarei City Centre Plan

(2019) William Fraser Memorial Park on Pohe Island Masterplan

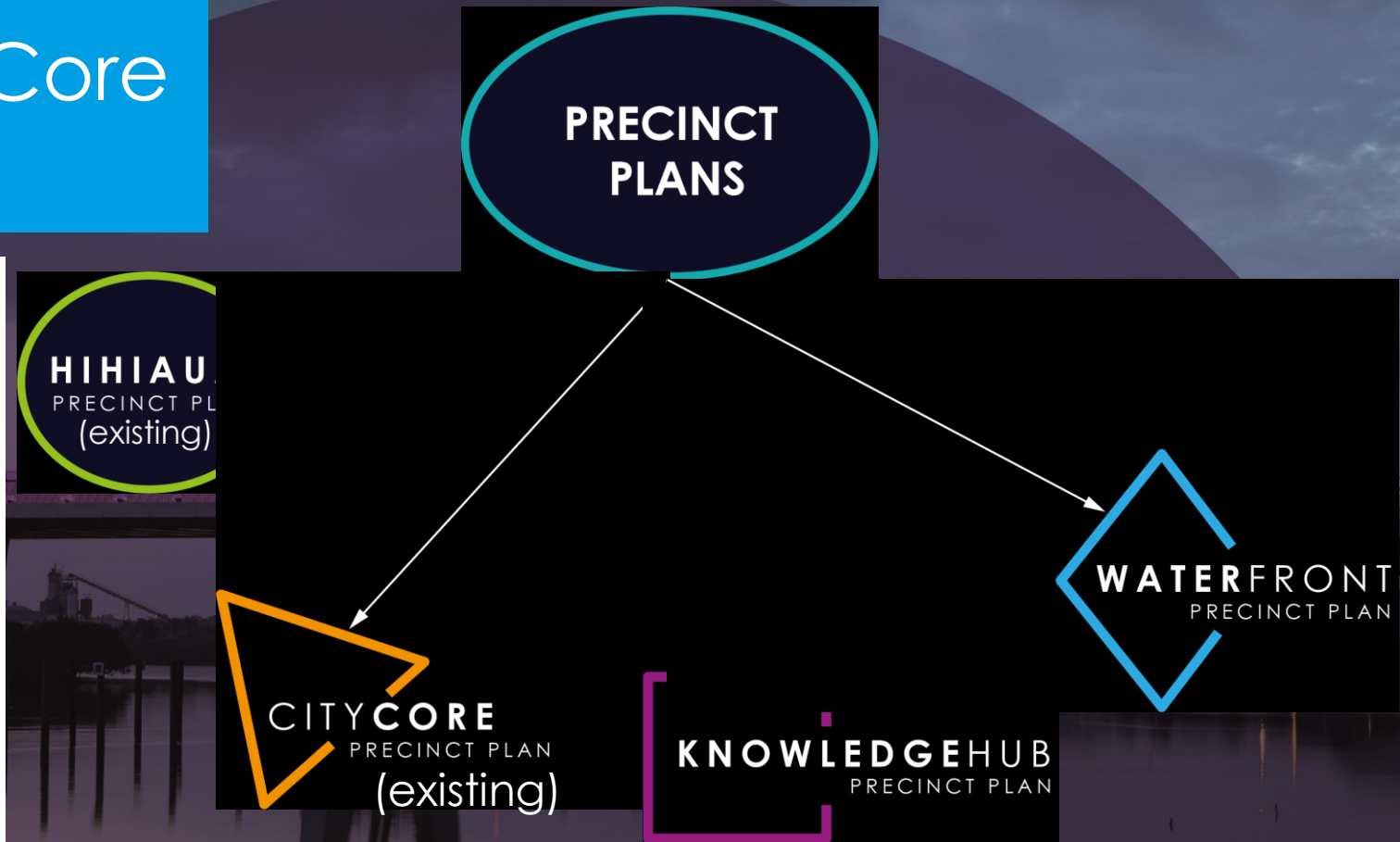
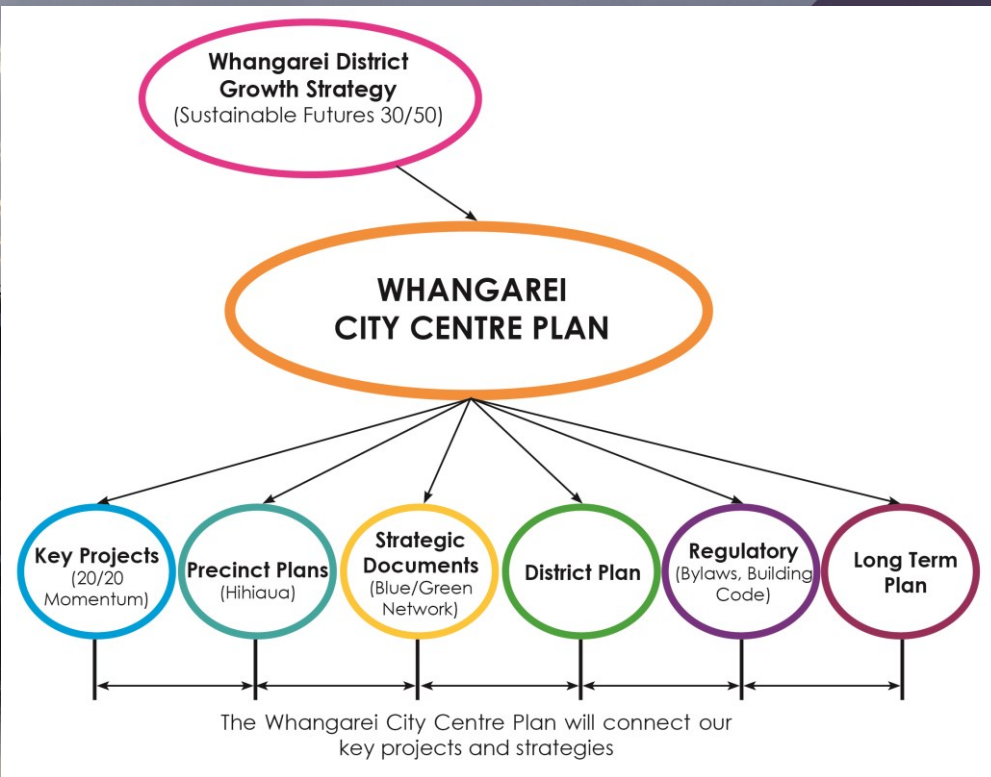
(2019) City Core Precinct Plan

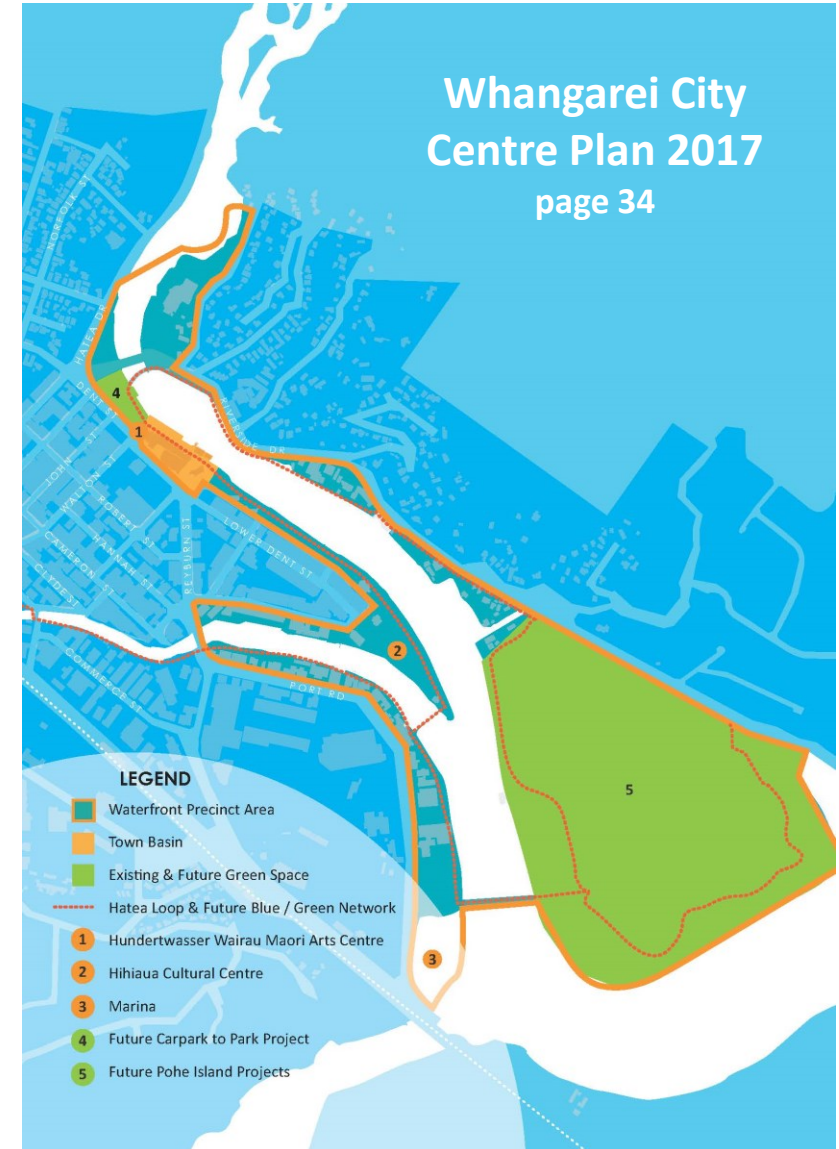
(2020) Whangarei Urban and Services Plan Change

Other Strategies, Plans and Bylaws

- (2003) Urban Growth Strategy
- (2010) Whangarei Growth Strategy Sustainable Futures 30/50
- (2016) Blue Green Network Strategy
- Long Term Plan 2018-2028
- (2018) Walking & Cycling Strategy
- (2017) Freedom Camping Bylaw
- (2014) Public Spaces Bylaw

Where does the City Core Precinct Plan fit?





What the Plan will do

- Provide a strategic and design-led framework.
- Assess key qualities, constraints, and opportunities.
- Align planning and infrastructure investment.
- Balance infrastructure, amenity and environmental outcomes .
- Guide future investment/development.
- Identify and prioritize projects based on Mana Whenua/community values.
- Provide a vehicle for Mana Whenua and the community's input.
- Acknowledge and incorporate projects.
- Recognize the waterfronts history and cultural significance.

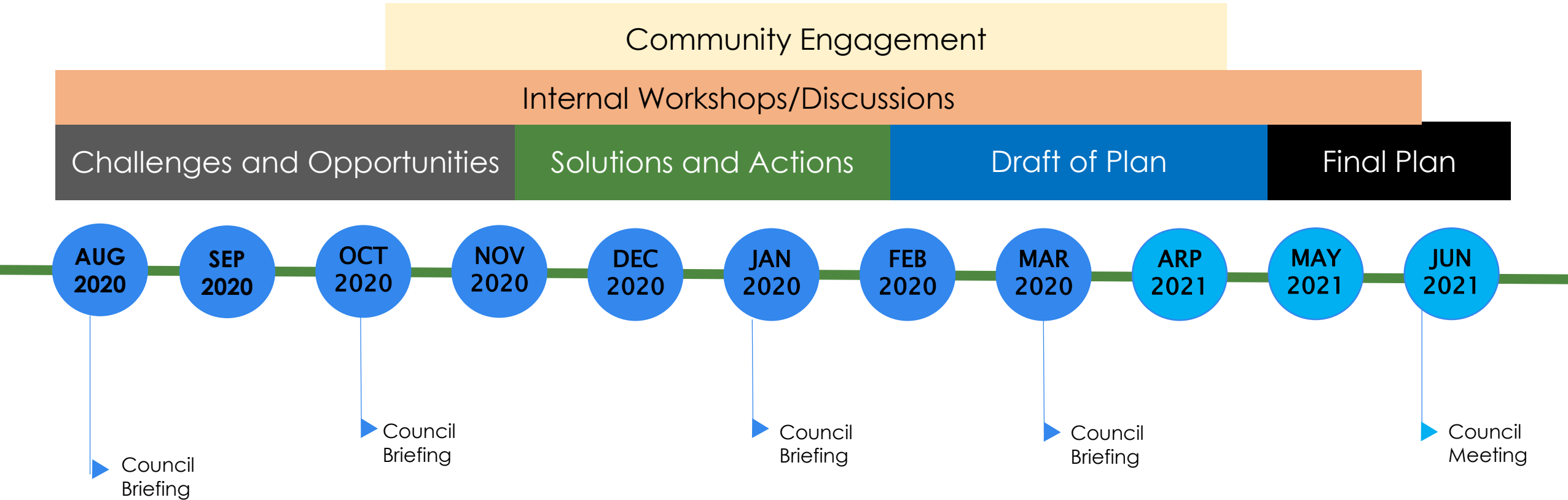


What the Plan will not do³⁷



- Be a statutory plan which can be enforced.
- Address detailed operational matters or the management of specific assets.
- Look at detailed design of projects, but rather trigger projects and provide a brief.
- Be fully implemented or achieved in the short term.

WATERFRONT | Timeframes³⁸



Consultation approach³⁹

- Elected members updates/workshops
- Internal working/steering group
 - option- reference group
- Targeted engagement
 - hapū partners
 - key stakeholders
- 2 rounds of community public engagement
 - option to re-establish 'the Jewel of the City report'



Next Steps

Key direction needed on:

Comfort to start the Waterfront Precinct Plan

Discussion

- Vision for Waterfront
- What are the challenges/issues and opportunities faced in the Waterfront Precinct?
- Are there any key areas of focus/priorities?