

The background of the slide is a stylized, dark blue map of the Whangarei District. The map shows a network of roads, rivers, and coastal features. The map is overlaid with a large, semi-transparent white rectangle that contains the title and subtitle text. The title is in a large, white, sans-serif font, and the subtitle is in a smaller, white, sans-serif font.

# Draft Whangarei District Growth Strategy Update

Council Briefing 11 August


# Overview

1. Purpose for today's briefing
2. Recap and feedback from last briefing (20<sup>th</sup> May 2020)
3. Engagement up to this point
4. Overview of draft Growth Strategy
5. Consultation approach
6. Corridor Plan update
7. New National Policy Statement on Urban Development

# Purpose of today's briefing

- Provide an update on the Draft Whangarei District Growth Strategy
- Seek direction on a second round of public consultation for the Draft Whangarei District Growth Strategy
- Provide an update on the Northland to Auckland Corridor Plan
- Provide an overview of recent changes to the National Policy Statement on Urban Development

# Process so far

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- The Draft Whangarei District Growth Strategy has been developed through two streams of work:
    - A full review of Sustainable Future 30 / 50 (our 2010 Growth Strategy)
    - Compliance with the National Policy Statement on Urban Development
  - In May 2019, Council endorsed a Consultation Draft of the Whangarei District Growth Strategy.
  - Consultation followed in June 2019
  - The Strategy was then refined, incorporating that feedback, through to December 2019.
  - Elected members received updates on the Draft Whangarei District Growth Strategy over December 2019, February 2020 and May 2020.



# Recap from last briefing

The 6<sup>th</sup> of May 2020 briefing covered the following:

## **Scope and role of the Growth Strategy**

### **Key strategic issues that the Strategy will identify:**

- Population growth and development
- Sustainable economy
- Housing
- Climate change
- Transport
- Resilient infrastructure
- Precious natural environment
- Northport and navy base

## **Our response to the key strategic issues:**

- Future development plan
- Placemaking
- Actions
- Northland to Auckland Corridor Plan
- Monitoring and reporting

## **COVID-19 Impacts**

# Engagement up until today

Since the last briefing, we have engaged with staff at a range of agencies including:

1. Te Huinga
2. NZTA / MoT
3. Ministry for the Environment
4. Ministry of Education
5. Northland Regional Council
6. Kaipara District Council
7. Ministry of Housing and Urban Development / Kainga Ora

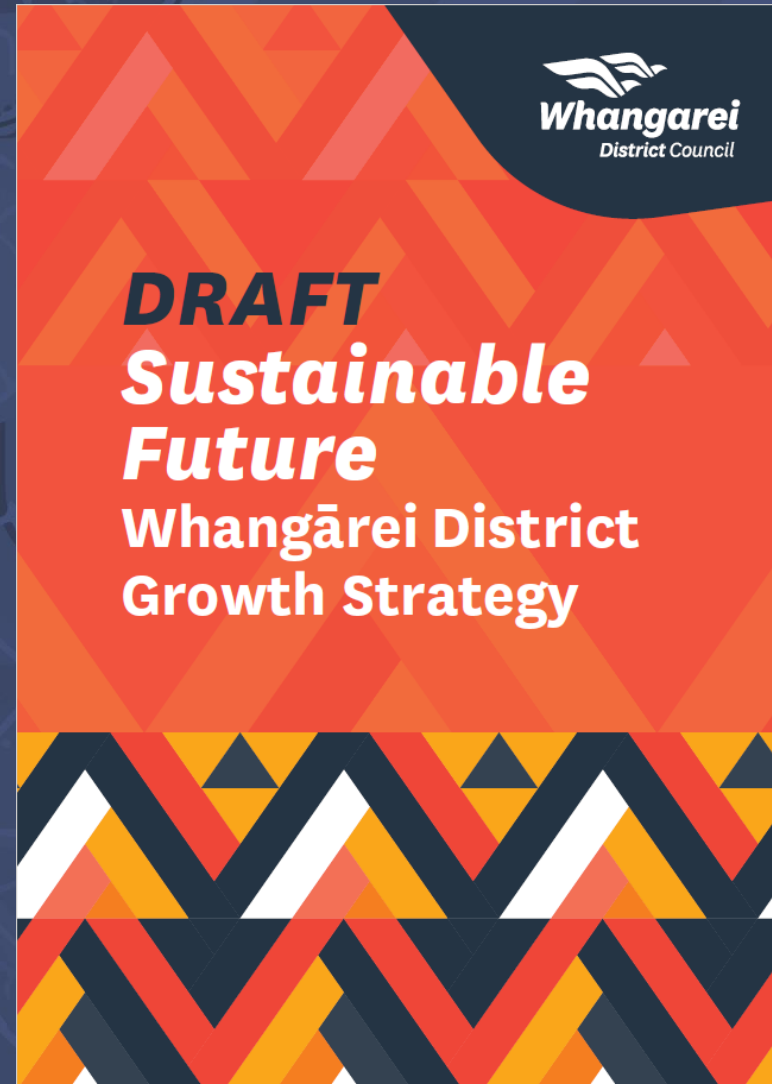
Discussions have also taken place with teams across Council

# Overview

Still in draft – typos / readability will be looked at before consultation

A lot changes with Government policy direction, so some parts will need to be further refined

Structure and content based on the 2019 Draft Strategy which Council endorsed for consultation





# Draft Growth Strategy snapshot



## Growth Strategy at a glance

To meet demand, over the next 30 years we will need to accommodate:

- 12,000 – 20,000 new homes to be built between now and 2050
- 520 – 560 hectares of business land between now and 2050

We can provide enough land and infrastructure to meet this need across our urban areas and key growth nodes.



### Key transport and key growth nodes WHANGĀREI DISTRICT

- STATE HIGHWAY
- RAILWAY
- ARTERIAL ROADS
- HIGH GROWTH AREAS
- MODERATE GROWTH AREAS



## STRATEGIC DRIVERS

These are the strategic issues that our District will face over the next 30 years and beyond.



### 1. Sustained growth and development

We are one of the fastest growing Districts in New Zealand. This growth provides amazing opportunities, but also needs to be carefully managed.



### 2. Successful economy

As our economy recovers from COVID-19 we will see growth in manufacturing, health care and construction. We need to ensure we provide enough land for our businesses to grow.



### 3. Housing needs

We have enough land and infrastructure to meet future demands for housing. But we have limited choice of housing options and affordability is becoming an increasingly severe issue.



### 4. Changing climate and natural hazards

We are at risk from the impacts of our changing climate. We must do what we can to reduce our emissions and make sure we build resilience into existing and future communities.



### 5. Resilient infrastructure

Our infrastructure must keep pace with our high levels of growth. We also need to ensure we are resilient to future events such as drought, whilst making sure we meet our communities' expectations for services.



### 6. Transport choice

As we grow, we need to provide a choice of transport options to ensure people can move easily and safely around our District. We also need to improve our connections to outside the District through rail and highway improvements.



### 7. Natural environment

Continued development is putting pressure on our natural environment. If we continue to sprawl some of our most precious landscape and productive land will be lost.



### 8. Port and marine industry

Expansion of Northport, moving the Navy base to Whangārei and a new drydock facility has the potential to transform our economy and delivery new training opportunities. 1000's of jobs will be created and our whole community will benefit from improved infrastructure. This will need to be delivered in a way that is not at detriment of our natural environment.

## TREATY OF WAITANGI OBLIGATIONS

Whangārei District Council is committed to the successful development and implementation of the Growth Strategy with the guidance and knowledge from our Māori partners under our obligations to the Treaty of Waitangi.

## OUR RESPONSE

This section sets out a response to our ongoing growth and our key strategic drivers. This response comprises of five parts:



### 1. Future Development Plan

This will set out our plan for future development across our District.



### 2. Placemaking Programme

Detailed 30-year plans will be created with our community for key growth locations across our District.



### 3. Northland to Auckland Corridor Plan

A corridor plan will be established to focus on the growth areas between Whangārei and North Auckland.



### 4. Monitoring and reporting framework

To ensure our decision making is robust, we will undertake an ongoing programme of monitoring key indicators.



### 5. Actions

The actions outline the steps we will take to deliver the outcomes of the strategy.

## PERFORMANCE GOALS

**80%** of people will have 30-minute travel time to their place of work or education

**70%** or more of new residential building consents are located within our urban area or growth nodes

**2%** annual average increase in jobs

**10%** or more new residential building consents are apartments and townhouses

**15%** improvement in housing affordability, based on the HAM first home buyer measure.

**1.5%** annual increase in inner city residents for the first 5 years, then 5% annual increase.



# Draft Actions from the Growth Strategy

Focus action areas from the Draft Growth Strategy;

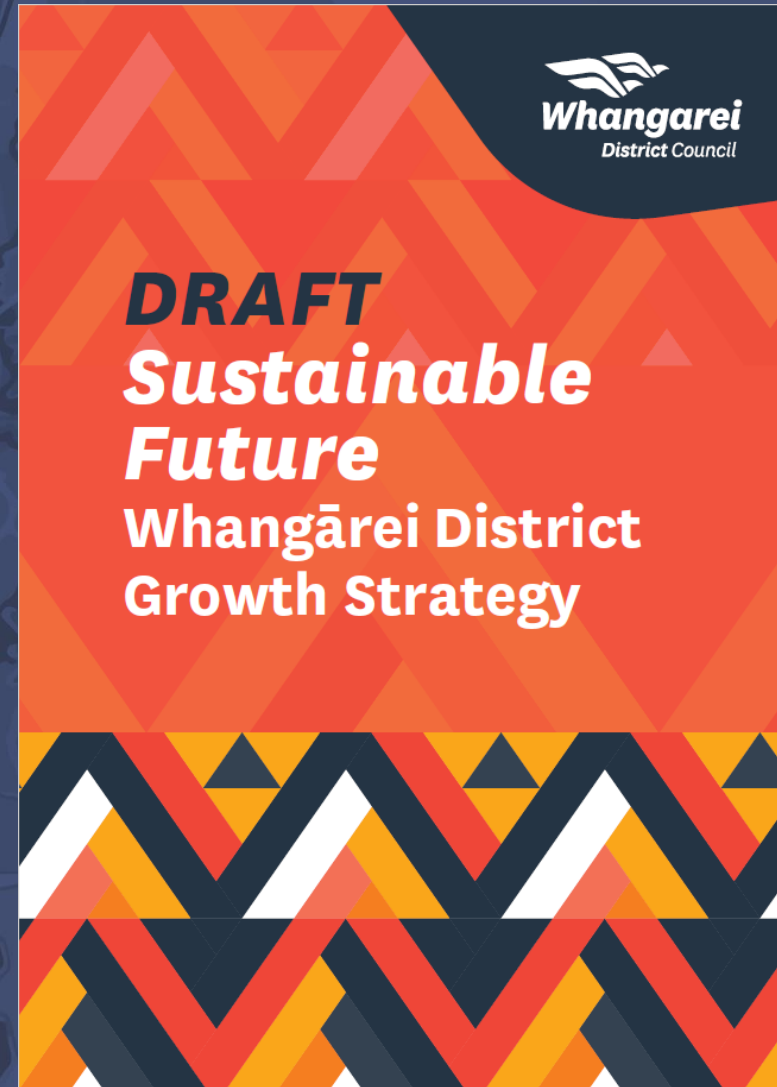
1. Housing and Business Land Demand.
2. Climate Change and Natural Hazards.
3. Climate Change.
4. Inner-city living.
5. Housing Choice and Affordability.
6. Blue Green Network.
7. Rural Economy.
8. Strategic Partnership and Advocacy.
9. Inter-regional planning.

The actions have been driven by a range of factors;

- Council have statutory obligations that need to be fulfilled from the National Policy Statement of Urban Development and the National Policy Statement on Highly Productive Soils.
- The actions identified are consistent with the Strategic Drivers identified in the Draft Growth Strategy.
- Actions are in line with the avenues of work Council are already underway with.

All actions will be reviewed/renewed annually.

# Second round of Consultation



# Consultation round 2

The reasons that a second round of consultation is advantageous include:

- Since the May 2019 Consultation, we have been able to incorporate new data and direction from Central Government including:
  - 2018 Census results
  - New National Policy Statements
  - Progress on key programmes such as Placemaking, Northland to Auckland Corridor Plan
- Impacts of COVID-19 and alignment with Council's COVID-19 response
- Feedback received on the Growth Strategy can help inform direction setting/priorities on the 2021 – 31 Long Term Plan.
- Gives another opportunity for the community to provide feedback



# Consultation round 2

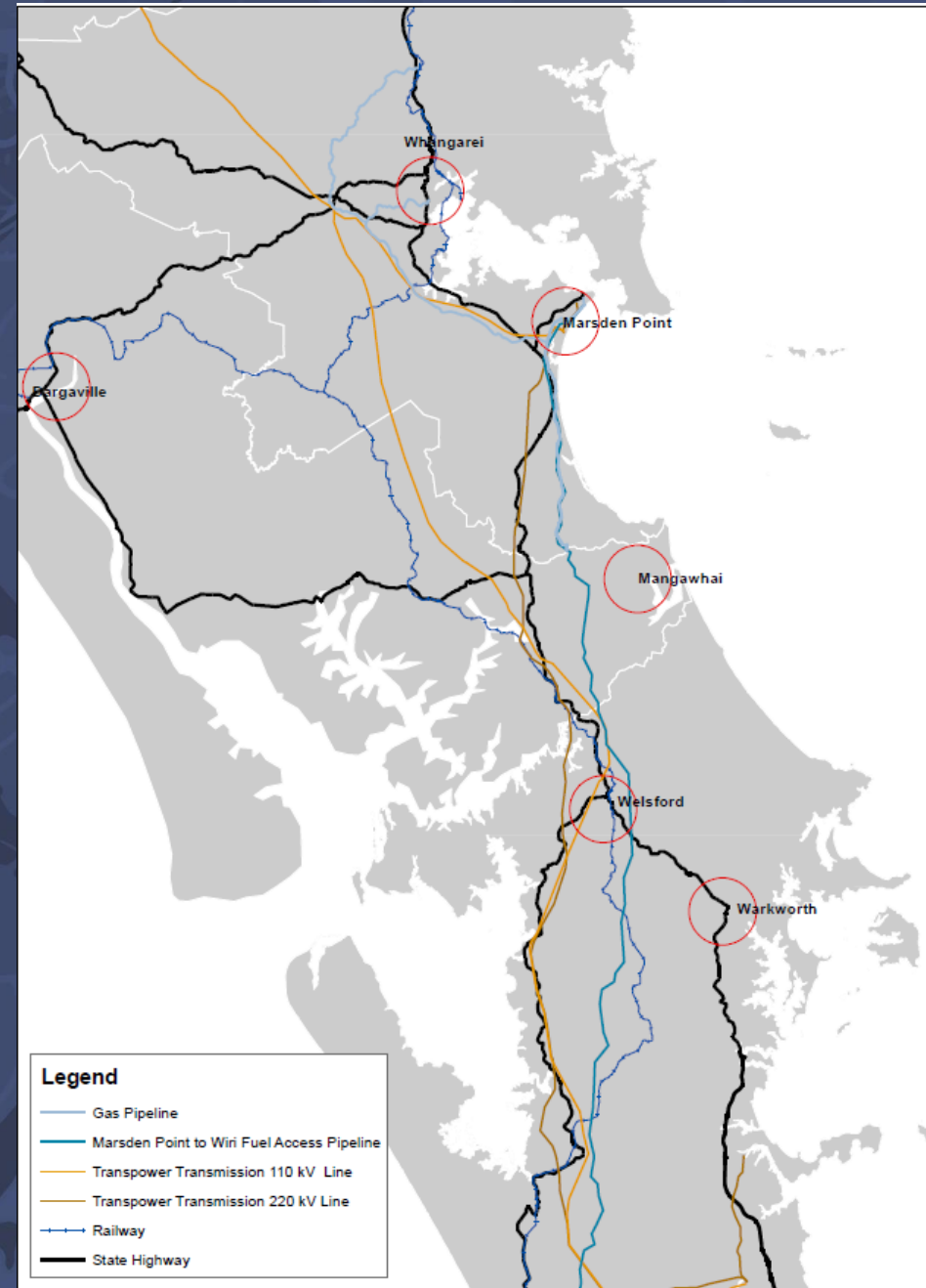
As noted in the 20<sup>th</sup> of May briefing, greater clarity was requested on what consultation will look like. It was also noted that budgetary limitations will impact on our approach to consultation.

What could consultation look like:

- All parties who provided feedback in June 2019 will be contacted and invited to provide further feedback
- Targeted workshops with key stakeholders and partners including government agencies, neighbouring councils and Te Huinga / Te Karearea
- Online form and / or survey to get broad public feedback
- Advisory group workshops
- Visual presence and hardcopy forms at Libraries and service centres
- 4 to 6 week consultation period (although the target workshops will likely be ongoing)
- Following consultation all the feedback will be presented to Council for consideration along with any recommended changes to the growth strategy.



# Northland to Auckland Corridor Plan update



# Northland to Auckland Corridor Plan

An inter-regional spatial plan is proposed from Auckland through to the Far North District. This plan will be a joint exercise between Local Government, Central Government and iwi and hāpu.

An overview of the proposal was given at the 20 May briefing.

Since then the lead agency, Ministry of Housing and Urban Development has confirmed that the Northland to Auckland Corridor plan is on the approved work programme and has been endorsed by Minister Twyford.

# Northland to Auckland Corridor Plan Update

The spatial scope of the plan is likely to extend from Wellsford through to Kawakawa, incorporating Dargaville, Mangawhai, Marsden – Ruakaka and Whangarei Urban Area.

Prior to the Corridor Plan work starting, the following has been proposed by officials from MHUD:

- Government officials to present to Council on the programme, process and expected outcomes
- Paper to Northland Forward Together on political oversight of the programme
- Elected member input into scope, key issues and solutions

Work on the Corridor Plan likely to start in early 2021.

# National Policy Statement on Urban Development

Gazetted on 23 July

Whangarei Urban Area no longer defined as 'High Growth'. Sits as a "Tier 2" area along with Rotorua, New Plymouth, Napier/Hastings, Palmerston North, Queenstown and Dunedin

Some things are unchanged:

- Still need to assess our housing and business land demand and our capacity to meet that demand
- Still need to develop a Future Development Strategy/Plan
- Still need to monitor and report on our development and housing indicators

Some things are new:

- Removal of the ability for Councils to specify minimum carparking requirements in District Plans
- Provides for unanticipated or out of sequence plan changes that provide a significant development capacity (meeting certain criteria)
- Greater detail for the Future Development Strategy on planning outcomes – quality urban environments, transport links and intensification
- Greater focus on hapu input in decision making and direction setting



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# Next Steps

**Happy to receive feedback now or via email on the draft document**

**If there is comfort in a second round of consultation we will:**

- **Update the document based on the information received/improve readability etc**
- **Develop a consultation plan**
- **Seek formal endorsement to consult for Council**
- **Continue to work with partners and stakeholder on the plan**

**Arrange a workshop/briefing with government officials on the Northland to Auckland Corridor Plan**

**If needed, arrange a workshop/briefing to discuss the impacts of the RMA reforms and National Policy Statement requirements**