

## Council Briefing Agenda

**Date:** Wednesday, 11 November, 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. Waterfront Precinct Plan Update and Workshop**

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**3. Closure of Meeting**

## 2.1. Waterfront Precinct Plan Update and Workshop

Meeting: Council Briefing

Date of meeting: 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Reporting officer: Injoo Riehl (Strategic Planner)

### 1 Purpose

- To seek feedback on the proposed first round of engagement on the Waterfront Precinct Plan.
- To workshop with Councillors the key issues and opportunities facing the Waterfront Precinct area.

### 2 Background

At the Council Briefing on 25 August 2020, elected members expressed comfort to start the Waterfront Precinct Plan.

The development of the Waterfront Precinct Plan is an action from the Whangarei City Centre Plan 2017, which was adopted by Council at the Planning and Development Committee on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2017.

It is the second of three Precinct Plans which the Whangarei City Centre Plan actioned. The first was the City Core Precinct Plan, adopted by Council at the Council Meeting on 20 May 2019.

### 3 Discussion

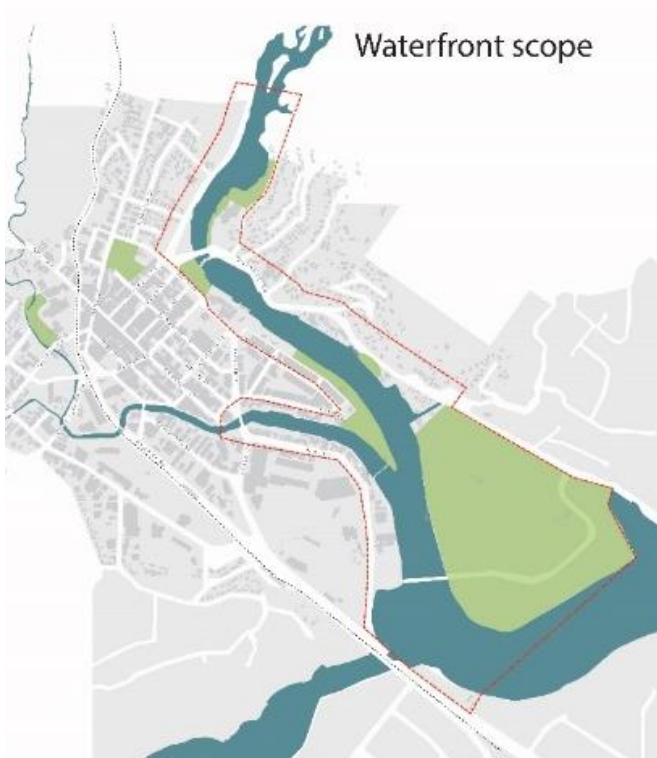
#### 3.1 Re-cap on the Purpose of the Precinct Plan

The aim of the Waterfront Precinct Plan is to create a cohesive integrated plan which outlines our 20-30-year shared vision for how the waterfront will change and develop. It will also be a key tool to bring together the numerous waterfront related projects which Council has already committed to, such as Pohe Island development, Hatea Loop, New Town Basin Park and the Town Basin playground upgrade.

This image highlights the scope of the Waterfront Precinct Plan area (outlined in the red dashed line). It will also consider neighbouring areas and their relationships including;

- Whangarei City (city core precinct)

- Northland Events Centre
- Okara Park
- Whangarei harbour
- Onerahi
- Mairtown



Although similar in format to the City Core Precinct Plan, the Waterfront Precinct Plan process will begin with community and stakeholder engagement as well as an interactive workshop with elected members.

### 3.2 Proposed public engagement

Staff are currently preparing for the first round of engagement. It is proposed that this will commence from Wednesday 18 of November until December 16 of December. Working closely with key stakeholders, mana whenua and the Whangarei community is considered critical to the success and implementation of the Waterfront Precinct Plan.

The first round of engagement will provide for education and feedback on both the Waterfront Precinct Plan, and the current projects being planned for or undertaken in the Waterfront area. The feedback we receive from this round of engagement will help us begin to build a shared vision for the Waterfront. Understanding the waterfront's qualities/values, issues and opportunities will help to shape the strategic long-term direction. Our approach to community engagement is to be inclusive, meaningful and genuine. While we invite the public to engage with us in the form of a wider community discussion, we will also have targeted mana whenua and key stakeholder engagements.

Our engagement methods include:

- Promotional signage on the Hatea loop
- Targeted meetings and workshops with mana whenua, key stakeholders and advisory groups (PAG, YAG, DAG)
- Council News articles
- Online survey
- Website and the use of social media (Facebook)
- Instagram photo competition
- Activations at the night market and artisan markets
- Meeting/hui with key stakeholders
- Meeting/hui for the general public
- Drop in sessions

### 3.3 Councillor Workshop

At the Council Briefing on Wednesday 11th November we will be holding an interactive workshop with elected members. This workshop will be focused on defining the Waterfronts key issues/challenges and opportunities. The feedback received by Councillors will be incorporated into the Waterfront Precinct Plan.

This approach is proposed in response to Councillors having requested more meaningful input in to the direction setting of strategic planning documents.

After an initial presentation by staff, Councillors will break into smaller groups. Drawing on previous strategies/plans, individual knowledge and your expertise, we will collectively brainstorm and discuss key issues/challenges, opportunities and the overall vision of the waterfront.

#### Workshop guidance/ Process

- In the beginning, those in attendance will be divided into three groups. There will be 3 rounds of discussion about a particular topic. Each round is approximately 15-20 mins each.
- Each round is prompted with a **series of questions** crafted for the themed issue/challenge/opportunity. Please use the questions as a guide to stimulate discussion about the relevant topic area
- At the end of the round, **elected members will move to the next table**. A council staff facilitator will stay at the table and welcome the next group.
- At the end of the workshop, **staff will summarise** what was discussed, insights or other results from their conversations with the larger group.
- Then there will be an **opportunity for everyone** to contribute/share final insights.
- Reference maps have been created based on previous strategies, plans and discussions. These were developed to assist in demonstrating the key issues/challenges and prompt discussion.

#### Workshop questions

##### Series 1 Connectivity & Amenity

1. What do you love about the waterfront?

2. Why do you visit the waterfront? What do you do there?
3. What are the key areas we need to connect? Why?
4. What users (pedestrian, cyclists, motorists or public transport users) should be prioritized and where?

### **Series 2 Natural & Physical Environment**

1. Our changing climate and hazards (such as flooding) need to be taken into account for future development. In line of our developing Climate Action Plan, what mitigation and adaptation solutions could Council consider in the waterfront?
2. What kind of buildings and activities do you envision in the waterfront?
3. How can council facilitate well designed, high-quality development(s)?
4. What has council done well/successfully in the waterfront area? How can we build on this good work?

### **Series 3 Destination**

1. What is the Waterfronts role within the district/region?
2. What needs to be improved? And why? Is there anything missing?
3. Can you see yourself living in the waterfront? Where should residential living be promoted?
4. Who else in council/outside of council should we be talking to?

## **4 Outcome of the workshop and next steps**

- Comfort from Elected members to start the first round of engagement
- Comfort from Elected members on first round of engagement methods/stakeholders

If there is comfort to proceed staff will come back to Council in February 2021 with feedback from the first round of engagement.