

## **Council Briefing Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** Wednesday, 11 November, 2020  
**Time:** 1:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Council Chamber  
Forum North, Rust Avenue  
Whangarei

**In Attendance**

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

**Scribe** Danielle Garner (Trainee Democracy Adviser)

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### **1. Apologies**

There were no apologies.

Her Worship convened the briefing at 13:00.

Dominic Kula (General Manager – Strategy and Democracy) introduced Injoo Riehl (Strategic Planner), who would be leading today's activity workshop. The purpose of today's briefing is to receive feedback regarding the Waterfront Precinct Plan and discuss any significant topics that may arise in the session today.

### **2. Reports**

#### **2.1 Waterfront Precinct Plan Update and Workshop**

Injoo Riehl commenced a short presentation that covered the purpose of the briefing, a recap of the Waterfront Precinct Plan, the proposed first round of engagement, key issues and challenges, and the next steps in the process.

**Elected Members feedback and discussion included:**

- How do we manage messaging around tying in private development such as Oruku Landing, to the Waterfront Precinct Plan?
- Regarding techniques of implementation, is commercial property influence being considered in the development of that area?
- One Elected Member suggested setting up staff-manned stations at strategic points of the Town Basin walkway and handing out flyers for more public engagement.
- Other key stakeholders to be considered are real estate agents, service clubs and established residents along the walkway.
- One Elected Member felt that after so much prior discussion, Council should be confident enough to produce a firm direction for what Council would like to see in future development.
- It is up to Council to engage with the public, as this is a further refinement of the precinct.

Injoo Riehl commenced the activity workshop for Elected Members, who split into three groups for discussion to provide feedback on the following aspects:

- Series 1: Connectivity and Amenity
- Series 2: Natural and Physical Environment
- Series 3: Destination

**Elected Member feedback from the activity workshop:**

**Series 1: Connectivity and Amenity**

Alicia Lawrie (Strategic Urban Designer) summarised Elected Member feedback on Connectivity and Amenity:

- There was a lot of crossover from groups that the water itself was what people most loved about the waterfront.

- Elected Members enjoy the natural environment, wildlife and the views on offer. It was felt there was a diverse range of experiences to be had, such as art, recreation, shopping, dining and the connection to the boats.
- Shared walkways were deemed important. Carparking should be easier and with more options.
- The Dent Street pedestrian crossing is considered the “stitch” connecting the city centre to the waterfront.

### **Series 2: Natural and Physical Environment**

Tony Horton (Manager - Strategy) summarised Elected Member feedback on Natural and Physical Environment:

- Climate change was discussed, with clear points made around storm water being managed in an integrated way.
- Do we have a storm water strategy? Her Worship requested Cr Martin to investigate this and what it entails.
- Hard infrastructure, such as a sea wall, or natural systems for flooding should be considered.
- It was felt that development around environment, hospitality, cafes, restaurants and linking the Hundertwasser and playground would maximise the waterfront.
- The Town Basin shared walkway loop and public gathering spaces have been very successful, so all future activity should compliment and build on those successes.

### **Series 3: Destination**

Dominic Kula summarised Elected Member feedback on Destination:

- Key themes discussed were amenity, attracting people to the waterfront, keeping them there and connectivity to local areas.

- A key point raised was that the waterfront acts as a window to our heritage and we should recognise this in a space that is already a social hub and free space.
- More discussions around connectivity raised the suggestion of neon paint being a cheap and cheerful way of keeping areas connected.
- More access points to the waterfront were discussed along with leveraging off the history within the waterfront and Parihaka.
- 11 out of 14 Elected Members would not personally live on the waterfront. One Elected Member suggested creating a clearer connection from the waterfront to inner city living.
- It was felt that the opinions of different demographics, particularly youths, would be valuable.
- Marina Trust should be listed as a key stakeholder.

Her Worship concluded the discussions generally showed support for proceeding with community engagement.

### **3. Closure of Meeting**

The Briefing closed at 14:31.