

Council Briefing Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, 16 February, 2021
Time: 9:00 a.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)

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cr Golightly for late arrival. Cr Deeming arrived at 9:12am and Cr Connop arrived at 9:25am.

Her Worship the Mayor convened the briefing at 9:00am and handed over to Injoo Riehl (Strategic Planner) for the presentation.

2. Reports

2.1 Waterfront Precinct Plan first round of engagement update and briefing

Ms Riehl commenced the presentation which provided a summary of feedback from the first round of engagement, overview of engagement tools and the next steps going forward.

Elected members feedback and discussion included:

- An Elected Member wanted to know if there was a plan to introduce more parking. Mr Dominic Kula (General Manager – Strategy & Democracy) said prioritization for parking was talked about in the LTP, and money had been set aside for a feasibility study.
- In response to a question regarding whether the demographic information was captured within the online survey, Ms Riehl said it had not. Survey participants only disclosed if they were responding as an individual or on behalf of a business.
- There was a discussion around connectivity of shared walkways to the Town Basin and the importance of improving this. Ms Riehl noted that although the Waterfront Precinct Plan has a defined scope and area, interconnectivity should be considered throughout this process.
- Her Worship sought and received confirmation from Ms Riehl that there is an integrated way of thinking in solutions being brought forward, for example, considering e-bikes, mobility scooters and desired lines of pathways.
- When businesses and residents around the Waterfront were visited and introduced to the Waterfront Precinct Plan, Ms Riehl said that some small business owners were frustrated with Council while others were happy with Council's response. Some businesses said communication and how communication is delivered could be improved. Businesses along Riverside said that Council could have an assistance role to relocate businesses when and if redevelopment occurred, and Council should clearly communicate what is being done and provide timeframes.
- In response to the suggestion of more trees at Pohe Island, Her Worship advised that due to parameters, trees must be above ground in containers, so their roots do not interfere with the capping of the previous landfill.
- Northland Regional Council are working with Whangarei District Council to find solutions for water quality, sedimentation and planning.
- Ms Riehl agreed that access points to the water could be enhanced and that, during the feedback, a lot of support was received for more pontoons.
- An Elected Member felt that a new parking building being centrally located was important, especially for accessibility and connectivity.

- Ms Riehl advised another interactive workshop, this time regarding what draft actions will look like, would take place in April.
- Mr Kula noted intent to keep up Elected Member involvement with more interactive workshops in the future. He said Elected Members should keep in mind broader discussions and connect them to feedback in upcoming workshops.

3. Closure of Meeting

The briefing concluded at 14:53.