

Council Briefing Agenda

Date: 1 September, 2021

Time: 9:00 am

Location: Virtual Meeting Room

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 briefing

1

3. Closure of Meeting

2.1 Waterfront Precinct Plan Briefing

Meeting: Council Briefing
Date of meeting: 1 September 2021
Reporting officer: Injoo Riehl – Strategic Planner

1. Purpose

The purpose of this briefing is to:

- Update Elected Members on the draft Waterfront Precinct Plan second round of engagement approach and findings.
- Seek comfort from Elected Members on the suggested changes to the draft Waterfront Precinct Plan based on the feedback received.

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 Whangārei City Centre Plan 2017, which was adopted by Council at the Planning and Development Committee on 13 December 2017.

It is the second of three Precinct Plans which the Whangārei City Centre Plan actioned. The first was the City Core Precinct Plan, adopted by Council at the Council Meeting on 20 May 2019. The third Precinct Plan identified actioned is the Knowledge Hub Precinct Plan to be completed.

Following the Council Briefing on 25 August 2020 work began on the development of the Waterfront Precinct Plan. This started with an interactive workshop with Elected Members on 11 November 2020 to set the strategic direction and discuss key issues and opportunities in the waterfront area. Following public engagement in 18 November – 10 January 2021, staff presented the feedback received from the first round of engagement at a briefing on 16 February 2021. Following this another workshop was held on 7 April 2021 with Elected Members to outline the proposed structure of the draft Waterfront Precinct Plan and workshop draft priority actions. This workshop was an opportunity to shape, discuss and provide feedback on the draft priority actions. Next staff presented the draft Waterfront Precinct Plan to Elected Members on 18 May 2021 seeking support to conduct a second round of engagement to seek feedback and was opportunity to shape our engagement approach.

3. Discussion

1.1 The Waterfront 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, Hātea Loop and the new Town Basin Park and guide future development, public improvements and projects.

This approach to spatial planning is becoming increasingly important to support partnerships, leverage funding and puts us in a position to respond to RMA reforms and possible future Spatial Planning for Northland.

1.2 Drafting Process

Following the Council Briefing on 25 August 2020, work began on the development of the Waterfront Precinct Plan. This started with an interactive workshop with Councillors on 11 November 2020 followed by discussions/feedback with the community, hapū and key stakeholders. The first round of public engagement was held for one month, from 18 November to 16 December 2020. We received 2,228 items of feedback using a range of communicative tools including social media, face to face meetings and activations. The feedback from the first round of engagement, direction from Councillors as well as drawing from previous Council plans, strategies and studies have guided the drafting of the Waterfront Precinct Plan.

A workshop was held with elected members on 7 April 2021. This workshop was an opportunity to shape, discuss and provide feedback on the draft priority actions.

1.3 Second round of engagement

The purpose of the second round of engagement was to receive feedback on the draft Waterfront Precinct Plan to ensure we have set the right direction and captured the right priorities (priority actions). The engagement period was opened from 2nd – 30th June 2021.

The approach to the second round of engagement was:

- Community wide engagement was undertaken through an online survey, social media, and meeting upon request were available to the public/ key stakeholders.
- Targeted workshops and discussions with key organisations and agencies.
- Hui with our hapū partners.

In total, we received 777 items of feedback.



1.4 Ongoing hapū engagement

One of our priorities for the second round of engagement was to engage in a meaningful way with our hapū partners. At a hui held at A'fare Conference Centre on 9 June 2021, a Kaumatua Roopu was formed to support hapū/Maori to input into the Plan. There were 22 in attendance plus staff at this hui. The Kaumatua Roopu nominations and process was hapū led. The Roopu consists of five kaumatua.

The Kaumatua Roopu will be used to ensure Maori and hapū aspirations and cultural narratives are integrated into the content and implementation of the plan, as well as guide ongoing consultation. External consultants have been engaged to support us with this work.

Two addition whakaaro sharing hui were planned for 17 August and 25 August to enable further engagement on the draft Waterfront Precinct Plan. Once this is complete, we will work to integrate the hapū/hapori Maori work into the Plan.

We will continue to face challenges with the possible risk of further COVID-19 restrictions with our hapū/hapori Maori engagement. Within our process we aim to be flexible, adaptable and creative to ensure we gain the best possible outcomes for this process, while continuing to progress with the finalisation of the Plan.

4. Next steps

The next steps of the Waterfront Precinct Plan are as proposed;

- Integrate the hapū/hapori Maori cultural narratives and input into the Waterfront Precinct Plan
- Further refine and make changes to the draft Waterfront Precinct Plan as outlined in the Summary of Feedback Report, see attachment 1.
- Present the final Waterfront Precinct Plan with changes to elected members at a Council Briefing, prior to adoption.

5. Attachments

Attachment 1 Waterfront Precinct Plan Feedback Report- Stage 2 September 2021.pdf

Attachment 2 Final Draft Waterfront Precinct Plan for consultation.pdf

Waterfront Precinct Plan

Summary of Feedback Report- Round 2

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Executive summary

The purpose of this report is to summarise the second round of engagement feedback received on the draft Waterfront 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. The development of the Waterfront Precinct Plan is an action of the Whangarei City Centre Plan 2017.

The approach taken to engagement involved:

- Community wide engagement through an online survey and social media channels
- Targeted stakeholder meetings with key organisations and agencies
- Hui with our hapū partners.

We have received 777 items of feedback from the second round of engagement on the draft Waterfront Precinct Plan. The feedback received was generally supportive of the eight outcomes, five key areas of focus and action register identifying 61 actions and 24 priority actions. There was also support for the plan development process and approach to engagement. This has resulted in minimal changes to the overall vision and action register as proposed in the draft Waterfront Precinct Plan. In summary, the feedback has helped to confirm the direction, content and priority actions.

The feedback highlighted several key issues and concerns for our community and stakeholders, which include:

- Climate change risks and response
- Improving environmental outcomes and water quality
- Tangata whenua input, design, and presence in the waterfront
- Parking and shifting to multi-modal transport options such as public transport, walking and cycling.

The feedback has also identified further work we need to do, including:

- Strengthening relationships and working collaboratively with our hapū partners and key stakeholders
- Future investment and development/infrastructure designed to be responsive to climate change and local context
- Monitoring actions and improving communication (two-way communication).

Purpose

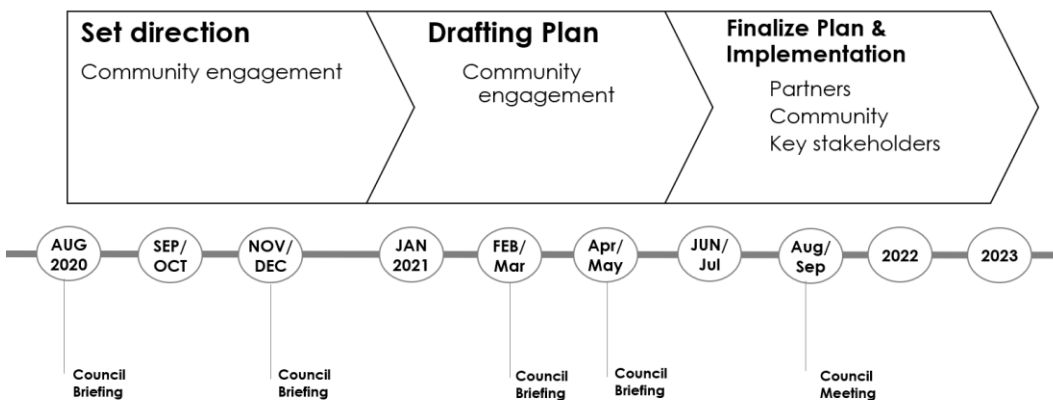
This report is intended to update elected members, the community and key stakeholders on the draft Waterfront Precinct Plan. In particular:

- the feedback received during the second round of engagement
- possible changes/refinement of the draft Waterfront Precinct Plan as a result of feedback from the second round of engagement.

Background

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, Hātea Loop and the New Town Basin Park, and guide future development and projects.

Where are we in the process?



The Waterfront Precinct Plan process began with community, hapū and stakeholder engagement and an interactive workshop with elected members. The first round of engagement was completed in January 2021. The purpose of the first round of engagement was to identify key themes, issues and opportunities and to build our shared vision for the waterfront. We received 2,228 items of feedback using a range of communicative tools including social media, face to face meetings and activations.

Direction from Councillors and feedback from hapū, key stakeholders and the community, as well as information from existing Council plans, strategies, projects and studies, has been used to draft a shared vision and action plan for the Waterfront.

The purpose of the second round of engagement was to receive feedback on the draft Waterfront Precinct Plan to ensure we have set the right direction and captured the right priorities (priority actions). In total, we received 777 items of feedback.

Engagement approach

The approach to the second of engagement was:

- Community wide engagement was undertaken through an online survey, social media, and meeting upon request were available to the public/ key stakeholders.
- Targeted workshops and discussions with key organisations and agencies.
- Hui with our hapū partners.

Engagement was undertaken from 2 June 2021 to 30 June 2021. A small number of meetings took place outside the engagement period. Hui with hapū/hapori Maori took place in August 2021.

Response in brief



Engagement with hapū

One of our priorities for the second round of engagement was to engage in a meaningful way with our hapū partners. Staff introduced the Waterfront Precinct Plan to Te Huinga and Kaumatua in the first round of engagement to discuss how to best engage with Tangata Whenua, hapū and hapori Maori including high-level discussions on the purpose/direction and outcomes of the draft Waterfront Precinct Plan.

At a hui held at Afare Conference Centre on 9 June 2021, a Kaumatua Roopu was formed to support hapū/Maori to input into the Plan. There were 22 in attendance plus staff at this hui. The Kaumatua Roopu nominations and process was hapū led. The Roopu consists of five kaumatua. The Kaumatua Roopu will be used to ensure Maori and hapū aspirations and cultural narratives are integrated into the content and implementation of the plan, as well as guide ongoing consultation. External consultants have been engaged to support us with this work.

Two addition whakaaro sharing hui were planned for 17 August and 25 August to enable further engagement on the draft Waterfront Precinct Plan. The hui on the 17 of August took place as planned however, there is uncertainty if the second hui will take place due to COVID-19 restrictions. A level 4 lock down commenced from 18 August 2021 across New Zealand for 3 days.

Key Stakeholders

Council staff directly contacted a range of stakeholders to encourage them to provide feedback on the draft waterfront precinct plan.

The key objectives for the receiving feedback was to:

- Seek alignment and support for the direction of the draft Waterfront Precinct Plan
- Identify opportunities to support and/or partner in delivering actions.

Stakeholders included:

- Individual and groups that provided feedback in the first round of engagement in November – December 2020
- Key agencies and organisations including government agencies
- Local businesses and community groups in the waterfront area.

There were groups who Council reached out to who decided not to provide feedback on the draft Plan. The stakeholders who provided feedback and/or attended a meeting included:

- | | |
|--|--|
| • Northland Transport Alliance | • Heritage New Zealand |
| • Northland Regional Council | • Bike Northland |
| • Northland District Health Board | • Hundertwasser Art Centre with Wairau Māori Art Gallery |
| • Ngā Tai Ora- Public Health Northland | • Rowing Club |
| • Creative Northland | • Shackleton Sea Scouts |
| • Council Advisory Groups | • Whangārei Mariners |
| • Waka Trust | • Whangārei Marina |
| • Whangārei Marina | • Griffiths and Associates |
| • Hihīaua Cultural Centre | • Multi-cultural Whangārei collective |
| • He Puna Marama Trust | • Madhatter's Football Club |
| • Rally New Zealand | |

Feedback from external stakeholders was provided either online, through email or meetings/workshops.

The following issues and opportunities were raised during the second round of engagement from our key stakeholders that we will review in more detail. This includes:

- Recognition of economic opportunities and benefits of the Whangārei Marina
- Recognition of the Whangārei rally and enabling/facilitating large events in the Waterfront
- Infrastructure upgrades required to support and enable development
- Continuing investment in infrastructure and development while ensuring climate change effects and hazards such as flooding are considered
- Further environmental degradation and the need for more investment in improving environment outcomes
- Partnering opportunities, timing and resourcing to deliver actions
- Secure bike parking facilities and shower/toilet amenities

- Continuing two-way communication with stakeholders and community groups including project updates and ongoing planning
- Understanding the effects of climate change for our Waterfront and City Centre
- Improving water access (all tide) for water activities
- Working with Tangata Whenua as partners
- Resourcing, support and more investment in the arts and creative industries
- Extending heritage boards and encouraging cultural narratives
- Inclusive design for public/gathering spaces, public toilets and buildings.

The feedback received on the Draft Waterfront Precinct Plan was generally in support of the direction of the Plan, key outcomes and action register. As a result, there has been minor wording changes and further refinements made to be considered within the final draft Waterfront Precinct Plan.

Online feedback

Community feedback was received through an online survey and through social media, such as Facebook comments. Meetings by request were also offered.

75 online surveys were completed. The survey was directed towards identifying the level of support of the key outcomes, key themes, areas of focus, priority actions, triggers, and other feedback.

See **Attachment 1** of this report which shows the results of the online survey.

The feedback received was generally positive. However, several issues/concerns were raised that will be reviewed in more detail, this includes:

- Parking
- Improving walking and cycling infrastructure
- Improving water quality
- Protecting vistas and view shafts
- Housing and enabling affordable apartments
- Integrated transport and traffic flow management
- Activities for youth and families
- Capacity and condition the Whangārei Aquatic Centre
- Activities and destinations needed around the whole waterfront area
- Investment in building and upgrading infrastructure which is resilient
- Poor connection from Whangārei City Centre to the Town Basin
- Vibrant shops and eateries
- Improving nightlife.

Next Steps

With the second round of engagement completed, the next step is to make minor changes based on the feedback from the community and external stakeholders. Engagement with our hapū partners is currently underway. Once this is complete, we will work to integrate the hapū/hapori Maori work into the Plan.

We will continue to face challenges with the possible risk of further COVID-19 restrictions with our hapū/hapori Maori engagement. Within our process we aim to be flexible, adaptable and creative to ensure we gain the best possible outcomes for this process, while continuing to progress with the finalisation of the Plan.

Relationship building and ongoing collaboration

We have established key contacts with hapū, individuals/groups, businesses, community and recreational groups and key stakeholders. We have 213 established community contacts through our online survey from the first round of engagement and 60 contacts from the second round of engagement online survey. Council staff will keep our contacts up to date with the plan development process, Plan adoption and launch of the Waterfront Precinct Plan.

Collaboration between internal staff, hapū and key stakeholders will continue as projects and actions come to fruition.

Finalising the Plan

Council staff are working alongside the Kaumatua Roopu to strengthen hapū input/cultural narratives which is planned to be completed in September 2021.

From July 2021, work began to refine the draft Waterfront Precinct Plan.

As a result of the second round of engagement the following changes to the draft Waterfront Precinct Plan will be made.

- Inclusion of a 2-page summary
- Refinement and short explanation of the key outcomes
- Minor wording changes to the history
- Added wording to support
 - The marina and the positive economic benefits it contributes to our city.
 - Our waterfront to host local, regional and national events such as the international Rally of Whangārei.
 - Added working about the multiple health and wellbeing benefits of creating attractive places to meet, play and for recreation.
- Improving visuals and document accessibility, including maps, infographics, diagrams and the action register (how its visually displayed)
- Adjustments to naming conventions for the timing of actions and triggers to be consistent with other council strategies, including the Placemaking Plans.
- Wording refinement of actions to be more outcomes focused
- Refinement of action register- see **table 1** below

Table 1: Wording refinement changes to the Action Register

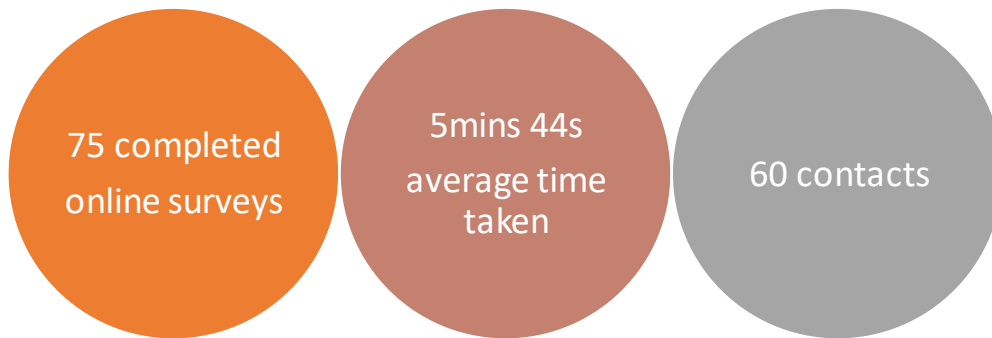
Change status	Action	Page	Description
Minor wording additions	2.d.	19	Added wording to identify locations to install secure bike storage in the Waterfront.
Minor wording additions	13.b.	22	Added wording to enable tactical urbanism as a tool to temporarily test opportunities and to beautify/mend our urban areas.
Minor wording additions	13.g.	22	Added wording to work with hapū and the community to ensure the naming of future streets, urban spaces and infrastructure is reflective and inclusive of our indigenous and diverse cultural make up
Minor wording additions	14.e.	22	Added wording to support the positioning our waterfront and Whangārei City to creative arts and industries.
Minor wording additions	15.a	22	Added wording to support the key outcomes redevelopment on Riverside Drive seeks to achieve.
Minor re-wording changes	28.c.	26	Minor wording change to enhance riparian restoration of waterways and remove barriers to fish passage.
Minor wording additions	32.b.	29	Added wording to investigate a new water connection to the Hātea River to enable access for water sport activities
Minor wording additions	49.a.	34	Minor wording change to as funding becomes available, work with clubs to ensure concerns regarding the Marine Hub are worked through and all tide access to the Hātea River is secured.
Deleted action	51.b.	34	Deleted action: Explore possible options of activation or uses for the open grassed area and eastern side of Pohe Island such as a viewing platform or art/sculpture trail as part of the above action.
Minor re-wording changes	54.	36	Minor re-wording changes to add emphasis on the outcomes the redevelopment/concept plan seeks to achieve.

Note:

The page numbers and actions relate to the draft Waterfront Precinct Plan for consultation, see attachment 2 of the agenda item.

Attachment 1 Online Survey results

The online survey was open from 2 – 30 June 2021. We received 75 completed online surveys.



Q1 Are you an individual or do you represent a group or organisation?

(All answered the question)

- 72 Individual
- 3 Group/organisation

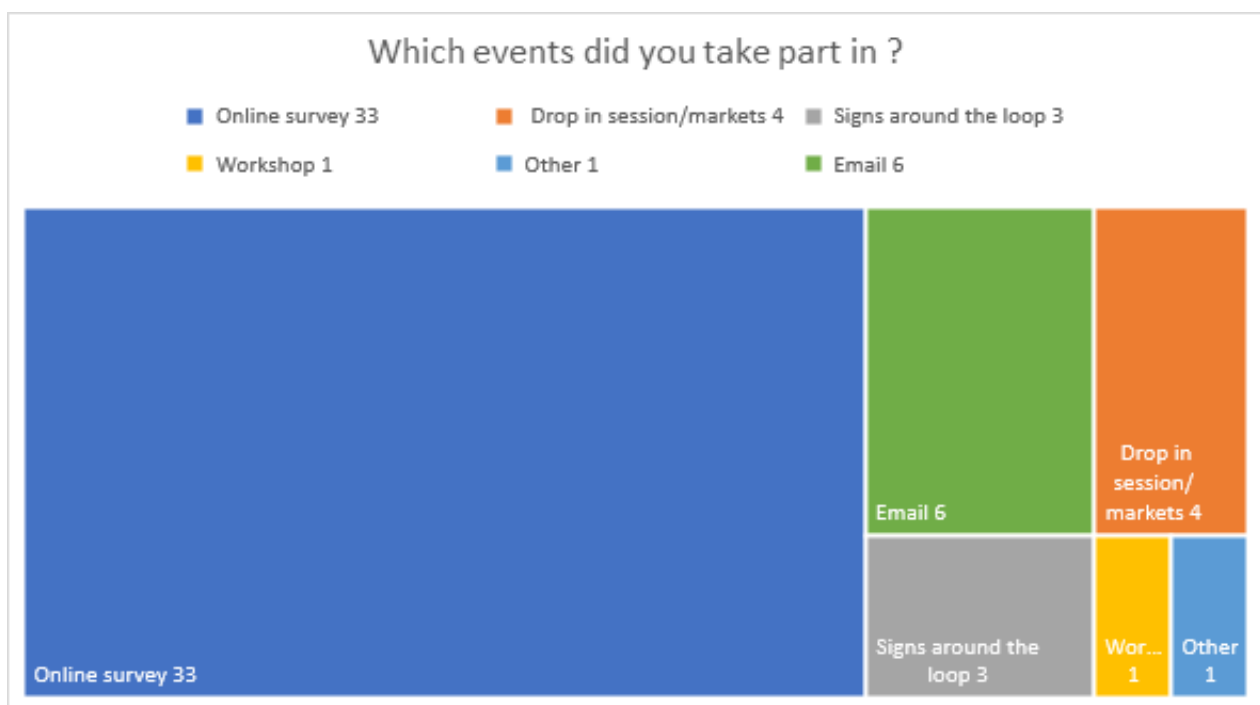
Q2. Did you take part in the first round of engagement?

(All answered the question)

- 38 yes
- 37 no

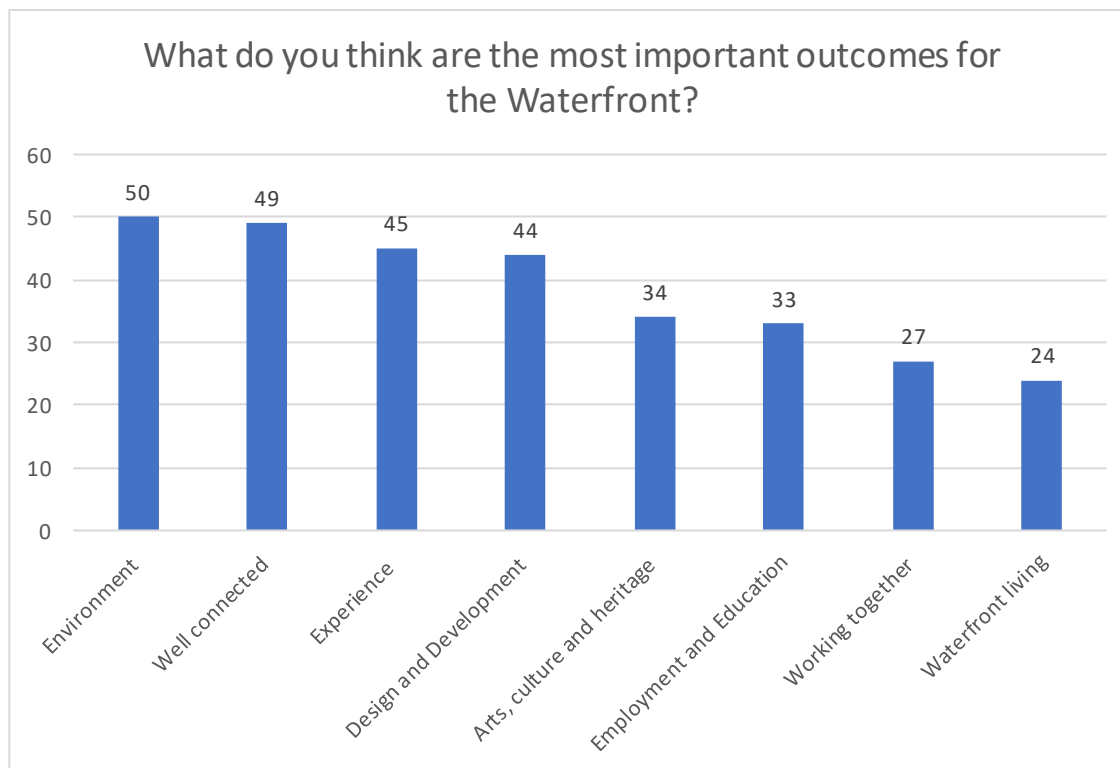
Q2a. Which events did you take part of?

(Multi-choice question – all, 38 responded)



Question 3. What do you think are the most important outcomes for the Waterfront (select your top five)?

(72/75 answered the question-multi-choice)



Question 4. Are there any other outcomes that you think need to be included?

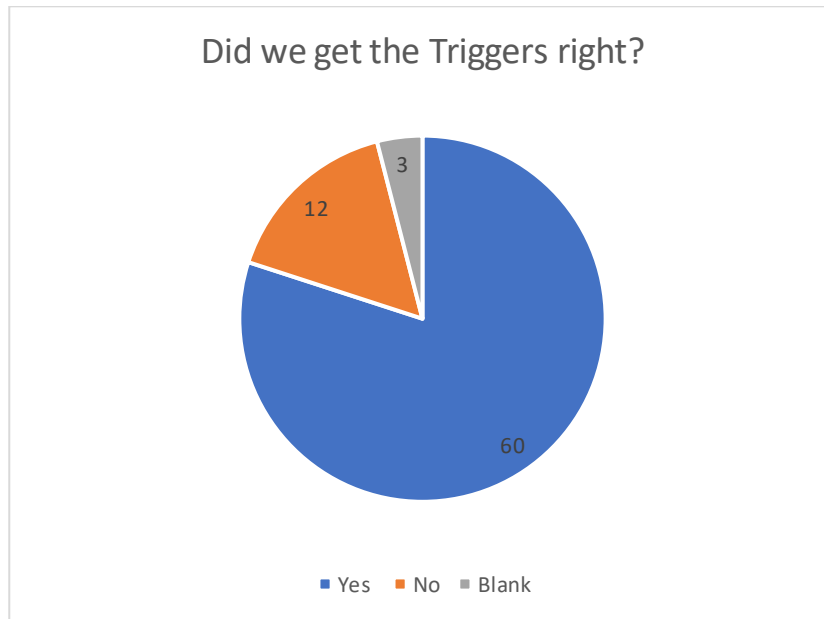
(29 Comments)



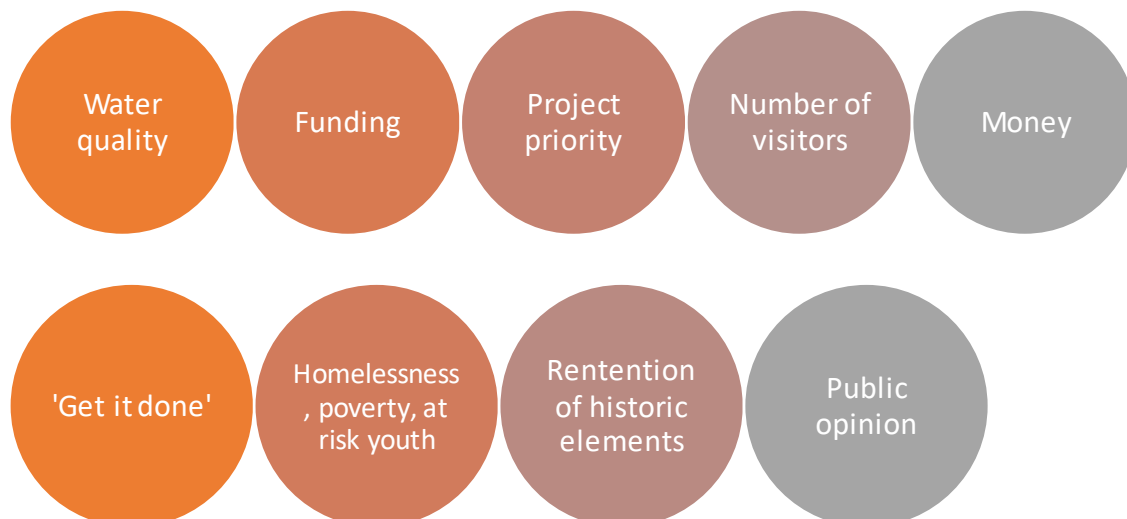


Question 5. Implementation- 'Action register' Did we get the Triggers right?

(all answered)


Question 6. Are there any other triggers that you think should be included to help influence the implementation of the actions outlined in the Waterfront Precinct Plan?

(9 comments)



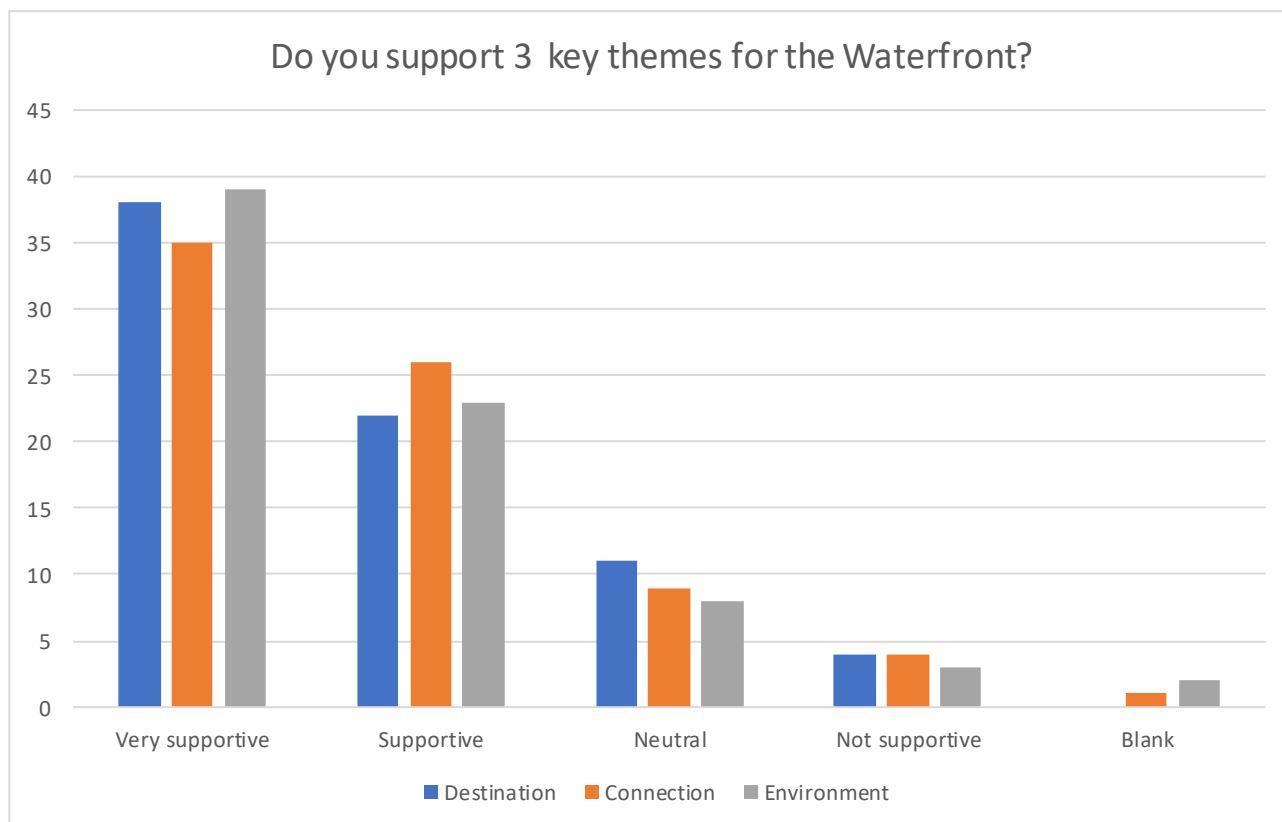
Question 7. Are there any organisations / groups missing that we should work with to lead or support the implementation of the plan?

19 comments



Waterfront themes

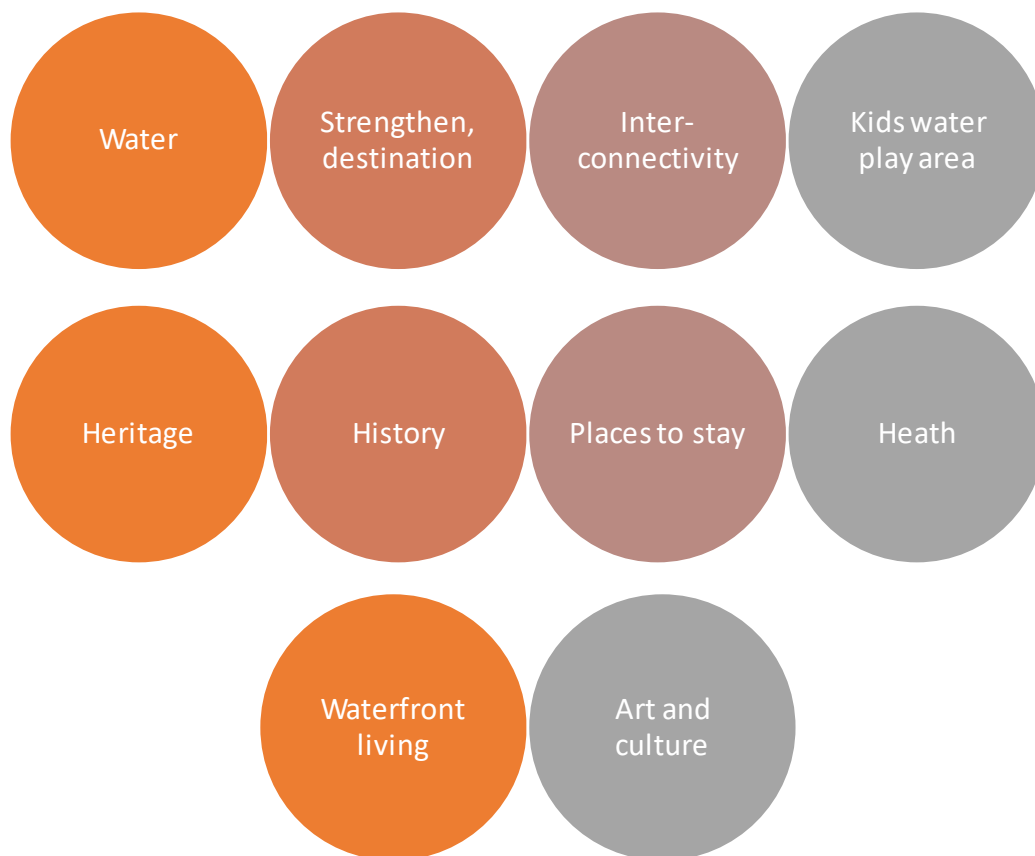
Question 8. Do you support the 3 key themes for the waterfront?



	Very supportive	Supportive	Neutral	Not supportive	Blank	Total
Destination	38	22	11	4	0	75
Connection	35	26	9	4	1	75
Environment	39	23	8	3	2	75

Question 9. Any other themes that you think should be included and why?

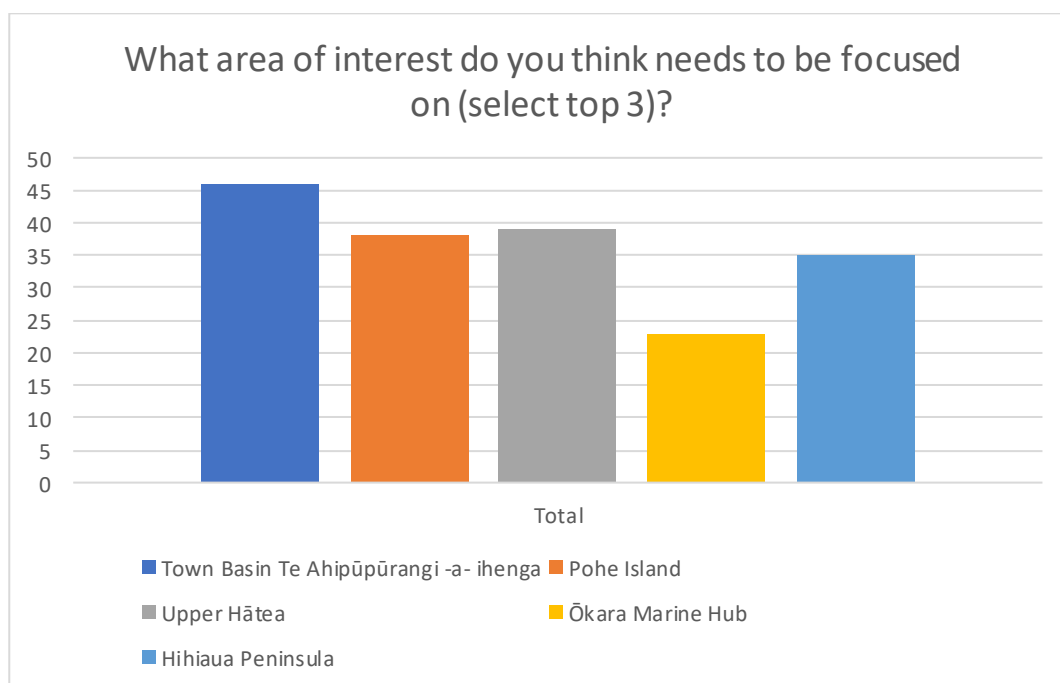
11 comments



Areas of interest

Question 10. What area of interest do you think needs to be focused on?

70 responded



	Town Basin Te Ahipūpūrangi - a- ihenga	Pohe Island	Upper Hātea	Ōkara Marine Hub	Hihiaua Peninsula	Total
Total	46	38	39	23	35	181

Question 11. Are there any other actions that you think need to be included and why?

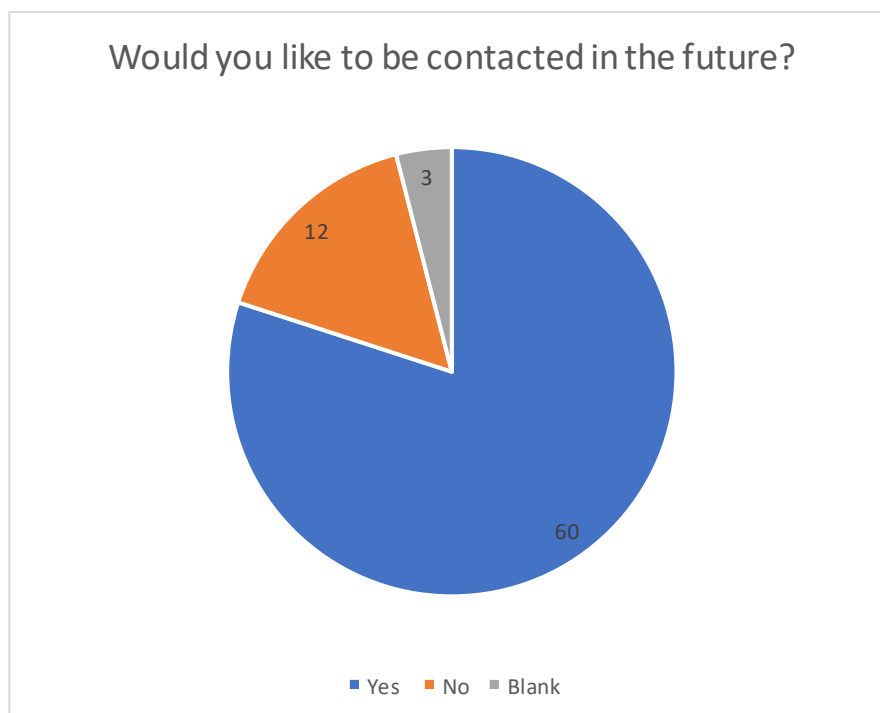
21 comments



Question 12. Is there anything else you would like us to consider?
33 responded




Question 13. Would you like to be contacted in the future about the Waterfront Precinct Plan?



DRAFT



Waterfront **PRECINCT PLAN**



for consultation



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Introduction

Our waterfront is the jewel of Whangārei City. Placed on a network of waterways, positioned against Parihaka maunga, the waterfront is a destination and a gateway to the Town Basin and Whangārei City Centre. It is a meeting place, a place for all to visit, gather, play, work, learn and live. The waterfront is one of Whangārei's most loved places, with an appealing waterfront location, restaurants/cafes, arts, cultural and heritage focus and unique Māori and European history.

What is the Waterfront Precinct Plan?

Planning for the waterfront begins with the Whangārei City Centre Plan which sets a shared strategic vision for Whangārei City over the next 30 years. Approved by Whangārei District Council in 2017, it actioned the development of the Waterfront Precinct Plan. It is the second of three Precinct Plans actioned, with the fourth existing Hihiaua Precinct Plan.

The Waterfront Precinct Plan aims to create a cohesive integrated plan outlining a 20-30-year shared vision for the waterfront's development. It will also be a key tool for bringing together the numerous waterfront related projects to which Council has already committed, inform future projects, public space improvements and infrastructure and to guide future development.

Key outcomes

The Waterfront Plan is structured around eight key outcomes. Forming the vision of the Waterfront over the next thirty years, they are consistent with the Whangārei City Centre Plan and City Core Precinct Plan.



Experience

- Meeting place
- Vibrant and diverse mix of activities and attractions
- Destination for all
- High quality public and private places
- Generous, ample room to gather/move
- Celebrating arts, culture and heritage
- Strong identity and sense of place
- Spaces for civic, sports, and recreational activities



Waterfront Living

- High quality waterfront living
- Mixed use development
- Active frontage (street/water)
- Services and facilities to meet the needs of the community
- World class design and architecture reflecting the local context
- Coordinated development with high public domain



Well connected

- Connected to water and surrounding environment
- Easily accessible by all transport modes
- Safe, accessible and user friendly
- Interconnected shared path network
- Multi-modal transport choice including E Mobility
- Accessible and legible parking
- Enhanced public transport including water-based transport



Employment & Education

- Innovation and creativity
- Strong and diverse economy
- Employment and educational opportunities
- Marine activities
- Clustering of similar employment/businesses into hubs



Design and development

- Signature development
- Inclusive and safe streets, parks and places for all ages and abilities
- Universal design
- Design-led buildings, urban spaces, parks and play areas
- Incorporating urban design and Te Aranga Design Principles
- Adaptive and responsive
- Vistas and view shafts protected



Environment

- Enhanced Blue Green Network
- Active and passive recreation opportunities
- Clean and healthy waterways
- Generous green spaces and parks
- Resilience infrastructure, buildings and structures
- Responsive to climate change
- Restore 'Mahinga Kai' areas



Arts, culture and heritage

- Strong cultural identity and reflecting Te Ao Māori values
- Embracing diversity and inclusiveness
- Innovative and creative
- Showcasing local talent, art and people
- Community led

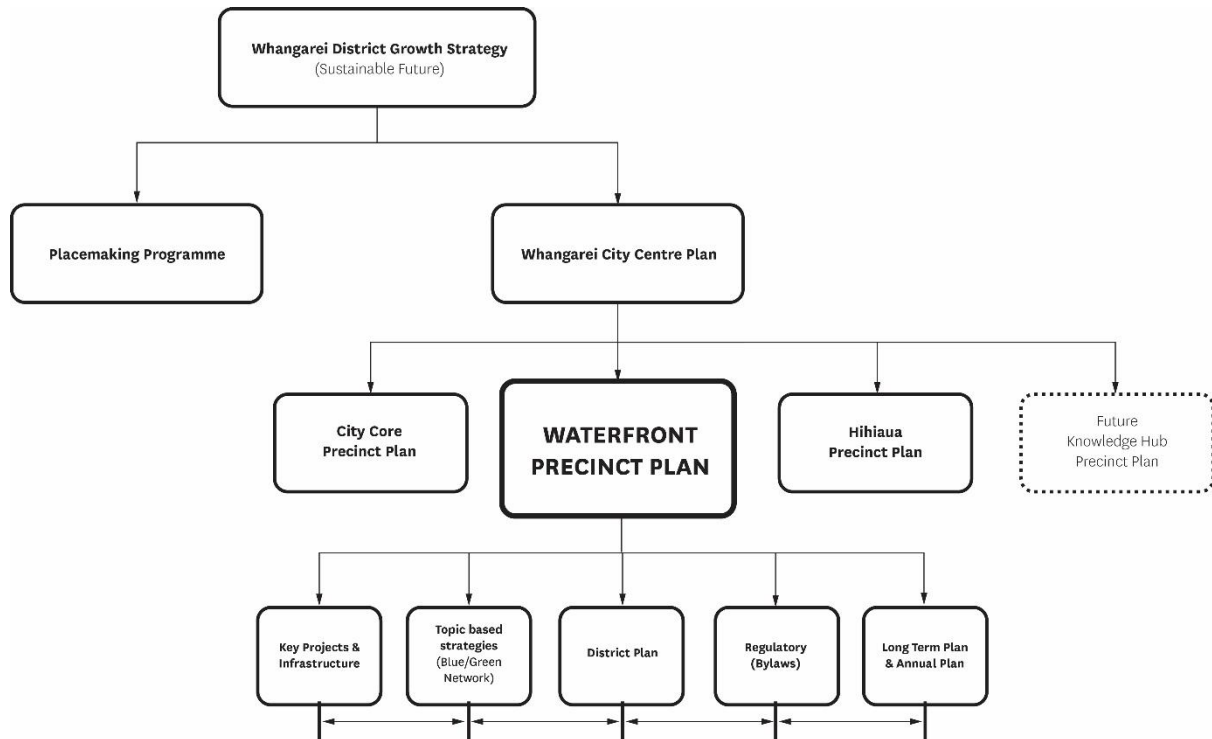


Working together

- Honouring Te Tiriti o Waitangi
- Working together/partnership
- Community wellbeing and resilience
- Alignment
- Coordinated development
- Leveraging investment
- Supporting local

Plan hierarchy-where does the plan fit in?

The Waterfront Precinct Plan is a non-statutory spatial plan which resets the direction for the waterfront for the next 20-30 years. It sits under the Whangārei City Centre Plan (2017) and alongside other Precinct Plans. The diagram shows the relationship and interconnection between our various strategies and plans and where the Waterfront Precinct Plan fits in. The Waterfront Precinct Plan will connect our key projects, plans and strategies together.



Waterfront Plans timeline

Over the past 20 years, meaningful progress aligned with our vision for Whangārei has been made. The Waterfront Precinct Plan leverages off the work we have completed and creates a shared the vision for the next 20-30 years.

1993	Town Basin Development Plan
1996	Whangārei 20/20 Central Area Concept Plan
2003	Urban Growth Strategy
2004	Town Basin Environment adopted into the District Plan
2006	20/20 Plus Whangārei CBD Development Guide
2014	Hihiaua Precinct Plan
2016	Whangārei 20/20 Momentum
2017	Whangārei City Centre Plan
2019	City Core Precinct Plan
2021	Urban and Services Plan Change- Waterfront Zone
2021	draft Waterfront Precinct Plan

Waterfront Precinct Plan boundary

The Waterfront Precinct boundary area includes land and properties with direct river frontage. It extends north of the Whangārei Aquatic Centre, south of Te Matau ā Pohe, William Fraser Memorial Park on Pohe Island and the old Fertiliser site (Ballance site) on Port Road.

The wider areas and their relationships to the Waterfront are considered important too. The Waterfront Precinct Plan considers neighbouring areas and their relationships including; Whangārei City Centre (City Core Precinct), Mair town, Parihaka, Northland Events Centre, Ōkara, Whangārei Harbour, Kissing Point, and Onerahi.



Engagement

Developing the Waterfront Precinct Plan is a collaborative process. Early engagement with the community, Tangata Whenua, hapū and key stakeholders has been undertaken to build a shared vision for our waterfront and shape the development of the Waterfront Precinct Plan.

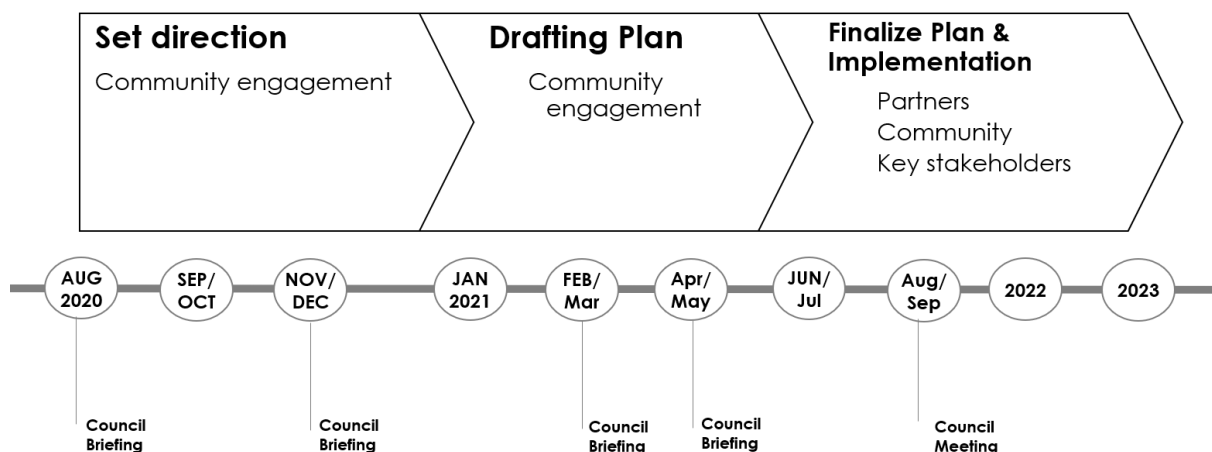
The first round of engagement was held over a five-week period from November 18-January 10, 2021. The purpose for engagement was to build a shared vision for the Waterfront, direction setting, explain why we are developing the Waterfront Precinct Plan and generate feedback to improve understanding of the community, hapū and key stakeholder's values, issues and opportunities. We explored a mixture of online and face-to-face tools.



A range of tools were used to encourage participation in the first round of engagement including the Council website, social media (Facebook & Instagram competition), posters, interactive workshops with stakeholders, community hui, market activations, library drop in sessions, email and information via Council news channels such as the Whangārei Leader. We received 2,228 items of feedback from the first round of feedback. This feedback and information from previous plans and strategies has been used to draft the Waterfront Precinct Plan.

Plan development timeline

At a Council Briefing on 25 August 2020, elected members supported starting the Waterfront Precinct Plan. It was expected to take 12 months to develop with two rounds of community engagement.



Waterfront History

Whangārei -te-rerenga-parāoa, Whangārei's full name, has several interpretations, firstly, being the 'the gathering place of the whales' and 'the meeting place of the chiefs'. Secondly, based on the legend of the two sisters Reitu and Reipae of the Waikato region. Both sisters were travelling on the back of a Karearea (hawk), to marry the chief called Ueoneone from the Te Rarawa region. After fighting on the back of the hawk, the sister, Reipae insisted on landing at the beach below, now known as Onerahi. Once landing upon the beach, she waited for her people and brothers. From this event, the name was interpreted 'Whanga' (to wait) and 'Rei' – Reipae waited.

This timeline highlights a high-level summary of historic events (*note: the history section is a work in progress awaiting hapū involvement):

Pre-1800

- ❖ In earlier times Whangārei was occupied by Ngai Tāhūhū who came on the waka Tūnuiārangi. Ngai Tāhūhū occupied the area stretching from Tāmaki (Auckland) to the Bay of Islands with many thriving Māori settlements.
- ❖ Whangārei became a staging post where taua (war parties) would gather before heading south in waka to take part in a series of inter-tribal conflicts.
- ❖ Whangārei, because of its coastal accessibility, bore the brunt of many retaliatory expeditions by the southern tribes of Waikato and Ngāti Paoa.

1800s

- ❖ The first recorded ship visit to the Whangārei Harbour was the Venus in 1806.
- ❖ Battles were fought at Parihaka, the most noted being the battle of Ōparakau in 1827.
- ❖ In May 1823, missionaries rowed up the harbour to the river. They met five chiefs but few other people.
- ❖ In 1830, the first permanent settler in Whangārei, William Carruth purchased land from Ngāti Kahu.
- ❖ In 1845, all the European families self-evacuated by sea to Auckland after the sacking of Kororāreka (Russell). They returned after the end of the Northern war in 1847.
- ❖ From the 1840s coastal sailing vessels carried freight (mail, produce and good) and passengers to and from Auckland.
- ❖ The second wave of settlers arrived in Auckland. In 1853, John Grant Johnson the Land Commissioner arrived in the district and brought large acreages from Māori.
- ❖ In the 1860s, the first Highways Trust Boards were established.

- ❖ In 1864, the materials for the first wharf were lying on the beach at Ahipupu awaited Government money.
- ❖ The McGregor steamships in 1881, provided comfortable travel and efficient transport of goods to/from Auckland.
- ❖ In 1877, the management and control of the Town Wharf was vested in the newly formed County Council.
- ❖ In 1880, the wharf was extended. For two years coal trains ran down Walton St from the mine at Whau Valley.
- ❖ In 1882, Whangārei became a town district governed by a Town Board.
- ❖ In 1896, Whangārei was proclaimed a Borough with a population of approximately 1,400.
- ❖ In January 1898, the first bridge, (a pivot bridge) was constructed at Te Ahipupurangi across the Hātea River from James St to the Old Onerahi Rd.

1900s

- ❖ In 1902, a fire brigade was formed after two very severe fires in Cameron Street.
- ❖ The town developed into two distinct areas, the original commercial area centred on the Town Basin and Walton Street and the residential area on the volcanic spur of Bank Street.
- ❖ The Whangārei Harbour Board Act of 1907, subsequent Acts and Orders-in-Council gave the Board jurisdiction over many acres of foreshore endowment lands. These paved the way for removing mangroves, dredging, stop banking and draining the tidal flats, and deepening and straightening channels to improve water access and provide large areas of land for industry.
- ❖ In 1914, Mair Park was gifted to the people of Whangārei by Robert Mair.
- ❖ In 1920, the Harbour board accepted the Whangārei Harbour Improvement Plan.
- ❖ From the 1920s, the foreshore above Victoria Bridge along Drummond Creek, was leased to boat builders and for boat sheds. The area was headquarters of both the Rowing Club and the Whangārei Cruising Club.
- ❖ In 1923, the Harbour Board office on Walton St was completed and the Town Basin became a riverside marina.
- ❖ In 1925, the railway carrying freight and passengers, between Whangārei and Auckland, was completed. By the 1930s the era of shipping was over, replaced by the railway. An 'all-weather' road to Auckland was in place by 1934.
- ❖ In 1932, one of the first trans-tasman flight landed on Pohe Island.
- ❖ In 1936, the Victoria Bridge was built replacing the old structure.
- ❖ The Town Basin lost coastal shipping and large ships becoming a haven for fishermen and pleasure boats.
- ❖ After World War 2 economic growth resulted in a demand for light

industrial land and the low-lying area east of Walton Street was reclaimed.

- ❖ The Town Basin is an important maritime and social hub for the community including regattas and popular for yacht races.
- ❖ In March 1953, the Whangārei A&P Winter Show Building opened on Dent Street.
- ❖ In 1964, Whangārei with a population of 20,000 became officially a 'City'.
- ❖ In the 1970s, traffic patterns changed with the construction of the John

Street bridge parallel to the Victoria Bridge.

- ❖ A replica of the Bounty, built by local firm WECO, became a tourist attraction at the Town Wharf.
- ❖ By the 1980s the Whangārei Theatre Company built a geodesic-style theatre.
- ❖ In 1985, French agents moored their yacht Ouvea at the Town Basin, prior to sinking the Rainbow Warrior in Auckland.

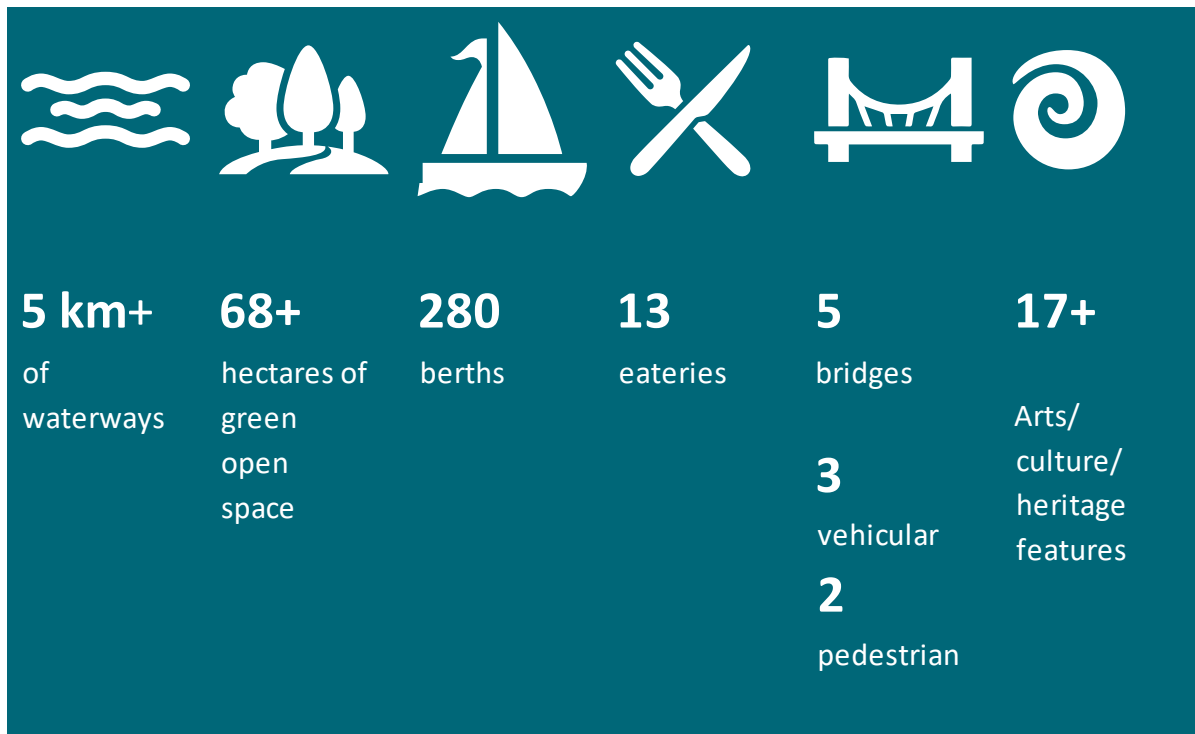
1990s

- ❖ In October 1995, the Town Basin development opened. The old wharf sheds were demolished, replaced with colonial styled buildings housed shops, eateries, a glass blowers' studio, doll and fish museums. Clapham's Clocks had a new home.

2000s

- ❖ In 2005, the Waka and Wave millennium sculpture was unveiled.
- ❖ In 2006, the Northland Regional Council vacated the old Harbour Board building, Dent and Quay Street roads were realigned, the A&P buildings were demolished, Victoria Bridge was widened, and John Street Bridge was closed.
- ❖ In 2013, Te Matau ā Pohe was built connecting the eastern and western sides of the lower Hātea River as a central lifting bridge allowing yachts to pass.
- ❖ In 2014 the Hātea loop, Huarahi o Te Whai a 4.2km loop shared path at the river's edge was complete including related infrastructure projects such as the Kotuitui Whitinga bridge.
- ❖ In 2019, Hīhīāua Culture Centre Stage 1 was opened.

What makes our waterfront unique?



Landscape setting

Our outstanding natural assets are a key part of Whangārei's identity and key reasons for many people choosing to live, work and play here.



A sheltered harbour



Where two awa converge, giving the city mauri and mana



A city, rich with culture and people.

As identified in the Whangārei Complete Streets Master Plan (2020, page 16), Whangārei City Centre is located at the confluence of natural features - a sheltered harbour, framed by maunga, traversed by awa - the Hātea River and Waiarohia stream which were used by Māori for harvesting of kaimoana, and Māori and Pakeha for portage.

Art, culture and heritage hub

The waterfront is an attractive and vibrant destination which recognises and celebrates our unique Māori and European heritage. The waterfront has a concentration of art, cultural and heritage features including the iconic Hātea loop walkway (Huarahi o te Whai). Key attractions on the Waterfront include Hihiaua Cultural Centre, Riverbank Theatre, Hundertwasser Arts Centre and Wairau Māori Art Gallery, Whangārei Art Museum, Camera Obscura, Northland Society of Arts and Reyburn House Art Gallery, Te Matau ā Pohe and the arts and heritage trail and the Ball Clock (in development).

Town Basin marina

The Town Basin is world famous amongst the yachting communities as a ‘safe haven’. There are 280 yachts tied up in the marina, with flags on their masts representing many nations. This international community is historical, special and brings a unique flavour to the Waterfront.


















Blue and green spaces

Green spaces play a number of roles in the urban environment. They can provide relief from the city, a quiet place to sit and relax, a place to meet and play. The awa (Hātea River and Waiarohia Stream) are distinctive features of the waterfront that connects the land and people together. The awa connect the surrounding natural features, maunga and green recreation spaces and Whangārei Harbour with each other. These green and blue spaces give the Waterfront a strong sense of identity and place.

Areas of Importance

As part of the Whangārei Complete Streets Master Plan (2020, page 20), *Matakohe Architecture and Urbanism*, on behalf of Council and the Project team, facilitated workshops with local hapū to establish high-level cultural outcomes, values and places of significance. These areas of importance are mapped below and have guided the draft Waterfront Precinct Plan's outcomes and actions. Conversations and engagement with Tangata Whenua and hapū for this Plan is ongoing.

Key

-  Views to Parihaka
-  Views to Onerahi
-  Views to Tārewa Pā
-  Ahipūpūrangi
-  Hīhīaua fishing reserves
-  Railways heritage line
-  Whangārei Terenga Parāoa Marae, Porowini
-  Innovation Precinct
-  Pīhoi Pā - Establishing a Māori Civic and Professional Precinct
-  Future Upper Tidal Range
-  Pedestrian & Cycleway Flow
-  Inanga Spawning Areas
-  Tauranga Waka
-  Tauranga Haku
-  Star Watching Areas
-  Natural Water Play Areas
-  Shade and Resting Areas



Implementation – ‘Action Register’

Many world-class and unique Whangārei projects have recently been completed. The Waterfront Precinct Plan builds on the success of the past and sets the vision for our Waterfront for the next 20/30 years.

The Waterfront Precinct Plan aims to reshape how residents and visitors experience, play, learn, work and live in the Waterfront. It contains recommendations for

- a. Future projects and development
- b. Publicrealm and open space improvements
- c. Connections and transport, all forms of movement and mobility.
- d. Caring for our environment
- e. Design

The actions set the direction for future development of infrastructure, transport, projects, urban design, or specify actions to be investigated further (these may be trigger based). Priority actions are indicated with a grey background. Actions which relate to the whole waterfront area are grouped by themes (identified from the first round of engagement). The themed actions relate to connectivity, destination and the environment. Actions are then grouped into five ‘areas of interest’, which are actions that relate to a specific spatial area. These areas are; the Town Basin, Hīhīāua, Ōkara Marina, Pohe Island and Upper Hātea. We are aiming for a small number of actions. The timing, responsibility (including lead) and funding is outlined for each action.

Funding and timing implications

The Long-Term Plan sets the strategic direction and priorities for the next 10 years. Funding for some actions is included Whangārei District Council’s Long-Term Plan (LTP) 2021-2031, while some are currently underway with funding from the LTP 2018-2028. Some actions are unfunded and are outside the LTP funding period. Funding for some actions may be sourced through community organisations/NGOs and/or community funding grants.

Priority actions indicate a higher level of importance for an action, although it might not be implemented in the short term. Some projects within this plan, whose timeframe is within 0-3 years, are already under way. Some actions are part of ongoing programmes such as the Blue Green Network. Some actions will require further investigation such as feasibility reports or business cases. Timeframes for the actions may be subject to change as implementation progresses and triggers bring an action forward.

Funding/timing key:

Abbreviation	Description
Ongoing	Part of an ongoing programme of works
Underway	Underway or soon to start, timeframe 0-3 years
Planned	Planned in the Long-Term Plan, timeframe 3-10 years
Strategic	Concept or strategic idea, timeframe 10-30 years (*typically, unfunded)

The action register outlines an Action Lead. This is the organisation/ group/trust that will lead an action with the support of or in collaboration with other organisation/groups. Council is strengthening our relationship with hapū. It is envisioned for future projects; a co-design and partnership approach is undertaken.

Responsibility- lead key:























Abbreviation	Name
WDC	Whangārei District Council
NTA	Northland Transport Alliance
NRC	Northland Regional Council
CN	Creative Northland
SN	Sport Northland
WAMT	Whangārei Art Museum Trust

Review and monitoring

A monitoring and review process has been put in place to track actions. Once the Waterfront Precinct Plan is adopted, the actions from the Plan will be reviewed annually and will be formally updated every three years to inform the Long-Term Plan. Monitoring the actions will keep the Waterfront Precinct Plan a living document.

Waterfront Precinct Plan- priority actions overview

This map provides an overview of the 24 priority actions in the Waterfront Precinct Plan.

Key		Applies to entire area	
	Waterfront stitch		Hihiaua Cultural Centre – stage 2
	Active transport		New Marina
	Water connection		Port Road Bridge
	Transport choice		Ballance site
	Vibrant places		Master Plan
	Well designed		Urban Park
	Blue Green Network		Intersection upgrades
	Improve stormwater management		Town Basin redevelopment opportunity
	Tawatawhiti/Mair's landing		Hundertwasser
			Parking
			Enable development
			Celebrate heritage
			Responsive to climate change and flooding











Themed Waterfront actions

We have identified three key themes; connection, destination and environment which address key the issues and opportunities for the whole waterfront area.

Connection

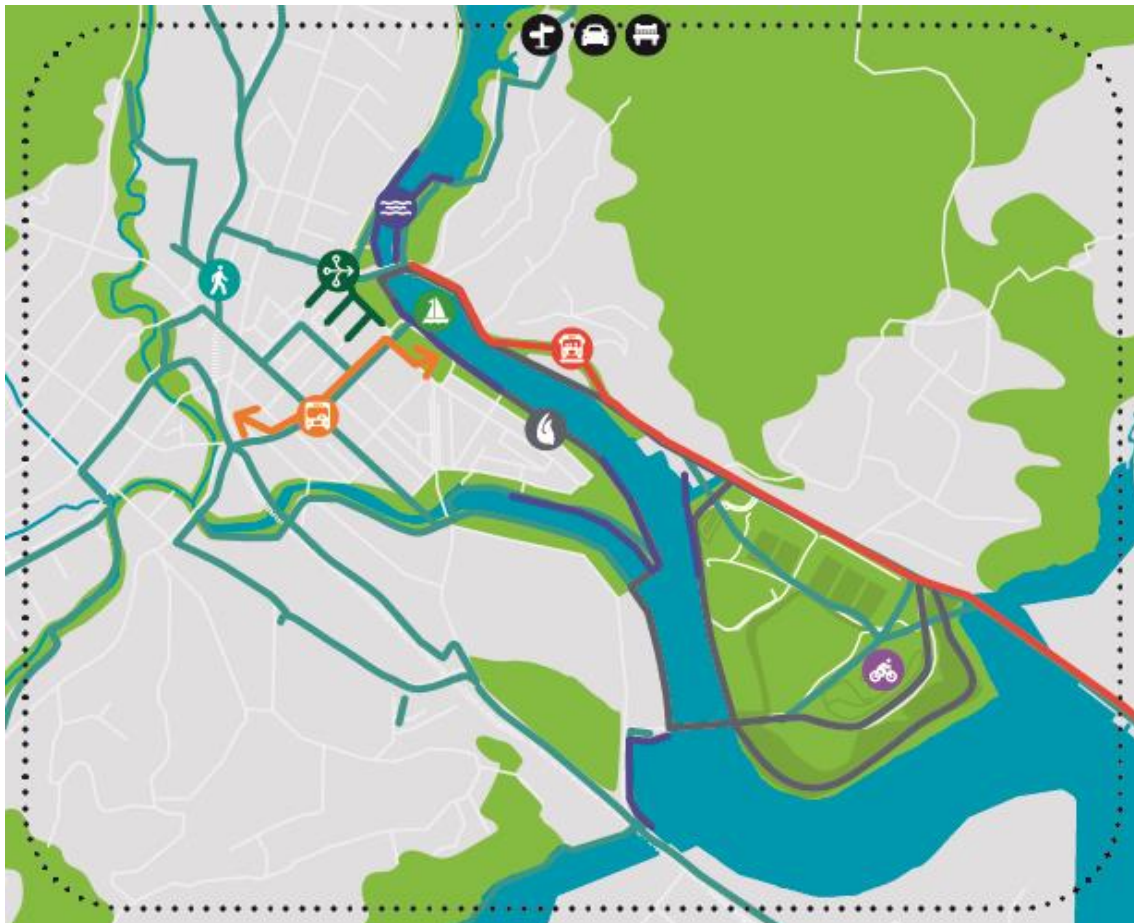
The waterfront is easy to access and well-connected to Whangārei City Centre, waterways and to its surrounding environment. Our multi-modal transport systems are integrated and connect to the shared path network strengthening walking and cycling opportunities and enabling transport choice.























Key

























-  Water connection
-  Active transport
-  Hātea Loop- Huarahi o te Whai
-  Marina
-  Waterfront stitch
-  Transport choice
-  Transit/bus lane
-  Bike Hub

Applies to entire area

- Wayfinding signage
- Parking
- Consistent design palette

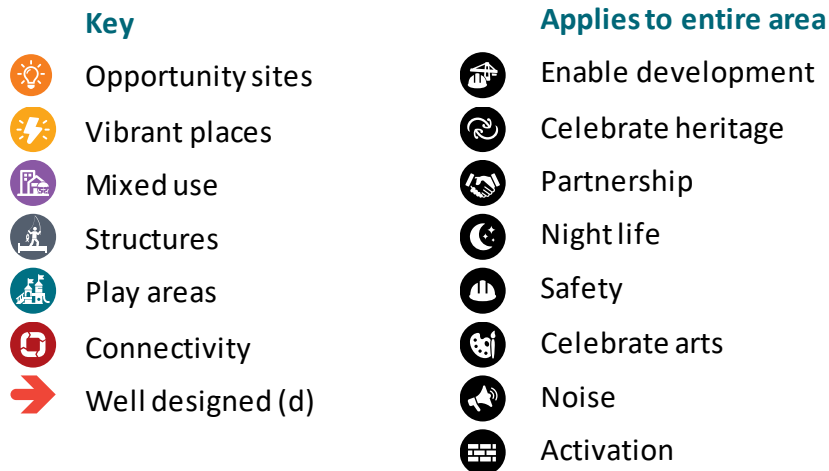












Key	Action	Responsibility	Key outcomes achieved	Funded/timing	Trigger(s)
 Waterfront stitch (priority action)	1. Physically strengthen pedestrian and cycling connections from the Waterfront to Whangārei City Centre (along James, John Street and Rathbone Street with James Street as the priority) as outlined in the Whangārei Complete Streets Masterplan.	Public-WDC lead	  	Ongoing	Funding Resourcing
 Active transport (priority action)	2. Encourage walking and cycling transport modes a. Review and update the 2018 Walking and Cycling Strategy b. Improve shared path (commuter) connections to i. interconnect the existing shared paths (Kamo and Onerahi shared paths) ii. to travel through Whangārei City, creating a link to the south of Whangārei (Raumaunga shared path). c. Improve the safety (design and materials) of transport infrastructure	Public-WDC lead	  	a.,b. Planned Partially funded c. ongoing	a. Walking and cycling strategy review b., c., d. Funding / resourcing b. ii. PublicSpace Bylaw review
 Water connection (priority action)	3. Strengthen the relationship to water/waterways by improving access to the Hātea River and Waiarohia Stream for passive and active water activities in the following areas a. Town Basin b. Hihiaua Peninsula c. William Fraser Park on Pohe Island (Marina hub) d. Riverside Drive e. Upper Hātea (north of the Victorian Bridge). f. New Marina	Both-WDC lead	    	Ongoing a. Underway /funded	Re-development Publicspace improvements Funding Resourcing
 Parking (priority action)	4. Undertake a full review of the Parking Management Strategy including a study to identify the number of parks, mobility (disability) parks and their location.	Public-WDC lead	 	Underway Funded	
 Transport choice (priority action)	5. Promote and support multi-modal transport options to/from and within the Waterfront area through a. Improving the bus network to service the Waterfront area i. Encourage public transport usage (local and inter-regional services) by integrating local bus routes and connections to service the waterfront area (Dent Street/Town Basin area). ii. Work with Northland Regional Council to re-visit a 'Loop Bus' or an autonomous/'e' shuttle service that connects the waterfront to key destinations, such employment/education hubs, shopping centres and Whangārei City Centre. This could connect to a park and ride for workers/commuters. b. Undertake a feasibility study to examine a water ferry service which could connect Whangārei Heads, One Tree Point area and the Port/Port Nikau area and the required supporting infrastructure for this service. Subject to the outcomes of the feasibility study: i. Future-proof water mobility infrastructure and services at the Town Basin ii. Enable water-based transport (i.e. ferry service) c. Promote and provide e-charging facilities for e- bikes and mobility scooters along the Hātea Loop and electric vehicle charging stations at Cobham Oval carpark, Hātea East carpark and Whangārei Aquatic Centre carpark.	Public-NRC lead	   	a., b. Strategic /Unfunded c. Ongoing	a. Population increase/ PT uptake b. Water taxi/ ferry service feasibility c. Resourcing Funding



































Key	Action	Responsibility	Key outcomes achieved	Funded/ timing	Trigger(s)
 Consistent design palette	6. Future development of streetscapes follows the Whangārei Complete Street Master Plan design palette for furniture, rubbish bins, landscaping (trees/planting) and wayfinding signage for future publicspace improvement in a consistent way.	Both - WDC lead	    	Ongoing	Projects Publicspace improvements
 Hātea Loop – Huarahi o te whai	7. a. Widen the Hātea Loop to a minimum of 4m and improve the experience (consistency and accessibility) of the Loop. i. Educate users on shared path. ii. Consider methods to reduce conflict between multi-modal users such as tactical urbanism, signage/markings, and/or separate lanes. b. Create a wide low speed shared promenade in locations like the Town Basin, where there is a need to balance both movement and place making activities. c. Support action 9 in the Whangārei Arts, Cultural and Heritage Strategy, 2019-2029 to enhance art in public spaces including art, sculpture and lighting installations along the Hātea loop.	Public-WDC lead Both (lead WDC and Creative Northland)	   	a., c., Ongoing b. Strategic Unfunded	Re-development Publicspace improvements Resourcing Funding
 Transit lane	8. Provide transit bus lanes on key commuter corridors (along Riverside Drive) to reduce delays on buses and increase frequency of buses to make public transport more attractive.	Public-WDC	 	Planned Funded	
 Bike Hub	9. a. Support the development of a Bike Hub on Pohe Island which offers a diverse range of bike experiences and amenities such as a pump track, learn to ride, and BMX track. b. Provide cycling storage facilities and cycling amenities including unisex changing facilities and secure cycling storage areas in the Waterfront. c. Support multi-modal education and bike programmes.	Both-Bike Northland lead	   	a. Underway / Funded b. Strategic/ Unfunded c. Ongoing	Resourcing Funding
 Wayfinding signage	10. Improve and coordinate consistent wayfinding signage to, from and within the Waterfront.	Public-WDC lead	   	Ongoing	Resourcing Funding

















Destination

Enhance the Waterfront's profile as a meeting place as well as a place to live, work, learn and play. The waterfront offers a range of activities, amenities and diverse experiences for all including locals, visitors, all ages and abilities. The waterfront is accessible, inclusive and distinctive with well-designed buildings and spaces to relax, sit, play, gather and interact in.



Key	Action	Responsibility	Key outcomes achieved	Funding/timing	Trigger
 Vibrant places (priority action)	11. Provide vibrant, accessible, multi-purpose and well-designed spaces that cater to all needs in the community as well as attract visitors. Focus initially on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. New Town Basin Park b. William Fraser Park on Pohe Island c. Blue Green Network implementation 	Public-WDC lead		a. Underway/ Funded b., c. Ongoing	Funding Publicspace improvements
 Enable development (priority action)	12. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Develop and keep up to date the WDC Commercial Property Prospectus which identifies strategic sites, prepare these sites for investment and outline the redevelopment opportunities including the possible staging of development. b. Enable high quality, well designed development through working in partnership to redevelop council owned sites or enable development aligned with the WDC Commercial Property Prospectus. c. As opportunities arise, undertake public private partnerships or joint ventures to enable development/redevelopment on Council owned land. 	Public-WDC lead		a. Underway/ Funded b.,c., Ongoing	
 Well designed (priority action)	13. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Council takes a design-led approach to Council projects including public spaces, streets, structures and buildings. b. Design flexible spaces that can be used in multiple ways, in all seasons. c. Ensure all amenities/facilities are inclusively designed and accessible for all user groups and life scenarios such as pregnancy, childhood, injury, disability and old age. d. Strengthen and protect view shafts to Parihaka maunga, waterways and signature infrastructure including Te Matua o Pohe Bridge, Kotuitui Whitinga bridge and the Canopy Bridge e. Encourage the use of Council Urban Design guidelines for all future development and public space. 	Both - WDC lead		Ongoing	Re development Publicspace improvements
 Celebrate heritage (priority action)	14. Unlock and celebrate our Māori and European cultural heritage and multi-cultural communities in Whangārei; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Invigorate Tangata Whenua/Māori presence in waterfront area b. Weave cultural narratives (Māori, European and multi-cultural communities in Whangārei) into the placemaking of the Waterfront and the design of future development and urban spaces. c. Support action 3 in the Whangārei Arts, Cultural and Heritage Strategy, 2019-2029 to encourage and promote Ngā Toi Māori (Māori arts). d. Extend the heritage trail/boards to the whole waterfront area. 	Both -WDC lead Both-Creative Northland		Ongoing	Projects Development
 Opportunity sites	15. Identify strategic opportunity sites that can be catalyst sites for activation and achieve good connectivity and design outcomes (see note below table on Oruku).	Public-WDC lead		Ongoing	

Key	Action	Responsibility	Key outcomes achieved	Funding/timing	Trigger
 Partnership	16. Build stronger partnership relationships with Tangata Whenua (hapū and iwi) to co-design and implement future infrastructure and publicspace projects.	Both - WDC lead	   	Ongoing	
 Night life	17. a. Review and update the ' Weekend and Night Time Economy Strategy 2014 ' b. Host free family friendly activities/events in the waterfront to enable all people to participate and positivity experience the waterfront. c. Implement actions in the '2019 Events Strategy' to encourage events, festivals and musical performances .	Public- WDC lead	  	a. Planned b., c. Ongoing	
 Play areas	18. Continue to create play areas for diverse ages (youth and older/aged people) and uses. a. Build the destination playground at William Fraser Memorial Park on Pohe Island. b. Investigate the possible location(s) for play areas for older people and consider funding for these projects in future Long-Term Plans.	Public- WDC lead	  	a. Strategic Unfunded b. Planned Funded	Funding Resourcing
 Mixed-use	19. a. Enable residential and mixed-use development in the Waterfront. b. When opportunities arise, work with light industrial businesses to relocate out of the Waterfront to other appropriate sites. c. Through the resource consent process ensure urban design principles/Te Aranga design principles are incorporated into the development this should focus on active frontages, natural surveillance, enhance view shafts, the form and scale of development.	Both - WDC lead	    	Ongoing	Relocation of businesses Resource consents
 Safety	20. Apply CPTED principles and the WDC Urban Design guidelines when improving existing publicspaces, streets and parks.	Both - WDC lead	   	Ongoing	New projects Publicspace improvements
 Celebrate arts	21. Enhance art and culture in the waterfront by (using various Council tools such as, but not limited to); a. Supporting public arts initiatives through the Whangārei Creative Communities Scheme, Council's community funding scheme or community grants. b. Enabling and supporting events through the 'Event Development Fund'. c. Enhance the profile of Whangārei's waterfront as a visitor destination as well as a place to live, work and play by supporting the development and implementation of the relevant actions/programmes in the Destination Management Plan for Te Tai Tokerau (to be completed end of 2021). d. Promoting arts and culture through our destination marketing material such as the Whangārei Visitor Guide and Council social media/digital platforms.	Both- WDC lead and Creative Northland	     	Ongoing	Events Projects Community initiatives
 Noise	22. When District Plan noise provisions are reviewed, consider the growing demand for different types of events in and around the Waterfront.	Public- WDC lead	 	Planned	District Plan review

Key	Action	Responsibility	Key outcomes achieved	Funding/timing	Trigger
 Connectivity	23. Through projects such as the new Town Basin park enable easy, legible access to the Hundertwasser Art Centre and Wairau Māori Art Gallery and the surrounding public places.	Both- WDC lead	   	Underway Funded	
 Activation	24. As part of the 'International Arts Festival', activate blank walls/building facades by using artwork, murals or green walls/planting in the Waterfront.	Both - Public	    	Ongoing	Festival Funding Community
 Structures	25. Improve existing structures/pontoons and provide additional structures such as wharfs, jetties and pontoons to interact better with the water and provide recreation opportunities.	Public- WDC lead	   	Ongoing Strategic Partially-funded	Re-development Publicspace improvements

The potential development opportunity of Oruku on our waterfront has been subject to public consultation on our Long-Term Plan 2021-31 (LTP). Whangārei District Council support through that process was contingent on Northland Regional Council funding and a due diligence process, both of these failed. This means, currently that there will be no funding support for this project in our LTP. This will be formally confirmed through the LTP adoption in late June 2021. However, there is still future development potential for the Riverside site and other options for the delivery of the development.

Environment

Whangārei's natural environment is one of the leading reasons people visit our District and why they choose to move here. The Waterfront is a unique and treasured place, the meeting point of the Hātea River and the Whangārei Harbour.

Key



Green spaces



Blue Green Network
























Improve stormwater management

Applies to entire area



Responsive to climate change and flooding








Key	Action	Responsibility	Key outcomes achieved	Funding/timing	Trigger
 Responsive to climate change and flooding (priority action)	26. Undertake climate change risk assessments (subject to funding through LTP processes) for the Waterfront to account for natural hazards such as flooding. a. Following the completion of the Climate Change Risk Assessments, work towards enabling future development, infrastructure and public improvements to be responsive to climate change and hazards.	Both- WDC lead	    	Planned	Funding Resourcing
 Blue Green Network (priority action)	27. As opportunities and funding becomes available, implement the Blue Green Network Implementation Plan including flood works, walkway /cycleway /shared use path extensions, infrastructure planning and riparian planting.	Public- WDC lead	   	Ongoing	Funding Resourcing
 Improve stormwater management (priority action)	28. a. Reduce containments/pollutants entering our waterways by improving onsite stormwater management for existing and future development such as retention systems, stormwater filtration, soaking pits, swales, litter pits/traps and low impact urban design techniques b. Support actions in the Whangārei Harbour Catchment Management Plan to improve the quality of our waterways . c. Enhance ecosystem services by planting scrubs, flaxes and riparian planting to strengthen ecological connectivity allowing plants, birds, animals and insects to migrate between the areas.	Both – NRC lead	   	Ongoing	Funding Resourcing
 Green spaces	29. Enhance green spaces with riparian/tree planting, landscaping and amenities such as shade, seating/picnic tables and rubbish/recycling in. a. Hīhīaua Peninsula b. Pohe Island c. Riverside Drive Park d. Hātea Drive Reserve e. Upper Hātea, alongside Aquatic Centre	Public– WDC lead	   	(a,c,d,e) Strategic Unfunded (b) Ongoing	Funding/res ourcing Community initiative

Focus areas

Five areas of interest or focus areas have been identified in the Waterfront Precinct Plan. The following actions relate to one of the specific geographical areas.

Key






-  Upper Hātea
-  Town Basin Te Ahipūpūrangi -a-ihenga
-  Hīhīāua Peninsula
-  William Fraser Park on Pohe Island
-  Ōkara marine hub

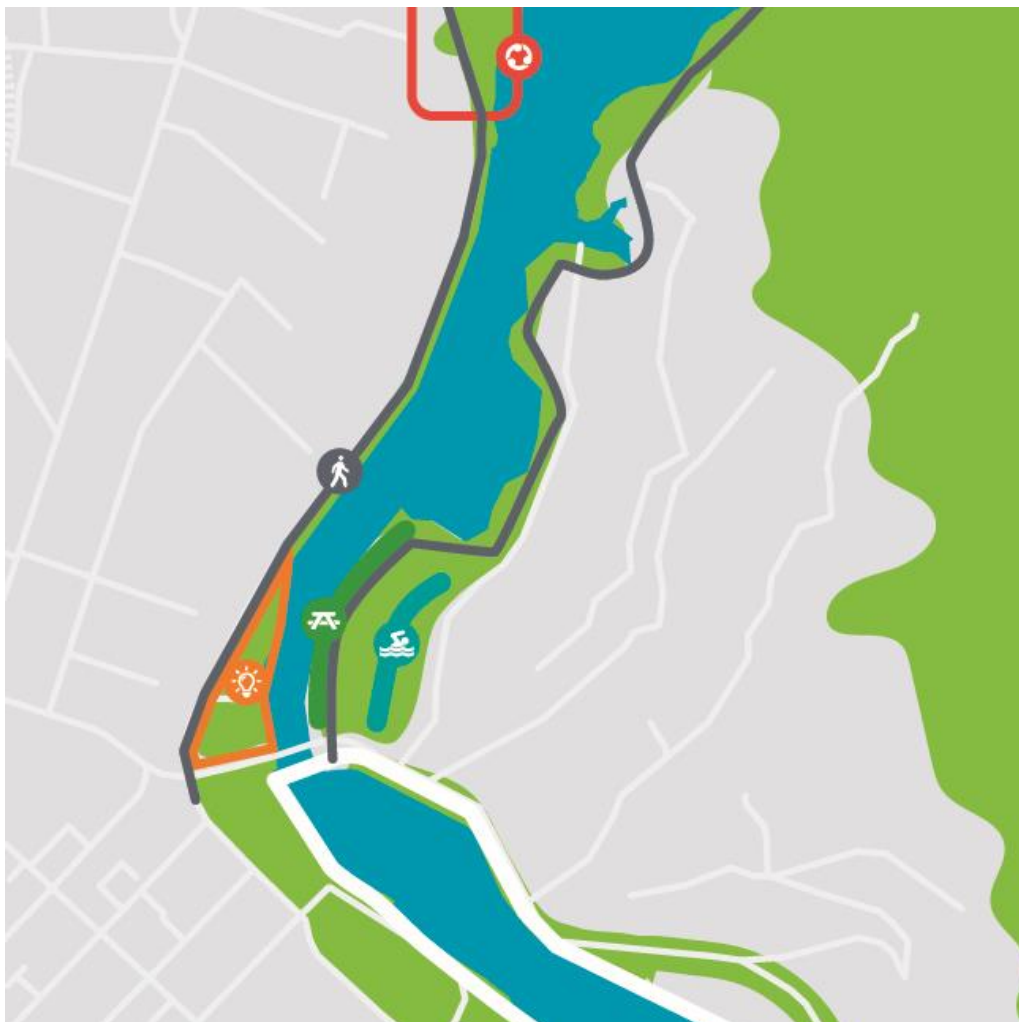






























Upper Hātea

The upper Hātea area is presently a recreation area with a small number of houses located on Ewing Road. Historically, it was an area of early Māori and European occupation. Parihaka was a significant pa and the lower slopes and Hātea River used by Māori for gardening, food collection and storage. Early settlers such as the Mair's family, were pivotal in the early development of Whangārei and infrastructure such as Mair's landing. The Landing was used to convey people and cargo from the river to land until the construction of the Victoria's Bridge which impeded access for large vessels to the site.

Key

-  Tawatawhiti/Mair's landing
-  Hātea east strategic site
-  Whangārei Aquatic Centre
-  Mair Park connections
-  Hātea green









Key	Action	Responsibility	Key outcomes achieved	Funding / timing	Trigger
 Tawatawhiti / Mair's Landing (priority action)	30. Recognize and celebrate Tawatawhiti/ Mair's Landing as an important cultural, historical and archaeological landscape. a. Improve public access to the site, include this site into the Parihaka and Hātea River Reserve- Reserve Management Plan, when reviewed. b. Promote European and Māori historical items (including the coal shute, terraces, Tawatawhiti and boat sheds) and narratives through placemaking.	Public -WDC lead	     	Strategic Unfunded	Parihaka Reserve management Plan review Resourcing/ funding
 Hātea east strategic site (priority action)	31. Investigate design opportunities to improve the public amenity and design of the parking layout , improving the functionality and number parking spaces, while providing public access to and along the Hātea River.	Public-WDC lead	   	Strategic Unfunded	Resourcing Funding
 Whangārei Aquatic Centre	32. Develop a detailed district aquatic facility plan as outlined in action 17 of the Action Recreation and Sport Strategy (2019). a. Based on the district aquatic facility plan, undertake a detailed concept/master plan for the Whangārei Aquatic Centre which considers, improving pedestrian access to the Centre, parking and multimodal transport amenities, strengthening connections to the Hātea River and public space, splash pad/water features and its facilities.	Public- Sport Northland	    	Planned Partially funded	Resourcing Funding
 Hātea green	33. Improve the 'Hātea green' area as a passive recreation opportunity, picnic area with shade, seating (possible BBQ amenities) and ecological restoration.	Public- WDC lead	    	Strategic Unfunded	Resourcing Funding
 Mair park connection	34. Improve walking and cycling connections north of the Canopy bridge to Mair Park and beyond. a. Undertake a feasibility study to identify the best pedestrian/ trail cycling route /connection to Mair Park (eastern side of the Hātea River). b. Undertake a business plan to connect the waterfront to connect to the Tikipunga Shared Path along Hātea Drive which will inform the review of the Walking and Cycling Strategy and projects or vice versa.	Public- WDC lead	  	Strategic Unfunded	Walking and cycling strategy review Resourcing Funding

Hīhīaua Peninsula

The Hīhīaua Peninsula is situated at the confluence of two waterways, the Waiarohia Stream and Hātea River. Hīhīaua has strong connections to early European and Māori settlement, the Hīhīaua area once was occupied by local Māori and used as a busy canoe landing place, a shellfish gathering ground and a small fishing village with a pā built on the Ōkara hills. In modern times, it is a cultural hub with the Hīhīaua Cultural Centre, a world-class Māori arts and cultural experience, Waka and Wave sculpture, Te Marama Trust/Te Kāpehu Whetu, Hātea loop and Kotuitui Whitinga pedestrian bridge.








































Key

-  Hīhīaua Cultural Centre – stage 2
-  Blue Green Network
-  Water access
-  Mixed use
-  Shared lane
-  Hīhīaua green

Applies to entire area

-  Events




Key	Action	Responsibility	Key outcomes achieved	Funding/ Timing	Trigger
 Hihiaua Cultural Centre – stage 2	35. Support stage 2 of Hihiaua Cultural Centre by funding \$5m in the Long-Term Plan.	Both - Hihiaua Trust	   	LTP deliberations	LTP deliberations
 Blue Green Network	36. As part of the Blue Green Network Implementation Plan, detail design and build the Waiarohia loop and future proof connections upstream of the Waiarohia Stream to Cafler Park.	Public– WDC lead	    	Planned Partially funded	Resourcing Funding
 Water access	37. Investigate a new water connection to the Waiarohia stream to launch Waka and other water sport activities.	Both- WDC lead	    	Strategic Unfunded	Resourcing Funding
 Mixed-use development	38. Partner or release land to developers to enable high amenity residential and mixed-use development .	Both- WDC lead	     	Ongoing	Light industry relocation
 Shared lane	39. Design and transform Reyburn House Lane into a shared/slow street .	Public– NTA lead	  	Strategic Unfunded	MU re-development Funding
 Hihiaua green	40. Undertake a landscape concept plan for the Hihiaua Peninsula in partnership with the Hihiaua Culture Centre Trust which considers, shared path connections, landscaping, outdoor amphitheatre, water connection features and so on.	Both- WDC lead	     	Strategic Unfunded	Hihiaua Cultural Centre stage 2 Resourcing /Funding
 Events	41. Enable and facilitate community, local and large events at the Hihiaua Peninsula.	Both- WDC lead	  	Ongoing	Events




































Ōkara marina hub

Connecting the waterfront to the industrial area along Port Road through improving land uses and upgrading transport connections with transform this area. The current marina at the Town Basin is reaching capacity and demand for berths and land-based activities is rapidly increasing. The new Marina facility will create additional berths and more land for marina related activities.

Key























-  New marina
-  Port Road bridge
-  Ballance site
-  Limeburner's shared path
-  Pedestrian connections
-  Cobham oval car park
-  Streetscape



Key	Action	Responsibility	Key outcomes achieved	Funding/ Timing	Trigger
 New marina (priority action)	42. Support the new Ōkara Marina , marina office and facility building.	Private- Marina Trust	     	Planned Partially funded	Funding
 Port Road (priority action)	43. Upgrade and widen the bridge at Port Road intersection to enable efficient movement of intermodal transport.	Public- WDC lead	   	Underway Funded	
 Ballance site (priority action)	44. Get the Ballance site investment ready for future development.	Public- WDC lead	    	Underway	
 Limeburner's shared path	45. Upon review of the Walking and Cycling Strategy explore options and design of the Limeburner's shared walking and cycle path route .	Public- WDC lead	   	Strategic Unfunded	Walking and Cycling Strategy review
 Pedestrian	46. Provide safe crossing connections (for pedestrian and cyclists) from the waterfront to the stadium on Port Road.	Public- WDC lead	  	Strategic Unfunded	Intersection upgrade Funding
 Cobham Oval	47. Complete the car park upgrade including 184 car parks, rain gardens, new entrance and charging stations.	Public- WDC lead	  	Underway Funded	
 Streetscape	48. Improve streetscape amenity on Port Road.	Public- WDC lead	  	Strategic Unfunded	Funding

William Fraser Park on Pohe Island








In 2019, a masterplan was developed for William Fraser Park on Pohe Island. The masterplan provides a blue print for the redevelopment of Pohe Island, transforming it from a closed landfill site to the ‘great urban park of Whangārei’, a world class passive and active recreation area. Due to the nature of Pohe Island as a capped landfill, development on the 54ha site must be carefully considered and planned.

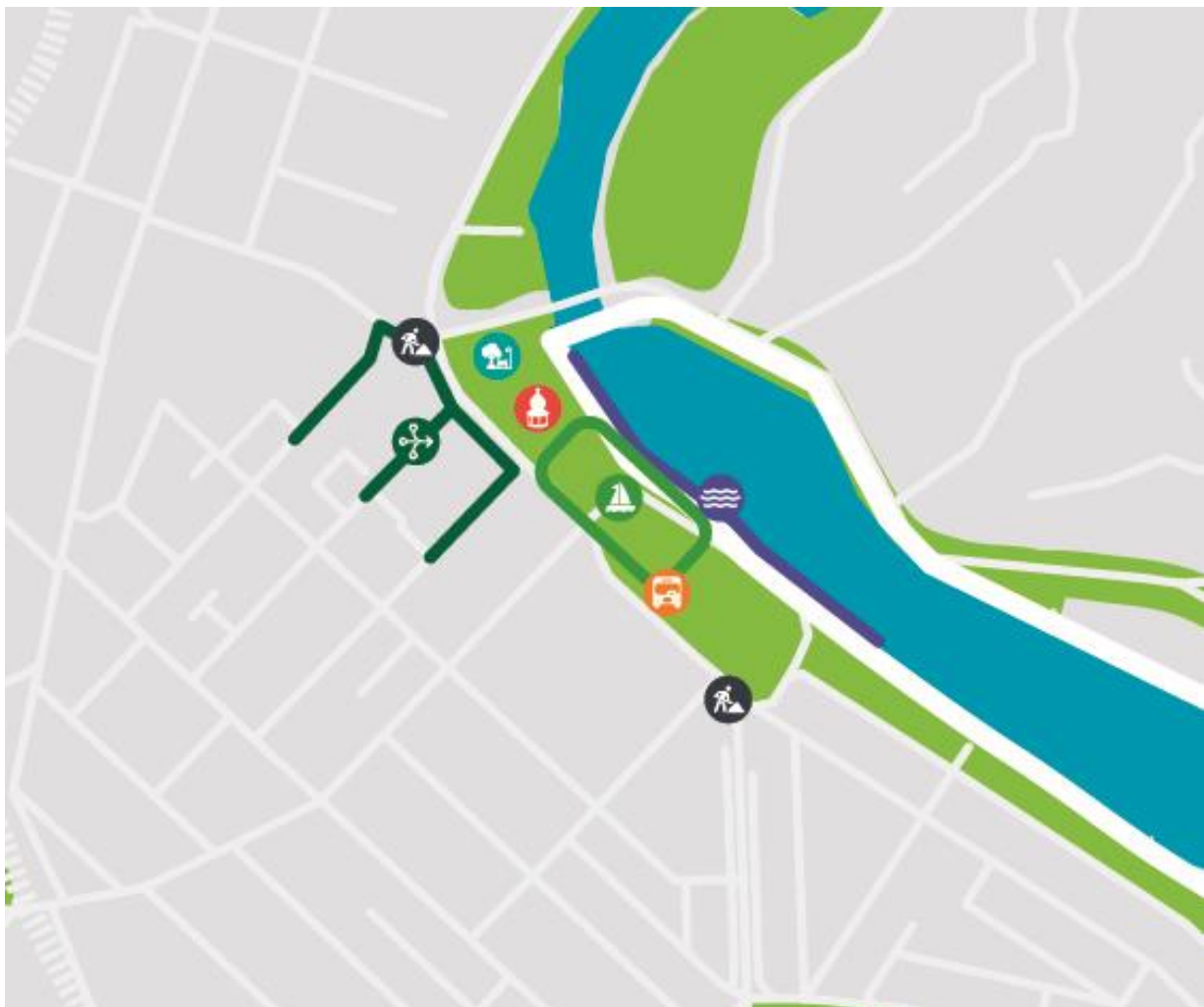
	Action	Responsibility	Key outcomes achieved	Funding/ Timing	Trigger
 Pohe Island Master Plan (priority action)	49. Consider funding through the Long-Term Plan to execute projects outlined in the William Fraser Plan on Pohe Island Master Plan including but not limited to, the Bike Park, Skate Park, Marine Hub, Destination Playground, Village green, riparian planting (and so on).	Both- WDC Lead	      	Ongoing	Resourcing/ Funding
 Temporary activities	50. Encourage and facilitate temporary activities such as pop-up stalls, temporary markets, kayak and bicycle hire, and so on to take place in designated/assigned areas.	Both- WDC Lead	     	Ongoing	Events Season
 Review and update	51. a. Update and review the William Fraser Plan Master Plan on Pohe Island Master Plan in conjunction with the review of the William Fraser Plan on Pohe Island Reserve Management Plan. b. Explore possible options of activation or uses for the open grassed area and eastern side of Pohe Island such as a viewing platform or art/sculpture trail as part of the above action.	Public- WDC lead	     	a. Planned b. Strategic Unfunded	Reserve Management Plan Review








































Town Basin - Te Ahipūpūrangi

Whangārei's Town Basin is the beating heart of the Waterfront. It is a recreation, culture and tourism hub, hosting a range of eateries, specialist shops, museums and attractions. It offers a peaceful place to eat, have a coffee/drink or take in picturesque views. It is an attractive destination for families, locals, yachties and visitors alike.

Key

-  Urban park
-  Intersection upgrades
-  Town Basin redevelopment opportunities
-  Hundertwasser
-  Strengthen water connections
-  Waterfront stitch
-  Bus terminal



Key	Action	Responsibility	Key outcomes achieved	Funding/ Timing	Trigger
 Urban park (priority action)	52. Design and build a new Park for the waterfront, which links the Town Basin and Whangārei Centre City, and creates a versatile multi-purpose public space.	Public- WDC lead	     	Underway Funded	
 Intersection upgrades (priority action)	53. Enable safe and efficient movement for all transport modes and balance the street network by upgrading a. Dent Street and Rathbone intersection b. Hātea Drive and Dent Street intersection	Public- WDC lead	  	Ongoing Partially funded	Resourcing Funding
 Town Basin (priority action)	54. Obtain external advice on the redevelopment opportunities including a concept plan and sequencing/timing of development.	Public- WDC lead	     	Strategic Unfunded	Resourcing Funding
 Hundertwasser (priority action)	55. Support the completion and opening of the Hundertwasser Art Centre and Wairau Māori Art Gallery .	Both- WAMT lead	    	Underway Funded	
 Strengthen water connections	56. a. Improve connections (visual and physical) to the Hātea river. b. Upgrade wharf structures to enable water connection.	Public- WDC lead	   	a. Ongoing b. Underway Funded	Re- development Publicspace
 Waterfront stitch	57. Strengthen the pedestrian and cycling connection between the Waterfront and City Centre through a. John street b. James Street	Public- WDC lead	   	a. Underway b. Planned	Resourcing Funding
 Bus terminal	58. Upgrade the bus terminal and visitor facility (the Hub).	Public- WDC lead	   	Underway funded	

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