

# Whangarei District Council Meeting

## Agenda

**Date:** Tuesday, 26 July, 2022

**Time:** 9:00 am

**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. Karakia/Prayer
2. Declarations of Interest / Take Whaipānga
3. Apologies / Kore Tae Mai
4. Decision Reports / Whakatau Rīpoata
  - 4.1. Whangārei Airport Location Consultation Submissions and Hearing 1
5. Public Excluded Business / Rāhui Tangata
6. Closure of Meeting / Te katinga o te Hui

Recommendations contained in the Council agenda may not be the final decision of Council.

Please refer to Council minutes for final resolution.

## 4.1 Whangārei Airport Location Options Consultation – Submissions and Hearing

**Meeting:** Whangarei District Council  
**Date of meeting:** 26 July 2022  
**Reporting officer:** Simon Weston (Chief Executive)

### 1 Purpose / Te Kaupapa

To receive and hear the submissions on possible options for a potential future airport for Whangārei District.

### 2 Recommendation/s / Whakataunga

That Council;

1. notes the report.
2. receive and hear the submissions relating to possible options for a potential future airport for Whangārei District.
3. agree that any submissions identified as being received after the close of the submission period and prior to this meeting also be accepted for consideration by council.

### 3 Background / Horopaki

Whangārei District Council (“Council”) has recently sought public submissions on its proposal to future proof aviation for the Whangārei District, and Te Tai Tokerau, Northland and to gauge community support for three potential future locations including the existing location at Onerahi.

The four options considered are:

- Further investigate Ruatangata West (Site 6) as an alternative airport location
- Further investigate Ruatangata (Site 9) as an alternative airport location
- Further investigate One Tree Point (Site 24A) as an alternative airport location
- Continue to operate from the existing Onerahi airport site.

The purpose of this Consultation and Submissions Summary Report (“the Report”) is to summarise the Airport Location Option Study (ALOS) consultation and engagement approach and to detail key preliminary findings from submissions received.

In accordance with Special Consultative Procedure of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA 2002) and Council’s Significance and Engagement Policy 2020 (S&E Policy), Council’s communications and engagement strategy, Council:

- Sought to continue to bring partners, stakeholders, and the community along the journey and increase the transparency on the process and investigation work undertaken to-date
- Shared the three preferred site locations identified from feasibility studies and explained the rationale behind the thinking
- Sought public submissions on Council's proposal to future proof aviation for Whangārei District
- Sought feedback from stakeholders and the community on the three potential future airport locations including the existing airport at Onerahi
- Sought stakeholders and community's views and knowledge on the four options
- Provide an opportunity for submitters to be heard in support of their submission at a hearing.

## **4 Discussion / Whakawhiti kōrero**

### **4.1 Key Dates and Decisions**

At the full Council meeting on 30 March 2022, Council resolved to implement the Airport Locations Options Study (ALOS) Communications and Engagement Plan and seek public feedback on the three preferred alternative airport locations.

On 1 April, Council officers confirmed the consultation would be undertaken as a Special Consultative Procedure under the LGA 2002.

Public consultation commenced on 20 April. The consultation period was scheduled to run for approximately five weeks, closing on 25 May.

On 26 May, and in response to feedback received from the public and key stakeholders/partners, Council agreed to release additional ALOS technical assessments and background reports that had informed the three options being considered by Council. The additional material was made available on Council's consultation webpage on 1 June and the consultation period was subsequently extended by a further five weeks, to close 1 July.

The submissions hearing is scheduled for 26 July 2022.

### **4.2 Details of Consultation**

Council notified the public through a media release, newspaper advertisements, and via the Council's website. Three drop-in public information events and one online panel discussion offered the public an opportunity to ask questions on the four options and other aspects of the project.

Copies of the Statement of Proposal were available from:

- a) Whangārei District Council's office
- b) Any Council Service Centre or Library within the Whangārei District
- c) Council's online engagement platform Have Your Say [wdc.govt.nz/HaveYourSay](https://wdc.govt.nz/HaveYourSay).

The Statement of Proposal included:

- Details of each of the four options (including what Council knows and has to consider)
- An overview of why an airport is strategically important to the District
- Instructions on how to give feedback, including via a feedback form provided.

The public could submit feedback:

- By filling out a feedback form at one of the three drop-in public information events
- Via the consultation webpage [wdc.govt.nz/HaveYourSay](https://wdc.govt.nz/HaveYourSay)
- By posting the feedback form
- By emailing [mailroom@wdc.govt.nz](mailto:mailroom@wdc.govt.nz).

#### 4.3 Questions Asked

Engagement with the community sought to capture targeted local insights and hear what's important to locals when it comes to choosing a future airport site.

Three specific questions were asked about each of the four options:

1. What do you think are the benefits are of this site?
2. What are your key concerns about this site?
3. If we progressed investigations on this site, what else do we need to consider?

Council also asked:

4. Given the benefits and key concerns you highlighted above, do you have a favoured airport location?
5. Tell us why you feel this site best meets the needs of a future location of the Whangārei Airport?

#### 4.4 Preliminary Submission Findings

Preliminary analysis identifies submissions were received from the following project stakeholders, iwi and hapū groups, organisations, and partners:

- Northland Inc
- Fire and Emergency New Zealand
- Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency (Waka Kotahi)
- Ministry of Education
- Air New Zealand
- Whangārei Flying Club
- Ruakaka Residents and Ratepayers Association
- One Tree Point Residential Limited
- Nga Tai Ora (Public Health Northland) Northland District Health Board
- Queen Elizabeth II National Trust
- Maungatapere Village Inc
- Ngati Kahu o Torongare Te Parawhau Hapu Iwi Trust
- Patuharakeke Te Iwi Trust Board
- Korokota Marae, Te Parawhau Hapi, Tokiri Road, Titoki
- Ngā Hapū o Whangārei
- Forest & Bird
- West Auckland Airport.

In total, Council received 610 submissions over the ten-week consultation period.

77 people indicated within their submission that they wish to be heard in support of their submission at the hearing, now scheduled for 26 July 2022.

Preliminary analysis of submissions received indicates that the majority of submitters (49.80%) identify continuing to operate from Onerahi as their preferred option.<sup>1</sup>

Of the 610 submissions received, respondent's preferred airport location is:

- Continue to operate from Onerahi: 49.80%
- One Tree Point West (Site 24a): 28.05%
- Ruatangata (Site 9): 11.18%
- Ruatangata West (Site 6): 8.74%.

A full Engagement Summary Report, containing detailed analysis of all submissions received, is currently being prepared for the Council Issues and Options Briefing scheduled for Tuesday 9 August 2022.

## **5 Significance and engagement / Te Hira me te Arawhiti**

The decisions or matters of this Agenda triggered the significance criteria outlined in Council's Significance and Engagement Policy, therefore consultation was conducted in accordance with Special Consultative Procedure of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA 2002) and Council's Significance and Engagement Policy 2020 (S&E Policy) and Council's communications and engagement strategy:

## **6 Attachments / Ngā Tāpiritanga**

**Under separate cover** (available on council's website)

Submissions – Volumes 1 - 10

### RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

That the public be excluded from the following parts of proceedings of this meeting.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

1.	The making available of information would be likely to unreasonably prejudice the commercial position of persons who are the subject of the information. {Section 7(2)(c)}
2.	To enable the council (the committee) to carry on without prejudice or disadvantage commercial negotiations. {(Section 7(2)(i))}.
3.	To protect the privacy of natural persons. {Section 7(2)(a)}.
4.	Publicity prior to successful prosecution of the individuals named would be contrary to the laws of natural justice and may constitute contempt of court. {Section 48(1)(b)}.
5.	To protect information which is the subject to an obligation of confidence, the publication of such information would be likely to prejudice the supply of information from the same source and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied. {Section 7(2)(c)(i)}.
6.	In order to maintain legal professional privilege. {Section 2(g)}.
7.	To enable the council to carry on without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations {Section 7(2)(i)}.

### Resolution to allow members of the public to remain

If the council/committee wishes members of the public to remain during discussion of confidential items the following additional recommendation will need to be passed:

#### Move/Second

"That \_\_\_\_\_ be permitted to remain at this meeting, after the public has been excluded, because of his/her/their knowledge of Item \_\_\_\_\_.

This knowledge, which will be of assistance in relation to the matter to be discussed, is relevant to that matter because \_\_\_\_\_.

*Note:*

*Every resolution to exclude the public shall be put at a time when the meeting is open to the public.*