

TE MAHERE Ā-ROHE O RODNEY 2020

Rodney Local Board Plan 2020



Mihi

Tēnā, ngā mihi te tukuna atu nei ki a koutou
e nga manawhenua
e kapekape tonu nei
i ngā ahikā roa e horapa mai nā
ki te taha whakararo o te tipua tāone nei
o Tāmaki Makaurau.
Kia pāorooro tēnei karere
mā runga i ō maunga whakahī.
Kia tīmata ake au i te Kumeū,
ka rere whakawaho ki te one tapu o Muriwai.
Kia hoki ake ki uta, ko Tauwhare ki te rāwhiti,
a Tarawera ki te raki,
ki te taha whakaroto
ko Tuhirangi rāua ko Te Atuanui
Kia kauhoe ngā mihi mā te moana
ki te Araparera
ko koe tēnā e Taranaki,
ka kapi ngā pou tauawhi i a te Kaipara
i hua ai te kōrero,
*“E tupu i wīwī, i wāwā, tūria i te wera,
piri ki te rito o te rengarenga,
waiho me whakapakari ki te hua o te kawariki.”*
Ināianei me māwhiti aku kupu ki Kaiwaka,
ki Pukekaroro ki te raraunga o te tini i mate,
te aroha tonutia i muri nei.
Kia tahuri iho rā ia ki Matakana,
ko Tamahunga tērā e tū mai rā i te pae.
Ka hīkoi aku mihi mā ngā kāhiwi
kia heke iho ki te awa o Pūhoi
kia rere aku mihi ki te tuawhenua
i nohoa e te iti me te rahi.
Kia ū mai anō taku haere ki Huapai,
ā-tangata, ā-whenua.
Nō rātou te whiwhi, nō mātou te whiwhi,
kia kī ake ai tātou katoa,
*“He rohenga tangata,
he iwi tōpuni,
mōwai tonu te whenua e takoto nei e.”*

Our greetings and salutations to you
the mana whenua
who continue to tend
the historical fires that encompass
this great city
of Auckland.
May this message echo
across your noble mountains.
Let me begin at Kumeū
then turn outwards to the sacred sands of Muriwai.
I hook inward again where eastward is Tauwhare,
to the north is Tarawera,
and inland stands
Tuhirangi and Atuanui.
Let this greeting travel the inland sea
to Araparera
where Taranaki
completes the guardians of the Kaipara,
who inspired the proclamation,
*“People will grow here and there, upright in the heat,
hiding like the shoots of the rengarenga,
and maturing like the fruit of the kawariki.”*
Now let my words cross to Kaiwaka
and Pukekaroro, the scene of past losses
that are still mourned today.
Turning then to Matakana,
where stands Tamahunga on the horizon.
Let this greeting follow the ridgeline
down to the Pūhoi River
where it can return inland to the valleys
where the original settlers came.
Our journey ends at Huapai,
of people, and land.
Their good fortune is our shared providence,
so, the axiom,
*“The community
are people in communion,
and a calm lies over the land.”*

Ngā upoko kōrero

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On the cover:
Kayaks are launched from
the ramp at Murray Jones
Reserve and paddlers explore
the picturesque Rangitopuni
Stream, Riverhead.



From the Chair

This plan will guide the local board's work for the next three years. It will inform our investment and partnerships, ensure we are advocating for what matters to you, and will serve to harness the skills and knowledge needed to drive progress in our community.

Rodney's expansive geography is unique. Compared to other local boards, we have a low population, yet the largest geographical area, representing 46 per cent of Auckland. But we are growing rapidly; our population growth was 21 per cent between 2013 and 2018, the second fastest of Auckland's local boards. Looking ahead, our population is expected to grow to 108,273 by 2036. This brings both opportunities and challenges.

- How do we grow in a way that is sustainable and provides an appropriate level of amenities such as community halls, parks, playgrounds, footpaths, and transport services, now and in the future?
- How do we ensure we have the right infrastructure to cope with this growth?
- How do we preserve and protect our natural environment, including the harbours we fish and boat in, and the rivers that feed them, as our population expands?
- How do we balance our funding across Rodney in a way that is both strategic and responsive, and delivers a core range of services and facilities cost effectively?

Our local board plan is about how we can achieve this as a community in the best possible way. We must strike the right balance between affordability and aspiration.

This plan sees us continue focusing on road safety and improved transport, particularly road sealing, advocating for improvements to state highways 1 and 16, and improving bus services across Rodney.

We remain committed to the environment by concentrating on protecting and restoring ecosystems and improving the water quality in our streams, rivers and harbours.

We will advocate for facilities and infrastructure that cater to Rodney's growth while maintaining the character and vibrancy of our communities and strong sense of pride.

One of the facilities that we need is a local board office in our area. We are the only local board that does not have a permanent physical presence within its boundaries. In 2018 the Local Government Commission review stated that an office in Rodney will help make our local board more visible and more accessible to residents. We want this to happen as soon as possible.

Building resilient communities where you feel supported and protected is also a priority. We understand your need for more sport and recreation facilities that cater to all ages and abilities, and promote healthy, active lifestyles.

The COVID-19 pandemic has tested our resilience. It brought sudden, widespread and devastating impact to families and businesses. The local board will need to be agile in its work

“
We must strike
the right balance
between affordability
and aspiration.”



programme and adapt it each year to ensure that we are responding to the needs of our community. The pandemic will demand heightened rigour over our priorities, particularly where proposed activities depend on funding.

Over the years you have shared with us what you think our priorities should be. Your continued feedback and insights are important to help us understand the changing needs of our communities, and to ensure we are aligned in our priorities for Rodney. In developing this plan, we have also considered the Auckland Plan which guides the long-term vision for the region.

There is no getting around it – the next three years will be a challenge given New Zealand's economic outlook and the council's constrained financial resources. But, if together we focus on what's important, I know we can achieve great things for Rodney.

Phelan Pirrie
Chairperson, Rodney Local Board

He kōrero nō te Heamana

Mā tēnei mahere e ārahi ngā mahi a te poari ā-rohe mō ngā toru tau kei mua i te aroaro. Ka ārahi i ngā whakataunga mō te whakapau pūtea, ngā whanaungatanga hei whakamārō, ngā kaupapa whakahirahira ki a koe hei whakarewa ake mā te poari, ā, ka whakatōpū hoki i ngā pūkenga me ngā mōhiotanga hei kōkiri i te ara whakamua mō te hapori.

Me uaua ka kitea ngā āhuatanga taiao māhorahora o Rodney. Inā whakataurititia ana ki ērā atu poari ā-rohe, he iti te taupori, heoi, kei Rodney ngā whenua tino whānui rawa atu o tēnei rohe - neke atu i te 46 ōrau o ngā whenua o Tāmaki-Makaurau whānui. Heoi, kei te tere piki te taupori; neke atu i te 21 ōrau te pikinga mai i te tau 2013 ki te tau 2018 - koia te pikinga tuarua tino tere o ngā poari ā-rohe o Tāmaki-Makaurau. Ka titiro whakamua, e matapaehia te taupori tangata kia piki ake ki te 108,273 i mua i te tau 2036. He wero whakarewa, he wero whakatūpatō hoki.

- Me pēhea te rohe nei e whakawhanake ake – ināianei, āpōpō hoki – kia taea ai te hanga i ngā mea mō te hapori pēnei i ngā whare hōro, ngā pāka, ngā papa tākaro, ngā ara hīkoi, ngā aratau hāereere.
- E pēhea tātou e hanga i ngā mea tika kia kore ai e raru i te pikinga taupori?
- E pēhea tātou e manaaki, e tiaki i te taiao, ngā tauranga hī ika me ngā tauranga whakaterere waka, ngā awa taketake, i te taupori e piki ana?
- E pēhea tātou e whakatauritea i ngā whakapaunga pūtea ki Rodney kia kore ai e nui rawa te utu, kia whai rautaki whakapau pūtea, kia whai take ai te whakapaunga, kia whai hua ā-ratonga, ā-whare rānei i te whakapaunga?

Ko tā te mahere poari ā-rohe he kimi i te huarahi kia whakatinanahia e tātou hei hapori, kia eke panuku. Me tika te whakataurite i te utu ki tētahi taha me te whakaea wawata ki tērā atu taha.

Ka aro tonu mātou ki ngā rori marutau me te whakapaipai i ngā mea hāereere, ko te papataui i ngā rori tētahi kaupapa nui, te tū hei māngai ki te akiaki i ngā whakapaipaitanga ki ngā rori ā-motu 1 me te 16, me te whakapaipai i ngā pūnaha pahi i Rodney.

Kei te mārō tonu te wawata ki te manaaki i te taiao, ā, ka aro pū ki te whakaruruha me te whakarauora i te pūnaha hauropi, ki te whakapiki i te ora o te wai māori e rere ana ki ngā manga, ngā awa me ngā tauranga. Ka akiaki mātou i ngā pūtea ki te whakatū whare me ētahi atu mea hei tautoko i e whakarahinga tangata o Rodney, ā, ka ngana hoki ki te mau ki te tuakiri motuhake, te hīkaka o ngā hapori me te whakahihī ki te rohe o Rodney.

Ko tētahi momo whare e hiahiatia ana ko te whare mō te poari ā-rohe i tēnei rohe. Ko tātou anake te poari ā-rohe karekau he whare i roto i tōnā ake rohe pōtae. I te tau 2018, e ai ki te arotake Local Government Commission, ka kitea te poari ā-rohe o Rodney mēnā ka whai whare ka tahi, ka ngāwari ake mō ngā tāngata o tēnei rohe te tae ā-tinana atu ka rua. Me tere te whakatinanatanga o tēnei wawata.

“ Me tika te whakataurite i te utu ki tētahi taha me te whakaea wawata ki tērā atu taha. ”



Te whakakaha i ngā hapori kia rongo ai te tangata i te ringa tautoko me te manaakitanga - he mea nui hoki tēnei. Kei te rongo mātou i tō hiahia kia hangaia ngā whare hākinakina me ngā whare ngahau hei akiaki i te tangata ki te whai i te ara ki te tinana ora ka tahi, hei painga mō ngā tāngata katoa, ahakoa te pakeke me te pūkenga ka rua.

Kua tino whakamātauria te kaha o te hapori i te urutā MATE-KORONA. I tau ohorere mai ai te raru nui, te raru whānui ki ngā whānau me ngā pakihi. Kāore e kore me urutau te rārangi mahi a te poari ā-rohe kia whai wāhi ki te rāweke ia tau, kia tika hoki tōna pīkau i ngā wawata o te hapori. Nā ngā taumahatanga o te urutā nei me āta whakarārangi tātou i ngā mahi hei kawae - he tino whakahirahira tēnei whakarārangi mēnā he kaupapa e pau ai te pūtea ki te whakatinana.

I ngā tau kua taha, i matua mārāma ki a mātou ngā kaupapa e whakahirahira ana ki a koutou.

He kōrero nō te Heamana

He whakahirahira ngā kōrero me ngā whakaaro e whakahokia mai ai e koutou kia mārama pū ai mātou ki ngā kaupapa nunui ki te hapori - he kaupapa e hurihuri ana. Waihoki, me rere ngātahi ngā wawata o te poari me ngā hapori o Rodney. I a mātou e waihanga ana i tēnei mahere, i whai whakaaro atu ki te Auckland Plan, te mahere e ārahi ana i te rautaki pae tawhiti mō te rohe whānui.

E kore e taea te karo - nā runga i ngā taumaha ohaoha me ngā taumahatanga ki te pūtea o te kaunihera, ka uua ngā toru tau kei mua i te aroaro. Heoi, mēnā ka piri tata tātou, ka aro pū ki ngā mea e tino whakahirahira ana, kāore e kore ka eke panuku te rohe o Rodney.



Phelan Pirrie

Heamana, Te Poari ā-Rohe o Rodney



He aronga poto i tā mātou mahere

Our plan at a glance

We will focus on five outcomes to guide our work and make Rodney a better community for all. Our aspirations are outlined below.



A bus stop in Warkworth.

Outcome 1: Safe, improved transport options connect our communities

Our transport infrastructure keeps pace with the needs of our communities, and public transport is accessible. People can access walkways, cycleways and bridleways close to where they live. Our roads are safe and well maintained.



Mahurangi College students learn to trap pest animals.

Outcome 2: Our natural environment is healthy and protected

Our coast, waterways and natural environment are our taonga / treasures. They are healthy and clean, with thriving biodiverse ecosystems. Communities look after our environment by eradicating pests, carrying out restoration work, and minimising waste. They are active in reducing their carbon emissions and living sustainably to combat climate change.



Helensville Town Centre.

Outcome 3: Infrastructure and development meets the needs of our growing communities

Our towns and villages are vibrant and attract people to shop and work locally. People are proud of their local area and its unique character. New development is planned carefully to consider current communities and meet future needs.



A cafe in Helensville.

Outcome 4: Our communities are resilient and have access to what they need

Our communities are resilient, supportive of each other and prepared for emergencies. They take a lead in organising events and activities. Our facilities and programmes meet the needs of our growing and changing communities.



Children enjoying the skate park and play zone in Wellsford War Memorial Park.

Outcome 5: Our local parks and recreation facilities meet the needs of our growing community

Our local parks, sport and recreation facilities cater to a wide range of interests and abilities. They are enjoyable places to visit, and relax or be active in. They are easily accessible and meet the demands of our current and future generations.



Te Rohe ā-Poari o Rodney

Rodney Local Board area



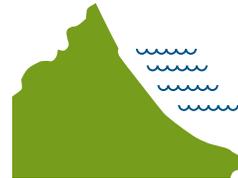


Rodney Local Board area
makes up
46 per cent
of the Auckland region's land mass

More than

1500km

of coastline



37

towns and
villages



A population of

66,417 (2018 Census)



4.2 per cent of the region's population,

an increase of **21 per cent**
since the 2013 Census.

Rodney's population
is expected to grow to **108,273** by 2036¹.

We are home to more than
350 local parks



5 libraries



23

council-owned
community halls



He kōrero mō ngā poari ā-rohe

About local boards

Auckland Council has a unique model of local government in New Zealand, made up of the Governing Body (the mayor and 20 councillors) and 21 local boards. The Governing Body focuses on Auckland-wide issues while local boards are responsible for decision-making on local matters, activities and services and provide input into regional strategies, policies and plans.

Local boards make decisions on local matters such as:

- supporting local arts, culture, events and sport and recreation
- providing grants and partnering with local organisations to deliver community services
- maintaining and upgrading town centres and facilities including parks, libraries and halls
- caring for the environment and preserving heritage.

Local boards also have a role in representing the view of their communities on issues of local importance.

About local board plans

Local board plans are strategic three-year plans that are developed in consultation with the community. They set out the direction for the local area that reflects community aspirations and priorities. The plans guide the local boards in:

- decisions on local activities, projects, and facilities
- input into the council's regional strategies and plans, including the Auckland Plan
- how local boards will work with other agencies including community groups, central government agencies and council-controlled organisations that play key roles in the area
- funding and investment decisions.

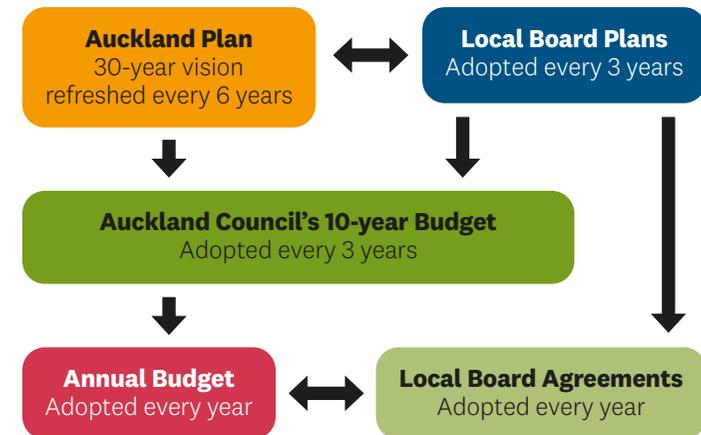
Local board plans are inclusive and connected; they don't operate in isolation.

They support the following:

- the Auckland Plan 2050 – the 30-year vision for Auckland
- the council's 10-year budget (long-term plan) – planned spending and future investment priorities over the longer term, including local boards
- the council's annual budget (annual plan) – funding for the coming financial year of the 10-year budget, including local boards.

Local board agreements form the basis for each local board to develop its annual work programme and set out local funding priorities and budgets, levels of service, performance measures and targets by activity for each financial year.

Detail of our projects, budgets and timelines are outlined in our annual work programmes. Progress is reported quarterly and communicated to our communities.



He kōrero mō ngā poari ā-rohe

About local boards

Working with Māori

Māori culture and identity is celebrated by Aucklanders and is our point of difference in the world.

Te Tiriti o Waitangi recognises the rangatiratanga of Auckland's hapū and iwi, and the inseparable bond between Tāmaki Makaurau the people and Tāmaki Makaurau the place.

Local boards play a vital role in representing the interests of all Aucklanders. We are committed to our Treaty-based obligations and to Māori participation and development.

As a local board, we recognise the importance of building meaningful relationships with mana whenua and whānau in Rodney and the need to better

understand their aspirations for the area. We hope to work together in areas of common interest. For example, we have established a partnership with local iwi Te Uri o Hau to grow native plants for our Rodney Healthy Harbours and Waterways Fund, which reflects their role as kaitiaki of the local whenua.

We have also collaborated with mana whenua to incorporate Māori design into local places so that their stories and heritage are visible and celebrated.

But we acknowledge that there is more that we need to do to connect the local board's work with the aspirations of mana whenua, and we look forward to that journey.



We recognise the importance of building meaningful relationships with mana whenua and whānau in Rodney.



Te whakawhanake i tā mātou mahere

Developing our plan

Our plan comprises aspirational outcomes, objectives we want to achieve and some of the key initiatives we will carry out to achieve them.

A draft plan was developed using feedback received from public engagement carried out between November 2019 and April 2020.

The draft was also developed by considering what we know about our community, having worked closely with you and heard your views on a wide range of topics.

During July and August 2020 we consulted on the draft plan to hear your thoughts. To hear your feedback and ensure we

reflected your needs and desires we engaged with our community at a range of events and activities across the board area.

The issues and priorities you raised with us through these interactions helped us finalise this plan. The social and economic effects of the

COVID-19 pandemic mean some of our aspirations have been modified. Our response is delivered via the annual budgeting process but the decisions we make will focus on ensuring the benefits for our community.

Te whakatutuki i tā mātou mahere

Carrying out our plan

Turning plans into reality takes many people working together – the community, the local board and the wider council family such as Auckland Transport.

To deliver against the outcomes in the local board plans, we will:

- prioritise budget to focus on the initiatives in the plans

- make the best use of local assets such as community centres and parks
- set direction for the council staff who deliver the projects and services
- work with various community groups and partners to deliver projects and services.

Sometimes, important projects in local areas are beyond the funding available to local boards or our authority to make decisions. In those cases, the role of the local board is to advocate to decision-makers to ensure they are aware of community views and the board's support for them.



Whakaotinga tahi: Kei te tūhono ngā kōwhiringa ikiiki haumarū, pai ake i ō tātou hapori

Outcome 1: Safe, improved transport options connect our communities

Our transport infrastructure keeps pace with the needs of our communities, and public transport is accessible. People can access walkways, cycleways and bridleways close to where they live. Our roads are safe and well maintained.

When it comes to transport, Rodney is different to most other areas in Auckland. Our local board covers 46 per cent of Auckland's land area, much of it rural.

Public transport options are few. We don't have passenger trains, and bus services are limited. Many of our communities lack adequate footpaths or safe places to walk beside roads.

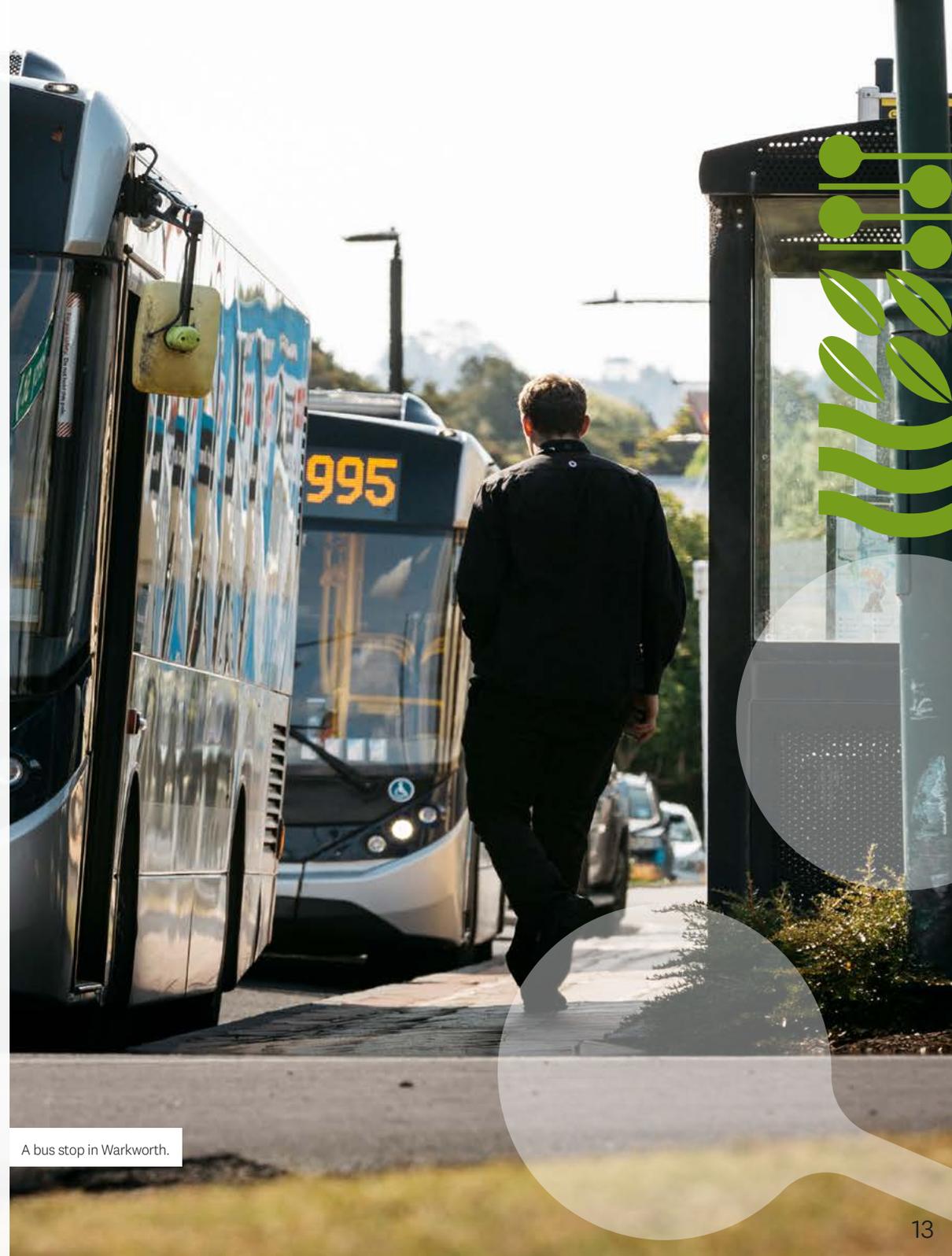
Residents must often rely on private vehicles, yet more than 650km of our roads are unsealed. Not only are unsealed roads hard on vehicles, they are often unsafe, prone to dust and sediment run-off, and in winter, potholes are a constant issue.

Residents face traffic congestion across Rodney, including in fast-growing areas.

The geography of Rodney and the competing demands of transport needs across Auckland mean that transport funding is never enough to meet demand.

To help address our transport issues, we consulted on a transport targeted rate just for Rodney in our last local board plan. A significant number of our community supported it, and that funding is now delivering on key transport initiatives.

“ With the highest rates of deaths and serious injuries in Auckland, we will work to improve the safety of our transport network. ”



A bus stop in Warkworth.

WHAT YOU HAVE TOLD US

- “To avoid increased congestion, greater levels of public transport will be required”.
- “Walkways, cycleways and bridleways create more outdoor activity for the majority.”
- “It is unsafe for my children to walk to their school bus.”

With this funding, plus the other transport budgets available to us, we have made real progress including establishing three new bus routes that are well patronised, beginning work on park-and-rides, and building new footpaths. We expect Auckland Transport will take over the running of the bus services started through that targeted rate.

Over the next three years, we will push for improved bus services across Rodney and complete the planned park-and-rides in Kumeū and Warkworth. We will also explore the viability of expanding Auckland Transport’s Western train line to connect to our south-western communities.

We will advocate strongly for better road maintenance, particularly on unsealed roads. Auckland Transport’s new Unsealed Roads Improvement Programme will use its \$121m budget in new ways to improve the safety and integrity of our unsealed roads.

Central government controls and funds state highways 1 and 16, so we will continue to advocate to, and work with, Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency to increase their safety and capacity.

We will continue to implement our greenways plans, creating walkways, cycleways and bridleways to connect our communities.

With the highest rates of deaths and serious injuries in Auckland, we will work to improve the safety of our transport network. We want roads and footpaths in our villages and towns to be

safer for pedestrians, cyclists and people using personal mobility devices. Better signage, crossings, road markings and surface treatments are some of the tools we can use. We can also increase pedestrian safety by building more footpaths, particularly where they complete circuits or are near schools.

Opportunities

- We can use the funding and advocacy options available to us to fund much-needed transport projects.
- The Rodney Local Board has initiated new bus routes and progressed the development of park-and-rides with targeted rate funding. The local board is well placed to continue expanding transport provision for Rodney by building on their experience and successes so far.

Challenges

- Rodney’s 650km of unsealed roads are susceptible to erosion, dust and sediment run-off, and are hard on road users.
- Vehicle congestion is a significant problem across Rodney.
- Many Rodney people live in rural or remote areas with limited transport options.

Our commitment

We are committed to carrying out the following key initiatives, and will continue to look for other opportunities as they arise.





Huapai- Kumeū.

Outcome 1: Safe, improved transport options connect our communities

Objective

Key initiatives

Our roads are safe and well-maintained and have the capacity to meet the demand of users

Improve road safety and maintenance by advocating to the Governing Body to ring-fence budgets in the Long-term Plan 2021-2031 for:

- \$121 million for Auckland Transport's Unsealed Roads Improvement Programme to improve unsealed roads through strengthening and other methods
- an increase of funding that allows Auckland Transport to renew and maintain at least 12 per cent of Auckland's sealed roads in any given year
- continued budget allocation to road safety for Rodney as part of Auckland Transport's Vision Zero programme

Make roads and footpaths through villages and towns safer for non-vehicle users with tools such as electronic speed-indication signs and safer road crossings

Advocate to Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency to enhance safety and address congestion on state highways

Public transport is a viable option for getting around

Advocate for, or fund, further improvements and the expansion of Rodney bus services, including park-and-rides, dedicated bus ways, additional routes and stops, weekend services on busier routes, and higher frequency on busy routes

Advocate for good public transport provision in new development areas

Advocate to extend Auckland Transport's Western Rail Line service to Huapai

Our communities are well connected by safe and accessible footpaths, cycleways, trails and bridleways

Advocate for and support the delivery of walkways, trails and bridleways, as guided by our greenways plans, to better connect our rural areas with local villages, and to increase safety – ensuring that any new developments and subdivisions are also connected to this network





Mahurangi College students learn to trap pest animals.

Whakaotinga rua: Kei te hauora tō tātou taiao, ā, kei te tiakina

Outcome 2: Our natural environment is healthy and protected

Our coast, waterways and natural environment are our taonga / treasures. They are healthy and clean, with thriving biodiverse ecosystems. Communities look after our environment by eradicating pests, carrying out restoration work, and minimising waste. They are active in reducing their carbon emissions and living sustainably to combat climate change.

Rodney offers a beautiful and diverse landscape. We have the wild west coast and stunning east coast on the Hauraki Gulf, the Kaipara Harbour, forests, farming and lifestyle blocks, and rural and coastal communities. This geography, coupled with our 1500km of coastline, makes our area vulnerable to climate change. We need to ensure our activities reduce our impact on the environment.

We are working with farmers and landowners to address the effects of nutrient and sediment runoff, and forestry and building activities on our waterways. We want to partner with mana whenua and continue to work with landowners, central government, and other agencies through our Rodney Healthy Harbours and Waterways Fund to support activities that improve water quality with riparian fencing and planting, and reduce sediment.

Our stormwater and wastewater infrastructure must improve. We will continue advocating for better maintenance and water supply capacity to mitigate environmental effects including working with council departments, and property owners using septic tanks and private sewerage treatment schemes to ensure these do not negatively affect the environment.

“ We need to ensure our activities reduce our impact on the environment. ”



WHAT YOU HAVE TOLD US

- “Our beaches and coastlines need to be safe and provide amenities for the communities.”
- “Pest control is much needed.”
- “The natural environment remains the greatest playground.”

Rodney is home to many vulnerable flora and fauna species that need protection. At the same time, plant and animal pests and pathogens are damaging our environment. They must be reduced to maintain planting and other environmental restoration. We will continue supporting local volunteer groups doing this valuable work. We will encourage council departments to ensure that planning and regulatory processes improve environmental outcomes.

We will also advocate for funding that becomes available through growth to be used for offset mitigation projects. For example, we will advocate for growth funding to be used for plantings in Green Road in Dairy Flat to offset the effects of development in other areas of Rodney.

We will support the community resource recovery and recycling centres in our area, bringing local employment and volunteer opportunities. We will also ensure any local board-funded and permitted events minimise their waste.

Opportunities

- We have committed and skilled environmental groups tackling issues like pests, pathogens, environmental restoration and waste minimisation.
- Rodney has more than 350 local parks, nearly 4000ha of regional park land and more than 1500km of coastline that stand to benefit from renewal so they function better as native wildlife habitats and corridors.
- We have a partnership with local iwi Te Uri o Hau to grow native plants for our Rodney Healthy Harbours and Waterways Fund.

Challenges

- The climate emergency is causing water shortages as well as extreme storms with heavy wind and rain.
- Rodney’s rural character, with an extensive coastline, farming and remote communities makes our area vulnerable to the effects of climate change, such as adapting to rising sea levels and flooding.
- The water quality of many of our waterways and harbours is suffering from more than 650km of unsealed roads, sediment run-off from new developments, forestry activity and livestock in waterways.
- Pest plants and animals, and pathogens damage our native ecosystem and must be reduced to enable restoration work.

Our commitment

We are committed to carrying out the following key initiatives, and will continue to look for other opportunities as they arise.





Volunteers plant trees at Matheson Bay Recreation Reserve.

Outcome 2: Our natural environment is healthy and protected

Objective

Key initiatives

We have good water quality in our streams, rivers and harbours

Improve water quality in our waterways and reduce the effects of climate change by restoring freshwater ecosystems through riparian fencing and planting, and sediment reduction, delivering benefits such as flood mitigation, habitat for native biodiversity, and carbon sequestration

Advocate to improve stormwater and wastewater infrastructure

Our natural environment is clean and healthy with thriving ecosystems

Improve our local biodiversity and natural environment by partnering with mana whenua and supporting community groups and schools, and by advocating for regional and national funding to eradicate pest plants, and animals, and pathogens and to carry out restoration work

Support the community, and community resource recovery and recycling centres, to minimise waste, turn waste into resources, and to promote education on waste reduction

Identify offset mitigation projects that respond to development in the local board area to provide opportunities for riparian enhancement and improved water quality

Ensure any local board-funded and permitted events are managed to minimise waste

Advocate for council compliance and regulatory requirements to be adhered to and enforced to protect our environment, and where appropriate, support activities to exceed statutory requirements



Whakaotinga toru: Ka ea ngā hiahia a ō tātou hapori tipu haere i ngā hanganga me te whanaketanga

Outcome 3: Infrastructure and development meets the needs of our growing communities

Our towns and villages are vibrant and attract people to shop and work locally. People are proud of their local area and its unique character. New development is planned carefully to consider current communities and meet future needs.

The Rodney Local Board area experienced the second-highest growth rate of any local board between 2013 and 2018, growing 21 per cent. This was significantly higher than the Auckland-wide rate of 11 per cent. Rapid growth will continue in Rodney over the coming decades.

Well-planned growth can bring community benefits including improved facilities, infrastructure and transport. We are focused on ensuring we plan for appropriate development as Rodney grows and changes, and that our residents have a voice in this process.

That focus includes ensuring developments meet the needs of current and future residents and businesses while balancing its effect on the natural environment, our rural character, and the vibrancy of our communities.

“ Many areas have fallen behind in terms of infrastructure such as recreation facilities and transport. This needs to be addressed urgently. ”



Helensville Town Centre.

WHAT YOU HAVE TOLD US

- “With the increasing traffic on our roads, safety is a priority.”
- “Common spaces bring people together.”

Many areas have fallen behind in terms of infrastructure such as recreation facilities and transport. This needs to be addressed urgently.

Part of achieving this involves continuing to work with Auckland Council’s Governing Body to ensure that Rodney gets its fair share of regional spending, including development contributions. We will give our communities a voice by advocating for facilities and infrastructure that cater for Rodney’s growth.

Communities, particularly those in growth areas such as Kumeū-Huapai, Wainui, Warkworth and Riverhead, continue to ask for their areas to be well-planned when accommodating growth. It is important to seek greater scope for renewal projects in towns and to think strategically about sites and assets, and how they may support town centre revitalisation.

We have developed greenway and town centre plans. We will continue to deliver on these plans and seek to partner with mana whenua to ensure their identity and culture are reflected in the development and design of our local places and spaces. We need the community to be involved in creating town centres, parks and facilities that are fit for the future, that create a sense of pride, and that encourage people to buy local food, goods and services. This will be particularly important as we recover from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Our town centres and villages have seen little improvement for over a decade. We will partner with agencies such as Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency, Auckland Transport and Panuku Development Auckland to seek improvements to town centres and villages, and to create better, more usable and attractive public spaces that are focal points for our communities.



Te Huihuinga Kōwhai (gathering space) will be a new community space next to the Mahurangi River.



Opportunities

- A lot of the growth for Rodney is already planned which will enable appropriate development as our needs grow and change.
- The significant ongoing investment in State Highway 1 (Puhoi to Warkworth) will enable Warkworth to become a destination rather than a transit area, providing a boost for local businesses.

Challenges

- Areas in Rodney have developed and grown beyond the capacity of local infrastructure and facilities.

- COVID-19 has caused significant hardship for many businesses throughout Rodney.
- Empty shops, buildings and streetscapes in disrepair, and the lack of local jobs, contribute to community disconnectedness and poor economic prospects in some rural villages.

Our commitment

- We are committed to carrying out the following key initiatives, and will continue to look for other opportunities as they arise.

Outcome 3: Infrastructure and development meets the needs of our growing communities

Objective	Key initiatives
Our villages and towns retain their individual character and heritage aspects, and development is sympathetic to the natural and existing built environment	Support enhancement projects for growth areas, including Dairy Flat, Helensville, Kumeū-Huapai, Warkworth and Wellsford
	Deliver village centre improvements for rural villages such as Matakana, Puhoi, Riverhead and Kaukapakapa
	Develop a centre plan for Warkworth
	Continue to deliver the Kumeū-Huapai Centre Plan including enhancing the Kumeū River's ecology and people's access to it, and by working with landowners and developers to improve the look of the town centre
	Advocate for improved design standards for roading, cycling and pedestrian networks in subdivisions in countryside living zones, and rural and coastal towns, that reflect the character and needs of the local area
Our business communities are resilient, and have a positive outlook, having withstood the economic impact of COVID-19	Advocate for changes to the Unitary Plan to give better direction on design standards for transport networks for subdivisions in countryside living zones, and rural and coastal towns
	Support local business communities, business associations and business improvement districts (BIDs) to thrive, including the Wellsford business community to meet the challenges of the SH1 extension bypass to Te Hana
	Encourage businesses to increase environmentally sustainable practices, such as minimising waste and reducing energy consumption



A new subdivision at Riverhead.

Outcome 3: Infrastructure and development meets the needs of our growing communities

Objective

Our facilities and infrastructure meet the needs of our growing communities

Key initiatives

Take predicted sea level rises and climate change into account when delivering marine and coastal facilities in Rodney's coastal areas

Develop our town centres, parks and facilities so they are fit for the future while protecting the natural environment as we grow

Advocate for the consideration of 14 Baxter Street, Warkworth as a key site to support the future revitalisation of Warkworth's town centre

Work with mana whenua and agencies such as Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency, Auckland Transport and Panuku to continue to optimise public spaces to create focal points for our community



Whakaotinga whā: He aumangea ō tātou hapori, ā, ka taea te pā atu ki tō rātou e hiahia ana

Outcome 4: Our communities are resilient and have access to what they need

Our communities are resilient, supportive of each other and prepared for emergencies. They take a lead in organising events and activities. Our facilities and programmes meet the needs of our growing and changing communities.

Many people live in remote areas with limited facilities and activities nearby. This, along with rapid growth in some parts of the local board area, brings challenges and is one of the many reasons that the work of our local communities is so important.

Our extensive coastline, isolated communities, often with limited or difficult access to broadband and shops, makes us more vulnerable to a number of challenges. The climate emergency is our greatest challenge and is contributing to our water shortage, coastal erosion, poor water quality due to sediment run-off, flooding and extreme heat causing hardship for farmers. We also face hazards such as flooding, and severe wind and storms, and the COVID-19 global pandemic.

While emergency and civil defence is planned and coordinated at regional and national levels, we need to ensure our unique challenges as a mainly rural area are understood. We want to create strong local systems and community preparedness to help reduce the effects of hardship. We will advocate for Auckland Emergency Management teams to gain more understanding of our vulnerable communities, so that their needs are addressed. We also want council facilities and services that are resilient and meet the needs of our community in times of disaster and difficulty.

“ Our facilities are the hubs of our communities. ”



A cafe in Helensville.



Our facilities are the hubs of our communities. Our network of rural halls, libraries and arts centres are well used and cared for by our communities. They enable important social interaction in widely dispersed communities, the exchange of ideas and knowledge, and artistic and cultural pursuits.

We fully support community facilities, the dedicated volunteers who run them, and the people and groups that use them. We will continue to work with communities to develop multi-purpose community facilities that are well used and can cater for diverse groups.

Opportunities

- Our rural hall committees are active and committed to providing welcoming environments for community groups and residents.
- Our volunteer libraries provide a valuable service to their communities.
- Some of our communities have developed their own community visions and plans.

Challenges

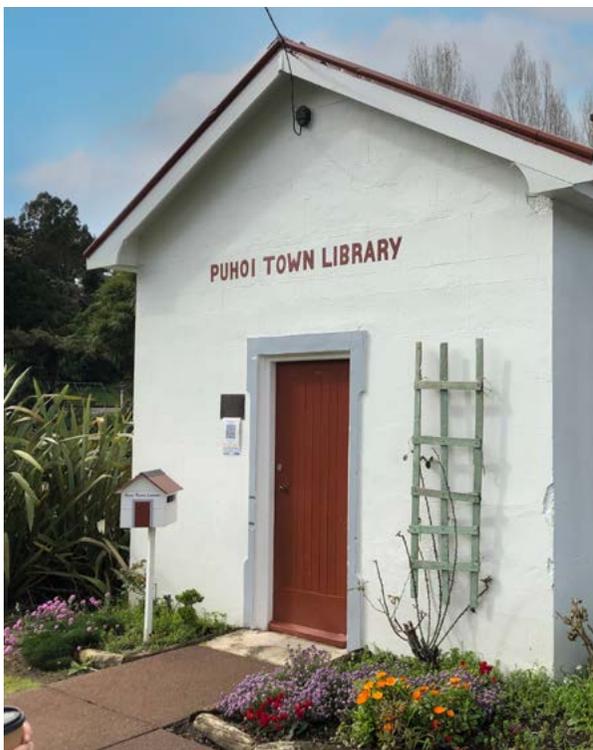
- The COVID-19 pandemic will present economic challenges for some time, particularly for small businesses and those who have lost jobs or have reduced incomes.
- Many of our communities are remote with limited facilities and activities nearby, or poor digital connectivity, making it a challenge for them to participate and connect with others.
- Not all communities in Rodney have the skills, capacity and resources to start their own projects or participate fully in local decision-making processes.
- Funding or other resources aren't always available to deliver all the activities communities might want.
- Our unique landscape with isolated communities and extensive coastline makes us more vulnerable to hazards and emergencies.

Our commitment

We are committed to carrying out the following key initiatives, and will continue to look for other opportunities as they arise.

WHAT YOU HAVE TOLD US

- “The library service... is a hub for our young and not so young to learn.”
- “COVID-19 lockdown has had devastating financial, social and employment impact.”
- “[We need] greater attention to Emergency Management support and building community resilience.”



Pūhoi Library.

Outcome 4: Our communities are resilient and have access to what they need

Objective	Key initiatives
Our communities are strong and resilient	<p>Support communities to deliver community projects and events, and to work collaboratively with council and other key stakeholders</p> <p>Develop partnerships and projects with mana whenua that respond to and further their aspirations</p> <p>Support community initiatives that will increase self-sufficiency skills and encourage sharing of resources at the local level</p> <p>Ensure strategically located halls and community centres can be used by our communities in times of difficulty</p> <p>Advocate for reliable, fast and affordable broadband connections for all our communities</p> <p>Work with our local communities and emergency response specialists on the best way to support communities in an emergency</p>
Council facilities cater to local needs and are well used by their communities	<p>Support libraries to promote community connectedness through targeted activities</p> <p>Provide our rural hall committees with governance and organisational support to enhance rural halls as gathering places for our rural communities</p> <p>Support our arts centres to enable a flourishing local arts scene</p>





Children enjoying the skate park and play zone in Wellsford War Memorial Park.

Whakaotinga rima: Ka ea ngā hiahia o tō tātou hapori tipu haere i ō tātou pāka hapori me ngā ratonga ā-rēhia

Outcome 5: Our local parks and recreation facilities meet the needs of our growing community

Our local parks, sport and recreation facilities cater to a wide range of interests and abilities. They are enjoyable places to visit, and relax or be active in. They are easily accessible and meet the demands of our current and future generations.

Rodney is lucky to have more than 350 local parks and almost 4000ha of regional park land for our enjoyment. However, development and population growth are outstripping the capacity of some of our local parks and recreation facilities. In some cases, no local facilities exist for certain activities, or if the facilities exist, they require long journeys to access them.

Our vision is that our parks and sports facilities are accessible and cater sustainably for growth, enabling people to get out and enjoy local open spaces. We will explore ways to work with mana whenua to integrate Māori design in our local parks and facilities to reflect their heritage. We will push for new developments to have enough open space to cater for growing communities, as well as paths and other connections to link them.

“ We will continue to support the delivery of the Kumeū-Huapai indoor courts facility and a multi-sport facility in Warkworth. ”



WHAT YOU HAVE TOLD US

- “Sports and activities provide a focal point for communities.”
- “Promoting healthy, active lifestyles for children and their families, particularly in rural areas, is important for community wellbeing.”
- “Playing fields and facilities will support young people of all ages for many years to come.”

We will continue to support the delivery of the Kumeū-Huapai indoor courts facility and a multi-sport facility in Warkworth.

A lot of work has already been done to renew and improve our sports parks and reserves to make them suitable for year-round use. Further work is needed to make some of our reserves and open spaces more useable, with projects like perimeter paths and sports field lighting for our established reserves. For our new spaces, we want to understand the community’s sports and recreation needs and to implement park master plans in Wellsford Centennial Park and Green Road in Dairy Flat.

Growth in Rodney also means we need additional and improved playgrounds. We intend to build or renew playgrounds, focusing on shade, shelter and play, for all abilities and ages. We will work with mana whenua to explore opportunities to include Māra Hūpara (traditional Māori playground). By revitalising some of the older, tired play equipment into something modern and exciting, we can increase its use and encourage everyone to become more active, more often.

Our residents and visitors enjoy using our beaches and coastlines for sport and leisure. We want to help provide good infrastructure including boat ramps, toilets and sea walls that protect our coastal settlements. In doing this, we need to factor in predicted sea level rises and climate change which will make some decisions challenging.

Opportunities

- We have an extensive coastline and parks network.
- Our population growth and positive relationships with developers helps ensure there is enough open space to serve residents’ needs.
- As our playgrounds require upgrades, we can enhance them to cater for all abilities and local needs.

Challenges

- Many of our communities are remote with limited facilities and activities nearby, making it a challenge for people to access them.
- Our sports fields are in high demand making it difficult to meet the needs of all users including those wanting all-weather, year-round facilities.
- We need to manage the ongoing costs of maintaining and enhancing our assets and services, as our investment in parks, sport and recreation is by far the largest of our budgets.
- We need to consider the effects of climate change, including sea level rise and adverse weather, on our coastal facilities and infrastructure.

Our commitment

We are committed to carrying out the following key initiatives, and will continue to look for other opportunities as they arise.





Rautāwhiri Park, Helensville.

Outcome 5: Our local parks and recreation facilities meet the needs of our growing community

Objective	Key initiatives
Our communities have great local options for indoor and outdoor sport and recreation that provide opportunities for all ages and abilities	<p>Support the delivery of the Kumeū-Huapai indoor courts facility and a multi-sport facility in Warkworth</p> <p>Continue to develop and deliver plans for key parks such as Wellsford Centennial Park and Green Road in Dairy Flat</p> <p>Deliver the outcomes identified in the Green Road master plan</p> <p>Build playgrounds, particularly in growing areas, focusing on shade, shelter and play for all abilities</p> <p>Work with mana whenua to integrate Māori design in our local parks and facilities, and find ways to include Māra Hūpara (traditional Māori playground) in our play spaces</p>
Our regional parks provide great recreation opportunities and meet the needs of our communities and visitors	Advocate for more investment in regional parks in our local board area to meet the pressures of growth and tourism
The environment and ecology of our parks are well cared for	Continue to support volunteers working on weed and pest control and other restoration work in our parks, reserves and public land





He kōrero take pūtea

Funding information

The local board funding policy sets out how local boards are funded to meet the costs of providing local activities and administration support.

Local board funding is approved through the council's budget-setting process. This involves the council's Governing Body adopting a 10-year budget (long-term plan) every three years and an annual budget every year. Local board agreements, in which the local board and the governing body agree the local board budget for each year, make up part of the annual budget.

The council's budget-setting process involves allocating funding gathered through revenue sources such as rates and user charges. It also involves setting levels of service for council activities and corresponding performance targets.

The financial and levels of service statements in this plan are based on the information included in the Long-term Plan 2018-28 and updated through subsequent annual plans (including the Emergency Budget 2020/2021). Updated financial information and levels of service will be adopted as part of the long-term plan which is due to be adopted in June 2021. The Long-term Plan 2021-2031 will be informed by the local board plans and may impact the initiatives in this local board plan.



Kaupapa ā-rohe me ngā paerewa ā-mahi

Local activities and levels of service

The budget-setting process sets levels of service for local activities and corresponding performance targets. The table below describes the local activities and default level of service statements set out in the 2018-28 Long-term Plan. These level of service statements may change when they are reviewed as part of the Long-term Plan 2021-2031.

More information on local board budgets can be found in the Rodney Local Board Agreement and Auckland Council's local board funding policy, which are available on the council website.

Local activities	Levels of service statements
Local community services	
<p>This is a broad activity area, which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• supporting local arts, culture, events, sport and recreation• providing grants and partnering with local organisations to deliver community services• maintaining facilities, including local parks, libraries and halls.	<p>We provide library services and programmes that support Aucklanders with reading and literacy, and opportunities to participate in community and civic life.</p> <p>We fund, enable and deliver community events and experiences that enhance identity and connect people.</p> <p>We fund, enable and deliver arts and culture experiences that enhance identity and connect people.</p> <p>Utilising the Empowered Communities Approach we support Aucklanders to create thriving, connected and inclusive communities.</p> <p>Provide safe, reliable and accessible social infrastructure for Aucklanders that contributes to placemaking and thriving communities.</p> <p>We provide community centres and hire venues that enable Aucklanders to run locally responsive activities, promoting participation, inclusion and connection.</p> <p>We provide recreation programmes, opportunities and facilities to get Aucklanders more active, more often.</p> <p>We provide safe and accessible parks, reserves and beaches.</p> <p>We showcase Auckland's Māori identity and vibrant Māori culture.</p>





Local activities	Levels of service statements
Local planning and development	
<p>This group of activities covers improvements to town centres, the local street environment as well as local environment and heritage protection. These activities also include working with business and community associations to improve local economic development and employment initiatives.</p>	<p>We help attract investment, businesses and a skilled workforce to Auckland.</p>
Local environmental management	
<p>Local boards work in partnership with local communities and iwi to deliver projects and programmes to improve local environments. Our focus is on indigenous biodiversity, healthy waterways and sustainable living.</p> <p>These activities include stream restoration, waste minimisation programmes, supporting environmental volunteers and partnering with schools to provide a range of environmental initiatives.</p>	<p>We manage Auckland’s natural environment.</p>
Local governance	
<p>Activities in this group support our 21 local boards to engage with and represent their communities, and make decisions on local activities. This support includes providing strategic advice, leadership of the preparation of local board plans, support in developing the Local Board Agreements, community engagement including relationships with mana whenua and Māori communities, and democracy and administrative support.</p>	<p>The measures for this group of activities are covered under the Regional Governance group of activities in the Long-term Plan 2018-2028 which determine participation with Auckland Council decision-making in general. This includes local decision-making.</p> <p>There are no significant changes to the measures or targets for 2020/2021.</p>

Tirohanga take pūtea whānui

Financial overview

Revenue, expenditure and capital investment by local activities for the Rodney Local Board for the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021.

Annual Budget Financials	2020/2021 (\$000)
Operating revenue	
Local community services	711
Local planning and development	-
Local environmental services	-
Local governance	-
Total operating revenue	711
Operating expenditure	
Local community services	16,863
Local planning and development	315
Local environmental services	749
Local governance	1,115
Total operating expenditure	19,042
Net operating expenditure	18,331
Capital expenditure	
Local community services	4,346
Local planning and development	-
Local environmental services	-
Local governance	-
Total capital expenditure	4,346



Ngā Mema o tō Poari ā-Rohe o Rodney

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Āpiti hanga A: Kaupapa Auaha

Appendix A: Advocacy initiatives

A key role of the local board is to advocate for initiatives that the local board may not have decision-making responsibilities or funding for in this draft local board plan but recognise the value it will add to the local community.

Key advocacy areas for Rodney Local Board include:

Initiative	Description	Advocating to
Safe, well-maintained roads	<p>Improve road safety and maintenance by advocating to the Governing Body to ring-fence budgets in the Long-term Plan 2021-2031 for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$121 million for Auckland Transport's Unsealed Roads Improvement Programme to improve unsealed roads through strengthening and other methods an increase of funding that allows Auckland Transport to renew and maintain at least 12 per cent of Auckland's sealed roads in any given year continued budget allocation to road safety for Rodney as part of Auckland Transport's Vision Zero programme 	<p>Auckland Council</p> <p>Auckland Transport</p>
State highway improvements	Advocate to Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency to enhance safety and address congestion on state highways	Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency
Public transport provision	Advocate for, or fund, further improvements and the expansion of Rodney bus services, including park-and-rides, dedicated bus ways, additional routes and stops, weekend services on busier routes, and higher frequency on busy routes	Auckland Transport
Train service	Advocate to extend Auckland Transport's Western Rail Line service to Huapai	Auckland Transport
Greenways network	Advocate for and support the delivery of walkways, trails and bridleways, as guided by our greenways plans, to better connect our rural areas with local villages, and to increase safety – ensuring that any new developments and subdivisions are also connected to this network	<p>Auckland Council</p> <p>Auckland Transport</p>
Improved stormwater and wastewater infrastructure	Advocate to improve stormwater and wastewater infrastructure	<p>Auckland Council</p> <p>Watercare</p>

Āpiti hanga A: Kaupapa Auaha

Appendix A: Advocacy initiatives

A key role of the local board is to advocate for initiatives that the local board may not have decision-making responsibilities or funding for in this draft local board plan but recognise the value it will add to the local community.

Key advocacy areas for Rodney Local Board include:

Initiative	Description	Advocating to
Pest eradication and environmental restoration	Improve our local biodiversity and natural environment by partnering with mana whenua and supporting community groups and schools, and by advocating for regional and national funding to eradicate pest plants, and animals, and pathogens and to carry out restoration work	Auckland Council Central Government
Environmental protection	Advocate for council compliance and regulatory requirements to be adhered to and enforced to protect our environment, and where appropriate, support activities to exceed statutory requirements	Auckland Council
Design standards for transport networks	Advocate for improved design standards for roading, cycling and pedestrian networks in subdivisions in countryside living zones, and rural and coastal towns, that reflect the character and needs of the local area	Auckland Council Auckland Transport
Design standards for transport networks	Advocate for changes to the Unitary Plan to give better direction on design standards for transport networks for subdivisions in countryside living zones, and rural and coastal towns	Auckland Council
Warkworth town centre	Advocate for the consideration of 14 Baxter Street, Warkworth as a key site to support the future revitalisation of Warkworth's town centre	Auckland Council
Improved broadband	Advocate for reliable, fast and affordable broadband connections for all our communities	Central Government
Regional parks investment	Advocate for more investment in regional parks in our local board area to meet the pressures of growth and tourism	Auckland Council



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