

Te mahere ā-rohe o Rodney 2023

Rodney

Local Board Plan 2023





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.”
Ināiane 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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He kōrero mai i te Heamana

From the chairperson

This three-year plan should be your plan, as much as ours. It will inform our investment, and what we advocate for. It will guide us forward to delivering better outcomes for our local communities as well as helping the community with what it needs to support itself.



From the beginning of this term, we have faced difficult challenges as extreme weather events wreaked havoc on the area, the financial pressures in council have increased and now the looming economic recession. We know that communities are struggling. We hope that through what we are proposing in this plan we can support the residents of Rodney to recover, adapt and grow stronger together.

We are fortunate to live in the most beautiful part of Auckland. We are surrounded by thriving green space, world class beaches and regional parks. Despite the growth in the area, we still have a great sense of community that comes with our rural to semi-rural setting - people look out for each other and feel supported.

This is maybe why Rodney has grown significantly faster than wider Auckland in terms of population and dwellings. It is now projected the population will more than double over the next 30 years. We therefore need to ensure that we are ready for this growth by advocating for good planning away from flood prone areas, with sufficient infrastructure, transport options and essential public services delivered alongside housing.

We are also home to several ecologically significant areas and have responsibility for contributing to the preservation of the biodiversity that supports the delicate environmental balance. We are very fortunate to have so many dedicated and knowledgeable volunteers who support this important environmental work.

We have recently been severely impacted by extreme weather events leading to flooding, landslides, slips, and many stickered homes. We need to work together as a community for a way forward. In this plan, we are focusing more on the local, from disaster preparedness and recovery to supporting greater local procurement and building resilience within our communities.

As we face the economic pressures within council, we will need to explore alternate ways of delivering services to the community. This may mean that we own and operate fewer buildings and other assets and that we look to delivering services differently with more online or outreach/mobile programmes. However, we commit to taking you on that journey so that we can provide accessible and inclusive facilities and services that cater to the changing needs of our communities.

I'd like to thank those who provide feedback through consultations, attending business meetings or simply taking the time to reach out to board members. We know that you are time poor, life seems to be getting busier and challenges more complex. We therefore appreciate all the feedback that helped this plan so that we can make the most out of the next three years.

Brent Bailey

Chairperson, Rodney Local Board

He kōrero mai i te Heamana

Me kī, nā tātou tēnei mahere toru-tau. Mā tēnei mahere e ārahi ā mātou haumitanga me ngā take ka kōkiritia e tātou. Māna hoki tātou e ārahi ki te whakaputa huanga pai kē atu mō ō tātou hapori o te rohe nei me te tautoko hoki i tā te hapori tautoko i a ia anō.

Nō te tīmatanga o tēnei wā ki te kaunihera, kua karawhiua tātou e ētahi taupā papatoiake, e ngā pāpātanga o te huarere taikaha, e te piki o ngā toimahatanga o ngā take pūtea i te kaunihera, ā, ka mutu ki te paringa mai o te whakahekenga ōhanga e kainamu mai ana. E mōhio ana mātou ki te oke o ngā hapori. Ko te manako ia, mā ngā whakaaro kei tēnei mahere e āhei ai tā mātou tautoko i ngā kainoho o Rodney ki te whakapiki ora, ki te urutau me te tipu tahi kia kaha ake.

Nō tātou te waimaria, ko tō tātou rohe tētahi o ngā rohe ātaahua ake nei i Tāmaki Makaurau. E karapotia ana tātou e tētahi taiao e tōnui ana te tipu, e kounga ana ngā tāhuna me ngā wāhi rāhui. Ahakoa ngā whanaketanga o te rohe nei, kei te kaha tonu tā tātou mau tonu ki te āhua o te hapori ka takea mai i te noho ki tuawhenua – ka manaaki tētahi i tētahi, ka mutu ka rongu tātou i te tautoko.

Koinei pea te take kua kaha ake tā Rodney whanake ā-pāpori, ā-hanganga hoki i tērā o te whanake o Tāmaki Makaurau whānui tonu. E whakapae ana ka tāparatia te tokomaha tāngata i konei i ngā tau e 30 kei te aroaro. Nā reira, me whakaū tātou i tō tātou takatū i tēnei whanaketanga mā te taunaki i ngā mahi whakamahere ki wāhi kē atu i ērā ka noho whakaraerae i te waipuke, ka mutu e rawaka ana ngā tūāhanga, ngā kōwhiringa tūnuku me ngā ratonga tūmatanui whaitake, tae atu ki ngā wharenoho.

Kei tō tātou kāinga nei ētahi tino wāhi hauropi, ā, ka noho ki a tātou ngā kawenga, nā reira ka whai wāhi tātou ki te rokiroki i te kanorau koiora e tautoko nei i te noho taurite o te taiao. E waimaria ana tātou i te nui o ngā tūao e whakauka ana, e matatau ana hei tautoko i ēnei mahi taiao nui whakahirahira.

Nō nā tata nei tātou karawhiua kinotia ai e ngā āhuetanga o te huarere taikaha, nā reira kua waipuketia te rohe, kua horopū, kua ngahoro hoki te whenua, kua kore hoki e āhei tonu te noho ki ētahi whare. Me mahi tahi tātou hei hapori kia kitea ai te ara kei mua. I tēnei o ngā mahere ka nui ake tā mātou aro ki a tātou tonu, atu i te takatūnga me te whakaoranga i te maikiroa ki te tautokonga kia kaha ake te kaitaonga i te rohe pātata tonu, ki te whakatipuranga hoki o te manawaroa i ō tātou hapori.

I a mātou o te kaunihera ka rongu i te toimahatanga o ngā take pūtea, me toro mātou ki ētahi huarahi kē ki te tuku i ngā momo ratonga ki te hapori. Tērā pea ka ruarua kē ō tātou whare me ō tātou hanga whaitake hei whakahaere mā mātou; ka iti ake hoki ngā huarawa, ka mutu, ka rerekē te āhua o tā mātou tuku ratonga kia nui ake te tuku ā-tuihono, te kawenga haeretanga rānei o ngā hōtaka. Heoi anō, ko tā mātou e whakauka nei, ka ngātahi te haere i tēnei ara kia pai ai tā mātou whakarite i ngā hanga whaitake me ngā ratonga e māmā ana te toronga, e kauawhi ana hoki hei uruparetanga ki ngā hiahia matua o ō tātou hapori ka huri nei.

Tēnei au ka mihi ki te hunga i tuku kōrero arotake mai mā roto mai i ngā wānanga, mā te tae ki ngā hui pakihi, mā te toro rānei ki ngā mema o te poari. E mōhio ana mātou ki te iti o te wā ki tēnā, ki tēnā, i te nui haere o ngā mahi me te tuatini o ngā taupā i ngā rā o tō ao. E mihia ana te nui o ngā kōrero i tae mai hei hāpai i te tuhia o tēnei mahere kia tino eke ngā mahi hei ngā tau e toru kei te aroaro.

Nāku, nā Brent Bailey



Heamana, Te Poari ā-Rohe o Rodney





He aronga poto ki tā mātou mahere

Our plan at a glance



Our People

Our people support each other, have what they need to live well and are able to adapt to change



Our Environment

Our land, waterways and coastlines are cared for and protected



Our Community

Our community facilities, libraries and parks are great places to connect, play and learn



Our Places

Our towns, villages and rural areas are vibrant, prosperous, and liveable



Our Transport

Our transport networks are safe, accessible, and well maintained

He aronga poto ki tā mātou mahere



Ō Tātou Tāngata

Ka tautoko ō tātou tāngata i a rātou anō, kei a rātou hoki ngā mea e tika ana kia pai te noho, ā, kei a rātou te āheinga kia urutau ki ngā huringa.



Tō Tātou Taiao

Ko ngā whenua, ko ngā arawai me ngā takutai moana o tō tātou rohe ka kumanutia, ka manaakitia.



Tō Tātou Hapori

He wāhi pai ō tātou hanga whitake, ō tātou whare pukapuka me ō tātou papa rēhia hei wāhi mō te tuitui honononga, mō te tākaro, mō te ako hoki.



Ō Tātou Wāhi

Ko ō tātou taone, ō tātou kāinga me ō tātou wāhi ki tuawhenua e ngangahau ana, e houkura ana, e tau ana hoki hei wāhi noho.



Ō Tātou Tūnuku

Ko ō tātou kōtuinga tūnuku e haumaru ana, e wātea ana, e tauwhirotia ana.



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 Governing Body members) 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 for providing input into regional strategies, policies and plans.

We make decisions on local matters such as:

- supporting local arts, culture, events and sport and recreation
- supporting 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.

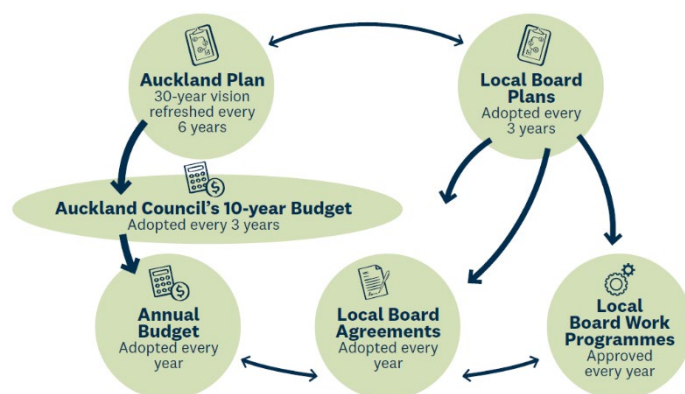
Local boards also have a role in representing the view of their communities on issues of local importance.

Higher inflation and the cost of borrowing money has pushed up the cost of providing services. We will need to address these challenges in the local board plan, which means doing things differently and prioritising where we spend.

About local board plans

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

- decisions on local activities, projects, and facilities
- local board 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 Auckland Plan 2050 – the 30-year vision for Auckland
- the council's 10-year budget – planned spending and future investment priorities over the longer term
- the council's annual budget – funding for the coming financial year of the 10-year budget.

Each local board adopts an agreement that sets local budgets, levels of service, performance measures and targets for each financial year. Details of projects, budgets and timelines are outlined in annual work programmes. Progress is reported quarterly and communicated to our communities.

Te whakawhanake i tā mātou mahere

Developing our plan

Our draft plan was developed with careful consideration of previous community feedback on the 2020 local board plan, feedback through annual budget consultations and other pieces of feedback such as results from the Peoples Panel surveys.

During July and August 2023, we consulted on the draft plan to hear your thoughts on how the plan reflected your needs and aspirations over the next three years, seek your feedback on which objectives were most important to you and to find out how we could better meet our Māori Outcome and climate action aspirations.

We engaged with our community at a range of events across the local board area. The issues and priorities you raised with us through these interactions have helped us finalise this plan.



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 on the local board plan, we will:

- prioritise budgets to focus on the initiatives in the plan
- make the best use of local assets such as community centres, libraries 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.
- make decisions that are in line with Auckland's commitment to climate action and emissions reduction.

Where important projects in local areas are beyond available funding or decision making, our role is to advocate to other decision-makers to ensure they are aware of community views and the local board's support for them.



Te Rohe ā-Poari o Rodney

Rodney Local Board area





Ngā huanga Māori

Te Puawai Kōwhai is a public space outside Warkworth Library

Māori Outcomes

Māori identity and culture are Auckland's unique point of difference in the world. Whānau, hapū, iwi and Māori communities aspire to have healthy and prosperous lives and have defined the outcomes that are most important to Māori. Māori outcomes are the way Auckland Council supports Māori aspirations.

Māori outcomes respond to council's legislative obligations and to extensive engagement with Auckland's Māori communities.

The Kia Ora Tāmaki Makaurau framework outlines 10 priority areas that support and progress these aspirations and has been adopted by Auckland Council as the way to deliver outcomes for Māori. These priority areas are:

Kia ora te kāinga – Papakāinga and Māori housing
 Kia ora te marae – Marae development
 Kia ora te ahurea – Māori identity and culture
 Kia ora te rangatahi – Realising rangatahi potential
 Kia ora te hononga – Effective Māori participation

Kia ora te whanau – Whānau and tamariki wellbeing
 Kia ora te reo – Te reo Māori
 Kia ora te umanga – Māori business, tourism and employment
 Kia ora te taiao – Kaitiakitanga
 Kia hāngai te Kaunihera – An empowered organisation

Local board plans are an important way to deliver for Māori at a local level. This section of the plan outlines the Māori outcomes addressed in this plan.



History and belonging

The Rodney area has been rich and treasured by Māori for centuries. Both east and west coasts, the many rivers, and fertile soils have helped support vibrant communities and sustained travellers journeying up the ancient highways of both the Kaipara and Waitematā.

The name Kaipara comes from a historical event – the nephew of a chief cooked the root of the king fern ('para') for him to eat ('kai'), The original name of the area was Kaipātiki, which celebrated the plentiful catching and eating of pātiki or flounder, found in the waters.

Mahurangi means 'rock pointing to the sky' and originally referred to the sea stack at the mouth of the Waiwera river, which used to be big enough to hold the pā of Kahikitearoa. The name Mahurangi has since come to be associated with the harbour area.

The following confederations, iwi and hapū whakapapa to this area.

- Ngāti Wai – Ngāti Wai Trust Board, Ngāti Manuhiri Settlement Trust.
- Ngāti Whātua – Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua, Te Uri o Hau, Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara, Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei.
- Waiohūa-Tāmaki – Te Kawerau ā Maki, Ngāi Tai Ki Tāmaki, Ngāti Te Ata Waiohūa.
- Marutūahu – Ngāti Paoa, Ngaati Whanaunga, Ngāti Maru, Ngāti Tamaterā, Te Patukirikiri.

At the time of the 2018 census, Māori were the second largest ethnic group in Rodney, comprising 11.4 per cent which was an increase of 50 per cent from the previous census. Compared to the Rodney age average of 42, Māori are relatively young with a median age of 25.

The Rodney Local Board acknowledges Te Uri o Hau, Ngāti Manuhiri and Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara, as mana whenua of the rohe and commits to foster an environment that allows for meaningful engagement, understanding their priorities and nurturing enduring relationships.

We plan to deliver the following initiatives to respond to the Kia Ora Tāmaki Makaurau framework ten priority areas:

Kia ora te hononga (Effective Māori participation)

We commit to develop engagement practices that enable all Māori to be more involved in decision making such as with regular hui and using marae as points of engagement. We will also seek to increase our capability as well as that of staff so we can understand and respond effectively to Māori aspirations.

Kia ora te whanau (Whānau and tamariki wellbeing)

We share many of the same aspirations in relation to the improving the wellbeing of our communities and will support Māori-led initiatives that build whanau wellbeing and strengthen resilience.

Kia ora te ahurea (Māori identity and culture)

The Rodney Local Board will continue to support place-based activities and initiatives that celebrate and make visible Māori identity and culture. We will incorporate Māori design principles when we design and upgrade open spaces, parks and play spaces such as the Shoemith Reserve playground that tells the story of Tāne-nui-a-Rangi and the three kete of knowledge. We will look for opportunities to work with mana whenua and Māori communities early in the planning stages of projects so that their aspirations, culture and identity are included right from the outset.

We will support and promote significant events such as Waitangi Day and Matariki and encourage stories of Māori culture and history through our network of libraries in Rodney.

Rodney has a long and rich history with many significant sites and features, including pā and wāhi tapu sites. We will work with mana whenua, mataawaka and local communities to ensure these sites are looked after and protected.

Kia ora te taiao (Kaitiakitanga / Guardianship)

We acknowledge the critical importance of the environment to mana whenua and their role as kaitiaki (guardianship) of Rodney's natural resources. We will work together with and support mana whenua, mataawaka and community groups to protect, enhance and restore biodiversity in Rodney and achieve our mutual environmental aspirations for current and future generations.





Ngā huanga Māori

Ko Te Puawai Kōwhai tētahi wāhi mā te tūmanui ki waho i te Whare Pukapuka o Warlworth

Ko te tuakiri me te ahurea o Tāmaki Makaurau te take e motuhake nei ia i te ao. E tūmanako ana ngā whānau, ngā hapū, ngā iwi me ngā hāpori Māori kia hauora, kia houkura ō rātou ao, ā, ko rātou tonu kua whakatau i ngā huanga e mātāmua katoa ana ki a rātou. Ko ngā huanga Māori te ara mā reira e tautoko ai a Te Kaunihera o Tāmaki Makaurau i ngā tūmanako o te Māori.

Urupare ai ngā huanga Māori ki ngā here ā-ture o runga i a Te Kaunihera o Tāmaki Makaurau, ki te whānui hoki o te pāhekohekotanga ki ngā hāpori Māori o Tāmaki Makaurau.

E takoto ana i te anga o Kia Ora Tāmaki Makaurau ngā wāhi mātāmua tekau e tautoko ana, e kōkiri ana hoki i ēnei tūmanako, ā, kua whāia e te kaunihera hei huarahi whakaputa i ngā huanga ki te Māori. Ko ēnei take mātāmua ko te:

Kia ora te kāinga – He papakāinga, he whare mō te Māori

Kia ora te marae – Te whakawhanaketanga o te marae

Kia ora te ahurea – Te tuakiri me te ahurea Māori

Kia ora te rangatahi – Te huatau ki te pitomata o te rangatahi

Kia ora te hononga – Te whai take o te whai wāhi a te Māori

Kia ora te whānau – Te oranga o te whānau me ngā tamariki

Kia ora te reo – Te reo Māori

Kia ora te umanga – Te pakihi, te tāpoi me te whai mahi a te Māori

Kia ora te taiao – Te kaitiakitanga

Kia hāngai te Kaunihera – He whakahaere kua whakamanatia

He ara whakahirahira ngā mahere a ngā poari ā-rohe e tukuna ai he huanga ki ngā Māori o te rohe. Kei tēnei wāhanga o te mahere ngā kōrero mō ngā huanga Māori e aro nuitia ana i tēnei mahere.



He kōrero hītori, he tūrangawaewae

Kua hia rau tau te rohe o Rodney e hokura ana, e manaakitia ana hoki e te iwi Māori. Mai i te tai rāwhiti ki te tai hauāuru kua whai oranga ngā hapori me ngā tira haere i ngā awa huhua me ngā one haumako i a rātou ka takahi i ngā ara ō nehe i Kaipara me Waitematā.

I ahu mahi te ingoa Kaipara i tētahi āhuatanga i puta i ngā rā o uki. Nā te irāmutu o tētahi rangatira te roi o tētahi *para* i tunu hei kai mā te rangatira. Ko te ingoa i tapaina tuatahitia ki te rohe rā ko Kaipātiki hei whakanui i te ranea o te ika pātiki i reira, i ngā wai, hei hao, hei kai hoki.

Ko te ‘toka e ahu atu ana ki te rangi’ te tikanga o te ingoa o Mahurangi, ā, i tōna ōrokohanga mai, koinei te ingoa mō te puranga moana i te waha o te awa o Waiwera, i pērā rawa rā tōnu nui hei ārai tiaki i te pā o Kahikitearoa. Ko te ingoa o Mahurangi kua kōrerotia mō tana hononga ki te wāhi kei reira te pūaha.

Ko ngā ohu, ko ngā iwi me ngā hapū ka whai whakapapa ki tēnei rohe ko ēnei:

- Ngāti Wai – Te poari tarati o Ngāti Wai, te tarati whakatau o Ngāti Manuhiri.
- Ngāti Whātua – Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua, Te Uri o Hau, Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara, Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei.
- Waiohūa-Tāmaki – Te Kawerau ā Maki, Ngāi Tai Ki Tāmaki, Ngāti Te Ata Waiohūa.
- Marutūahu – Ngāti Paoa, Ngaati Whanaunga, Ngāti Maru, Ngāti Tamaterā, Te Patukirikiri.

Nō te wā o te Tatauranga 2018 i kitea ko te iwi Māori te mātāwaka tuarua rahi ake i te rohe o Rodney, arā, i eke ki te 11.4 ōrau, e 50 ōrau nei te rahinga ake i te nui mai i te tatauranga o mua. E 42 tau te toharite o te pakeke o te tangata i Rodney, engari anō te pakeke tau waenga o te iwi Māori i te rohe, e 25 tau ana, e rangatahi ana.

Ka whakatairangatia e te Poari ā-Rohe o Rodney a Te Uri o Hau, a Ngāti Manuhiri me Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara, hei mana whenua i tēnei rohe, ā, e whakauka ana te poari ki te tiaki i tēnei taiao e whaitake ai ngā whiriwhiringa kōrero, e mārama ai ki a rātou ngā take mātāmua a ngā iwi, e poipoia ai hoki e ia ngā hononga mauroa.

E whai ana mātou ki te tuku i ēnei kōkiritanga hei urupare ki ngā take mātāmua 10 o te anga o Kia Ora Tāmaki Makaurau:

Kia ora te hononga

E whakauka ana mātou, ka whanakehia ngā huarahi mahi tahi me te iwi Māori kia nui ake tā te iwi Māori whai wāhi i roto i ngā whakatau mā te whakarite hui auau me te toro ki ngā marae hei wāhi mahi tahi. Ka whai hoki mātou ki te whakapakari i ā mātou kaimahi kia pai ai tō mātou mārama me te urupare ki ngā wawata o te iwi Māori.

Kia ora te whānau

E ōrite ana te maha o ō tātou wawata e pā ana ki te whakawhakanaketanga o te waiora o ō tātou hapori, ka mutu ka tautoko mātou i ngā kaupapa e kōkiritia ana e te iwi Māori, e whakawhanake nei i te waiora me te kaha o ngā whānau.

Kia ora te ahurea

Ka rite tonu tā Te Poari ā-Rohe o Rodney tautoko i ngā mahi me ngā kōkiritanga ā-takiwā ka whakanui, ka whakatairanga hoki i te tuakiri me te ahurea Māori. Ka whakaurua ngā mātāpono Māori i a mātou e hoahoa ana, e whakahou ana hoki i ngā takiraha, i ngā papa rēhia me ngā wāhi tākaro pēnei i te papa tākaro kei te Wāhi Rāhui o Shoesmith e whakatairanga nei i te pūrākau mō Tāne-nui-a-rangi me ngā kete e toru o te



wānanga. Ka kimihia e mātou ngā huarahi mahi tahi ki ngā mana whenua i te rohe me ngā hapori Māori i ngā mahi tōmua o te whakamahere kaupapa kia whai wāhi ai ngā wawata, te ahurea me te tuakiri o te Māori i te ōrokohanga mai o aua kaupapa.

Ka tautoko, ka whakatairanga hoki mātou i ngā kaupapa whakahirahira pēnei i a Te Rā o Waitangi me te rewanga o Matariki. Ka akiaki hoki mātou i te kōrerotia o ngā pūrākau mō te ahurea me te hītori o te iwi Māori mā te kōtuinga whare pukapuka i Rodney.

He roa, he hōhonu hoki ngā hītori o Rodney. He nui ōna wāhi me ōna āhuatanga whakahirahira, tae atu ki ngā pā me ngā wāhi tau hoki. Ka mahi tahi mātou ki ngā mana whenua i tēnei rohe, ki ngā mātāwaka me ngā hapori o te rohe ki te whakaū i te tiakinga me te manaakitia o ēnei wāhi.

Kia ora te taiao

E mārama ana ki a mātou te hiranga nui o te taiao ki ngā mana whenua o te rohe me tā rātou noho hei kaitiaki mō ngā rawa māori o Rodney. Ka mahi tahi tātou ko ngā mana whenua i tēnei rohe, ko ngā mātāwaka me ngā hapori ki te manaaki, ki te whakatiketike me te whakahou i te rerenga rauropi i Rodney kia eke ai ō tātou wawata mō ngā reanga o nāianei, o āpōpō hoki.



Te Tāruke ā-Tāwhiri

Climate Action

In 2019 Auckland Council declared a climate emergency and in 2020 adopted Auckland's climate plan, Te Tāruke ā-Tāwhiri. Meeting the goals set out in this plan means taking ambitious action to reduce emissions and to adapt to a changing climate.

Local boards have an important role to play in leading and supporting Auckland's response to the climate emergency, including supporting regional climate plan initiatives, integrating climate awareness into all decisions, including community investment.

The Rodney Local Board area is vulnerable to a range of climate change related risks. Extreme weather events, including heavy rain, flooding and drought, are putting pressure on the area's infrastructure such as roading and wastewater systems, impacting communities, their housing and surrounding ecosystems. It is essential to recognise that our survival is intrinsically tied to the wellbeing of our environment.

The effects of climate change on the area have been assessed as part of Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri, which highlights Parakai, Helensville, and Point Wells as vulnerable to coastal inundation. In addition, these areas are deemed vulnerable to flooding along with Whangateau, areas of Omaha, Warkworth, Kumeū, Waimauku,

Flooding in Kumeū Huapai. Photo credit: Gabriel Muller



Whangaripo, Wayby and Rangitopuni catchment with extreme rainfall making Muriwai and Te Henga susceptible to coastal and cliff erosion. A further vulnerability assessment, that rates the sensitivity and exposure of communities to climate change and their ability to adapt, found that the Te Korowai-O-Te-Tonga Peninsula (South Head) was very highly sensitive and exposed to climate change impacts. Furthermore, there are nationally significant duneland ecosystems and estuarine habitats in the Kaipara Harbour as well as several significant ecological areas in Rodney that are threatened by the effects of climate change.

With significant and ongoing growth expected in Rodney, land use planning will be a critical tool in minimising the impacts of growth on green gas emissions and avoiding additional exposure to natural hazards. Quality compact urban centres that support efficient public transport and local employment opportunities are key to addressing this.

The local board and its communities are well positioned to take advantage of several opportunities to address climate change. Firstly, the high proportion of residents who report experiencing a sense of community suggests that there is a strong social fabric that can be leveraged to encourage collective action. Additionally, committed and skilled volunteers are already addressing concerns related to pests, environmental restoration and waste minimisation. Finally, the fact that most of Rodney's residents report making sustainable choices most or all of the time and are worried about climate change indicates a willingness and urgency to act.

We have identified several key advocacies focussing on ensuring better and more transport options, adequate resourcing for environmental compliance and regulation and better planning so that residents can meet their needs locally. We also plan to fund initiatives to both mitigate the impacts of climate change and build community resilience to climate impacts.

Some of the proposed **climate mitigation** initiatives:

- Support community initiatives that will encourage sharing and reuse of resources such as tools, appliances, skills, and community pantries at the local level
- Support the community, and resource recovery park and community recycling centres, to minimise waste, turn waste into resources, and to promote education on waste reduction
- Investigate further increasing the provision and uptake of public transport to reduce congestion, make roads safer and mitigate climate change
- Develop our town centres, parks and facilities so they are fit for the future, high quality, low carbon and resilient while protecting the natural environment as we grow.

Proposes **climate adaptation** initiatives:

- Support community access to skills and knowledge that will help households to be more resilient and self-reliant such as community gardens and food rescue projects, bike kitchens and repair cafes
- Support communities to develop local community emergency leadership groups and emergency action plans
- Support the development of shoreline adaptation plans to address and mitigate the impacts of climate change.



Kapa haka performance by Kaukapakapa School

Ō Tatou Tāngata

Our People

Our people support each other, have what they need to live well and are able to adapt to change

The projected population growth of Rodney may raise concerns about the potential impact on our small-town rural way of life. However, survey results indicate that residents report a strong sense of community and belonging. We are committed to supporting this social cohesion by providing more opportunities, and inclusive and accessible spaces, for people to connect.

In addition to this, we recognise the importance of supporting the development of local leadership to bring about positive change. We will provide initiatives and learning opportunities to build the capacity of the leaders amongst us, enabling greater collaboration with our partners and council teams.

The increasing impacts of climate change, including the rise in natural disasters, pose significant challenges for our residents. We believe it is essential to empower communities to proactively prepare for disasters and will be supporting communities to develop local community emergency leadership groups and action plans. Additionally, we will be advocating to central government for increased resourcing including equipment that can enhance community resilience during emergencies.



Outside of emergencies, it remains important to support people and households to become more resilient. We will promote initiatives that encourage sharing and reuse of resources, enabling households to adapt to changing circumstances and build greater independence.

Recognising the importance of lifelong learning, we believe that our residents should have access to a variety of learning and training opportunities through our libraries and community centres. We will also encourage the involvement of new providers and programmes to expand the options available.

To address the gap between school and further study or work, we will provide young people with local training and improved access to council services. By offering targeted programmes, we hope to empower youth during this critical transition, enabling them to make informed decisions about their future.

We are committed to developing productive and valued relationships with mana whenua and will focus on building strong connections with Te Uri o Hau, Ngāti Manuhiri, and Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara, to understand their priorities and aspirations. We also plan to develop partnerships and projects with mana whenua, mataawaka, and other Māori groups so they feel valued and empowered.

Despite higher voter turnout in general and local elections, many residents surveyed in Rodney felt they had little to no influence on council decision-making. We acknowledge that our substantial land area, accounting for 46 per cent of Auckland's total, combined with a comparatively small but rapidly growing population, presents distinct challenges that set us apart from other local boards. As a result, residents often experience a feeling of being marginalised from Central Auckland and dissatisfied with decision-makers.

We'd like to do better and therefore commit to listening and engaging our diverse communities to further understand their needs and to create an environment where residents can be engaged and have a say on issues that affect them. We propose to make information more accessible in various formats and locations, reaching out to those who are time poor or not able to access information online. Additionally, there will be a special focus on connecting with young people, valuing their perspectives, and involving them in decisions that directly impact them.

Challenges

- Despite a higher level of participation in both general and local elections compared to the regional average, residents often feel marginalised from Auckland Central and generally do not feel heard by decision makers.
- The population of Rodney continues to be the fastest growing Auckland-wide and is projected to grow to 108,273 by 2036 (63 per cent increase from 2018 census), almost doubling the population and potentially leading to a sense of loss of the small-town rural lifestyle.
- The number of school leavers who stayed to at least age 17 was one of the lowest regionally, suggesting a higher need for services aimed at supporting youth in the transition between school and further study or work.

Opportunities

- The strong sense of community experienced by residents in Rodney, along with almost all reporting that they have someone to rely on, provides excellent opportunities for community-building initiatives to strengthen support networks and foster community cohesion leading to better mental and wellbeing outcomes.

- There are several marae affiliated with mana whenua within the local board area that provide a range of social and health services, and cater to cultural needs and aspirations as a place for hui and tangihanga.



Our Plan

What we want to achieve (Objectives)	What we will deliver in the next three years (Key initiatives)
People have a strong sense of connection and feel included and able to participate in community life	<p>Create more opportunities to build stronger connections between neighbours and communities at a local level by supporting neighbourhood champions and community-based activities and events</p> <p>People have access to local spaces that are inclusive, accessible and culturally welcoming</p>
People have the skills and capacity to lead and make change in their communities	<p>Provide learning opportunities and initiatives that support and grow community leadership, capacity and innovation</p> <p>Support communities to deliver community projects and activities and work collaboratively with them, including other council teams and partners as needed</p>
People and households are resilient, sustainable and adaptable to change	<p>Support community access to skills and knowledge that will help households to be more resilient and self-reliant such as community gardens and food rescue projects, bike kitchen and repair cafes</p> <p>Support community initiatives that will encourage sharing and reuse of resources such as tools, appliances, skills and community pantries at the local level</p> <p>Support Māori-led initiatives that build whānau wellbeing and strengthen resilience</p>
Empower communities to prepare for disasters	Support communities to develop local community emergency leadership groups and emergency action plans
The local board has a good understanding of what people want and value their expertise	Engage with and listen to people from a range of different communities making sure all voices are heard and have the chance to be involved in decision-making
People are engaged and able to have a say on issues that affect them	<p>Improve communication and make information more easily accessible in a variety of formats and in more places, go to the people, reach out to time-poor people</p> <p>Make a special effort to connect with children and young people, listen to their views and involve them in decisions that affect them</p>
We have valued and productive relationships with mana whenua and mataawaka, Māori groups and residents	<p>Build relationships with Te Uri o Hau, Ngāti Manuhiri and Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara and create opportunities to understand what is important to them</p> <p>Develop partnerships and projects with mana whenua, mataawaka and Māori groups that respond to and further their aspirations</p>



People have access to a variety of quality local learning, training and skills development opportunities

Enhance local learning, literacy and skills development programmes in libraries, community centres, and encourage new providers and programmes

Support young people with local training programmes, access to council services and enable organisations to provide services for them in council facilities

Continue to provide access to the internet and provide digital education for those who need it such as through libraries and community centres

Advocacy

- Advocate to central government for increased resourcing for capacity building and training for community groups/volunteers and equipment to support community resilience during emergencies



Warkworth Butchery



Many environmental volunteers and groups help with planting and pest eradication

Tō Tātou Taiao

Our Environment

Our land, waterways and coasts are cared for and protected

In Rodney we are blessed with immense natural beauty, more than 1500 km of coastline, stunning harbours and several ecologically significant areas including Mt Tamahunga and Mt Atuanui all of which we share with many diverse species, some critically threatened.

However, in the face of a changing climate, our world is experiencing the profound impacts of weather events like never before. From devastating floods to prolonged droughts, these occurrences exert tremendous pressure on our habitats and disrupt the delicate balance of ecosystems. The urgency to address these challenges has never been greater.

We are committed to prioritising actions that make a tangible difference. Firstly, we will increase efforts to clean up debris from rivers and waterways, ensuring unobstructed water flow and reducing the risk of sedimentation. We will also advocate for the improvement of roadside drainage systems minimising the destructive consequences of flooding. Addressing stream and coastal erosion is also a critical component of our approach.

As we strive for a sustainable future, we acknowledge that water quality issues are exacerbated by land use activities, including road pollutants, land use change leading to more impervious surfaces and loss of



greenspaces as well as industrial and agricultural practices involving fertilizers and clean fills. However, we believe it is important to continue to strive for healthy, clean, and swimmable waters.

To achieve this, we will identify major sources of contaminants and restore freshwater ecosystems through riparian fencing, planting, and sediment reduction. We will also support initiatives that focus on restoring flood plains and wetlands, practising environmentally sound forest harvesting. We will continue to advocate for sensitive planning to protect and preserve our natural environment and our overland flow path.

Maintaining and upgrading marine infrastructure regularly, such as wharfs and haul out facilities, will be prioritised, along with promoting practices to halt the spread of marine pests and diseases. We will encourage the use of better solutions for septic systems and address industrial waste leakage.

Collaboration is key to protecting and restoring our biodiversity and natural ecosystems. In Rodney, rapid growth has led to habitat loss and fragmentation, while pests, pathogens, and invasive species further contribute to declining biodiversity. To overcome these challenges, we propose to partner with mana whenua and support community groups to embrace Māori perspectives, fostering collaboration between iwi and community on shared biodiversity projects.

We firmly believe in empowering and supporting our amazing volunteers in their efforts to improve local biodiversity in our parks, reserves, and public as well as private land. By collaborating with these passionate individuals, we can amplify our collective impact and ensure the long-term sustainability of our area.

Furthermore, it is important to provide our residents with sustainable waste management options as we strive for zero waste outcomes. We will therefore support community resource recovery and recycling centres to turn waste into resources as well as delivering educational programmes to support a circular economy. We are dedicated to ensuring that any event we fund, or permit is managed with a waste minimisation plan in place including promoting the use of public transport.

Finally, we acknowledge that there is a lack of resources allocated to environmental monitoring and compliance which is exacerbated in Rodney due to its size and our distance from Central Auckland where the compliance team is based. We therefore plan to advocate to the Governing Body for this to be adequately resourced so that regulation can be enforced and without delay.

Challenges

- Climate change is leading to increase in severe weather events, causing floods and longer and more impactful droughts, putting pressure on habitats and the ecology of the area.
- Habitat fragmentation and loss due to rapid growth and land-use changes, introduced plant and animal pests and pathogens are all contributing to a decline in biodiversity.
- Water quality issues are being exacerbated by land use changes leading to increased impervious surfaces, sediment run-off, and loss of greenspaces. This is further impacted by agricultural practices and clean fills.
- The lack of resources allocated to monitoring and compliance is exacerbated by the size of Rodney and its distance from central Auckland leading to delays in inspections, slower response time to complaints and a reduced ability to enforce regulations effectively.

Opportunities

- Very committed and skilled environmental volunteers and groups are addressing concerns related to pests, environmental restoration and waste minimisation within the local board area.
- The protection and enhancement of the area's environmental and biodiversity value, including several ecologically significant areas like the Kaipara Harbour, and the Pākiri/Te Arai coastline and Mount Tamahunga and Atuanui. There are many threatened indigenous plants, bats, lizards and frogs in our ecosystems as well as endangered birds' nesting coastal sites that present an opportunity for leveraging sustainable development and conservation efforts.
- Supporting sustainable and responsible tourism, such as with the Matakana coast trail, can help bring economic benefits to the area while promoting environmental conservation and protection.



Our Plan

What we want to achieve (Objectives)	What we will deliver in the next three years (Key initiatives)
The water in our streams, rivers, harbours and beaches is healthy, clean and swimmable	Improve water quality in our waterways by restoring freshwater ecosystems through appropriate riparian planting and sediment reduction, support initiatives that restore flood plains and significant wetlands, and environmentally sound forest harvesting. We also encourage the use of water-sensitive design practice.
	Identify major sources of contaminants to streams and harbours and the most efficient remediation using Healthy Waters Fresh Water Management Tool
	Monitor streams for contaminants and sediment to measure changes in the water quality as a result of remediation activities
	Maintain and upgrade marine infrastructure on a regular basis and promote practices that stop the spread of marine pests and diseases
	Support initiatives to prevent pollution and litter in our waterways and marine environment
Flood mitigation initiatives respond to the challenges of climate change - sea level rising, storms, flooding	Increase the clean-up of debris from rivers and waterways and make space for water
	Increase programmes and activities that address stream and coastal erosion and promote adaptation to these hazards
	Support community groups who are working to keep our waterways clean and healthy
	Support the development of shoreline adaptation plans to address and mitigate the impacts of climate change



We work together to protect and restore our biodiversity and natural ecosystems	Support mana whenua to enhance and restore biodiversity in Rodney including coastal infrastructure, waterways, sites of significance, urupā, wāhi tapu
	Partner with mana whenua to support community groups to build an understanding of te ao Māori and support opportunities for collaboration between iwi and community groups on biodiversity projects of mutual interest.
	Support community groups, landowners, volunteers and schools to manage pest plants, animals and pathogens; to carry out native planting and stream restoration work in our parks, reserves, public and private land; to improve sites of high ecological value and protect local biodiversity such as threatened and at-risk species at a landscape scale
	Support community groups, volunteers and schools to engage, educate and raise awareness of environmental matters within the community
	Protect and develop areas of particular importance to mana whenua in ways that are in accordance with mana whenua tikanga and aspirations
There is an increase in sustainable waste management options	Support the community, and resource recovery park and community recycling centres, to minimise waste, turn waste into resources, and to promote education on waste reduction
	Ensure any local board-funded and/or permitted events are managed to minimise waste include promoting the use of public transport
	Encourage businesses to increase environmentally sustainable practices, such as minimising waste

Advocacy

- Advocate to the Governing Body, council-controlled organisations (CCOs) and developers for improved stormwater and wastewater infrastructure services to mitigate flooding and respond to the challenges of climate change.
- Advocate to the Governing Body for sensitive planning to avoid any impact on our natural landscapes with high biodiversity values, working with the environment to protect and preserve it.
- Advocate to the Governing Body for adequately resourced and effectively enforced environmental compliance to both public and private entities to protect our environment.
- Advocate to the Governing Body for better solutions for septic systems and the reduction of industrial waste leakage.
- Advocate to the Governing Body for Kawau Island to become pest free by actively involving and empowering the Kawau community, along with the support of iwi, the Department of Conservation and stakeholders.



Tāwharanui Regional Park



The Kumeu Show

Tō Tātou Hapori

Our Community

Our community facilities, libraries and parks are great places to connect, play and learn

The local board's community infrastructure network is a valuable resource for our community. Our libraries along with our arts centres, and over 20 community halls, are essential hubs for social connection, learning, and growth. However, we are facing a challenge in maintaining these facilities due to our limited funding being used to maintain our many old buildings and ageing infrastructure.

To ensure that we have the adequate resources to meet the needs of our growing community, we will review underperforming assets, identify changes in areas of need and work alongside partners to maximise usage of venues. We are also looking to shift the delivery of some of our community services, adopting mobile or outreach programmes, grants, and online platforms. With this approach, we hope to better reach our geographically dispersed and diverse communities.

We want to ensure that our prioritised community facilities and services are well-used and inclusive. We will therefore support community centres and halls to provide accessible, multi-use spaces. We have heard that libraries are a key asset for our communities so we will continue to support them to deliver a variety of activities and programmes.

We are committed to providing enriching opportunities in arts, culture, heritage, and events to foster creativity and preserve our heritage. To this end, we will continue to prioritise and support our arts centres and will also seek opportunities to extend arts initiatives to other parts of Rodney, ensuring that residents across the region have access to artistic and cultural offerings.

By collaborating with local communities, we can deliver activities and events that celebrate Rodney and support our sense of belonging. Moreover, we are committed to honouring and promoting our unique Māori cultural heritage by creating more platforms for sharing Māori stories, heritage, and te ao Māori (the Māori world) with our local communities. Events like Matariki and Waitangi Day will be actively supported.



We take great pride in our extensive parks network. These green spaces not only offer opportunities for physical activity, access to nature and fostering social connections but also support flood resilience. As we experience population growth, particularly in areas such as Huapai, Dairy Flat, Riverhead, and Warkworth, there is an increased demand for these spaces. We are therefore committed to delivering well-maintained parks to meet the needs of these expanding areas.

In line with our objective of providing great indoor and outdoor sport and recreation, we will continue to enhance our sports infrastructure such as with the delivery of outcomes in our newly adopted Wellsford Centennial Park Plan. To achieve this within our financial constraints we will explore funding and delivery opportunities through external partnerships, sponsorships, and grants. We may also have to fund these by reprioritising assets by shifting what we own to areas of greatest population and need.

Across all these goals, we believe young people and whānau should be a priority. We will therefore ensure they have access to high-quality services and play spaces. We will explore new initiatives, such as relocatable play equipment, that can be shared across communities and nature play such as by turning a fallen tree into a safe climbing opportunity. Māori design will also be integrated into the development of new facilities, play areas and outdoor spaces.

Challenges

- There is increased demand for recreational open space occurring within population growth areas of the local board including Huapai, Dairy Flat, Milldale, Riverhead and Warkworth.
- The local board can't afford the upkeep of their current portfolio of facilities with most of their funding going to maintaining old buildings and ageing infrastructure.
- Community owned venues on council leased land risk becoming a liability should the community groups no longer be able to afford ongoing maintenance.

Opportunities

- Review underperforming assets in consultation with community and partners to enable re-investment in key facilities, where growth is occurring, that will meet our community's needs, including options for multi-use facilities.
- The local board's parks network includes 338 parks over 1,400 hectares of land providing opportunities for physical activity, social connection, and access to nature. Ten regional parks are also within the area including Muriwai, Te Rau Pūriri, Ātiu Creek, Te Ārai, Pākiri, Tāwharanui, Scandrett, Mahurangi, Te Muri and Wenderholm.



- Buildings in the local board's community infrastructure network include libraries in Helensville, Kumeū, Leigh, Mahurangi East, Point Wells, Warkworth and Wellsford, arts centres in Kumeū and Helensville, and more than 20, mostly rural, community halls.
- Shifting the delivery of community services to focus on mobile services, outreach, partnerships, grants and online services can better serve the geographically dispersed and diverse communities of Rodney.
- The Rodney Local Parks Management Plan provides us with an opportunity to manage our parks and reserves in a holistic and integrated way that responds to what the community needs and wants.

Our Plan

What we want to achieve (Objectives)	What we will deliver in the next three years (Key initiatives)
Community facilities and services are well used, inclusive and cater to the changing needs of our local communities	<p>Support community centres, halls and marae to provide accessible, multiuse spaces with programmes that meet a wide range of community needs and strengthen community connections</p> <p>Support libraries to deliver a variety of activities and programmes that cater for many diverse parts of the community</p>
Children, young people and whanau are able to access services, activities and programmes locally	Find out what activities and programmes children and young people need and want and increase support for existing and new initiatives
Communities have a range of local opportunities to experience arts, culture, heritage and events	<p>Work with and support local communities to deliver activities and events that celebrate Rodney's unique places, spaces and people</p> <p>Create more opportunities to share Māori stories, heritage and te ao Māori with local communities</p> <p>Support and celebrate events of significance in the Māori calendar – Matariki, Waitangi Day, Te Matatini</p> <p>Support our local arts centres and look for opportunities to extend arts experiences to other parts of Rodney</p>
Communities have great local options for indoor and outdoor play, sport and recreation that provide opportunities for all ages and abilities	<p>Create exciting and versatile play spaces that include play for all abilities and explore the possibility of relocatable play equipment that could be shared across communities</p> <p>Work with local communities to provide increased nature play experiences</p> <p>Continue to improve our sports infrastructure and explore the delivery of more community facilities through alternative funding methods such as external partnerships, sponsorships and grants.</p>

Parks and open spaces meet the needs of our growing town centres and diverse rural communities

Continue to deliver well-maintained high-quality parks and open spaces to ensure there is sufficient space to cater for needs in growth areas

Deliver the plan outcomes for key parks such as Wellsford Centennial Park and Green Road in Dairy Flat

Work with mana whenua and mataawaka to integrate Māori design into local parks and facilities and include Māra Hūpara elements (traditional Māori play) in play areas and outdoor spaces



Levels of service

As we have described in our plan, the cost of owning and maintaining all of community assets such as community centres, halls and other buildings is unsustainable. In this plan we are proposing, overtime, to change our asset portfolio to make it more affordable. We are also exploring alternate ways of delivering services to the community. This will mean that we own and operate fewer buildings and other assets and the way services are offered may change.

Advocacy

- Advocate to the Governing Body for more investment in regional parks in our local board area and resourcing for service provision, such as with service centres, to meet the pressures of population growth and tourism.
- Advocate to the Governing Body for retention and increase in investment in the Sport and Recreation Facilities Investment Fund and Regional Sport and Recreational Facilities Operating Grant which enables our residents to participate in a community sports and recreation activities.



Wellsford War Memorial Library



New housing subdivision in Riverhead

Ō Tātou Wāhi

Our Places

Our towns, villages and rural areas are vibrant, prosperous and liveable

Rodney is undergoing significant residential development, with the number of consented homes almost doubling in the past five years. Around 30 per cent of these new homes are higher density housing, indicating a move to urbanisation and exacerbating the existing infrastructure deficit caused by years of underfunding.

Although the new urban areas have basic infrastructure, the provision of public transport has been slow, leading to congestion across the region. Additionally, the planning of schools and hospitals and the zoning of business and industrial land lacks integration. To address these issues, we will advocate for stronger planning regulations to ensure that transport networks are delivered in line with urban development and that employment opportunities are provided near where people live. Furthermore, new urban areas must be resilient to climate change such as taking into consideration blue-green networks, and we must consider the protection of highly productive land.

We recognise the importance of supporting sustainable growth with first class infrastructure and facilities that meet the needs of our expanding communities. We therefore plan to upgrade town centres, parks, and facilities to be future-ready while preserving the natural environment. We will also continue to advocate for amenities and services that attract high-quality businesses, including accessible public transport, skilled

locals, and appealing facilities. We believe it is important to advocate for improved planning by considering climate change impacts, such as town centre locations and stricter zoning and consenting guidelines.

Rodney residents report being particularly proud of their local area, believing it to be a great place to live. We want to support this by ensuring that we continue to deliver improvements to town centres, villages and rural communities and will support community participation in delivering local amenity and infrastructure projects so that improvements reflect local heritage, culture and identity. Finally, we will explore ways to reduce costs and assist with council processes for community-led projects.

We are committed to ensuring that with this growth, our local business communities can thrive. To support this, we will plan and deliver functioning and attractive business districts with great accessibility and public amenities, such as with the recent Warkworth Town Centre Plan. Not only do we have a growing population but there is opportunity to leverage off Rodney being a popular visitor destination for both Aucklanders and internationally.

In Rodney, we are committed to ensuring that more local jobs are available to local people, while also retaining profits within the communities. We will therefore prioritise local procurement, where possible and support local groups to become procurement ready for council contracts. We also plan to make council assets and facilities available to support social and community enterprise.

We acknowledge that Wellsford shares a demographic profile with some of the most disadvantaged areas in the region, yet it does not receive the same levels of economic investment. We will therefore be looking to get support with growing household prosperity equitably across Rodney through increased economic development.

Challenges

- Rodney is undergoing significant residential development with the number of dwellings consented almost doubling in the past five years, with 30 per cent of those dwellings being higher density housing. This is fast contributing to the ongoing infrastructure deficit already experienced from decades of underfunding.
- Recent, rapid urbanisation in Rodney, alongside poor and out of sequence planning has resulted in increased congestion, delayed and inadequate public transport, limited local employment opportunities as well as inadequate provision of essential public services such as schools and healthcare.
- Wellsford has a similar demographic profile to some of the most disadvantaged areas in the region but does not receive the same levels of economic development input, advice and support.

Opportunities

- Rodney residents have a greater sense of pride in the look and feel of their local area and think it's a great place to live compared to the regional average.
- Rodney remains a popular visitor destination with potential for further development of the visitor economy drawing domestic and international visitors on a weekly basis.
- New housing developments and employment precincts could provide more opportunities for people to live and work locally.
- Rodney has a strong local economy driven by growth in construction, food and accommodation as well as more rural sectors such as forestry, food manufacturing and fruit growing creating many local employment opportunities.





Our Plan

What we want to achieve (Objectives)	What we will deliver in the next three years (Key initiatives)
<p>Towns and villages are well planned, attractive, vibrant and cared for. They reflect local heritage, culture and identity and complement our stunning natural environments</p>	<p>Continue to deliver enhancement and streetscape improvement projects in the town centres, villages and rural communities</p>
	<p>Support community involvement in the development of our public spaces, parks and reserves and support communities to help deliver projects that will improve local amenity and infrastructure</p>
	<p>When community groups and organisations are delivering initiatives contributing to improved social and environmental outcomes, explore ways to reduce their costs and assist them with council processes</p>
	<p>Reflect Māori cultural values and history in placemaking and town improvement projects and include mana whenua as a critical part of planning and design processes</p>
<p>Growth and development are supported by first class infrastructure and facilities that meet the needs of our growing communities and support sustainability outcomes</p>	<p>Develop our town centres, parks and facilities so they are fit for the future, high quality, low carbon and resilient while protecting the natural environment as we grow</p>
<p>Local business communities and business improvement districts (BIDs) are resilient and prosperous</p>	<p>Plan for and deliver functioning and attractive business districts with great accessibility and public amenities that provide appealing places to work and spend time</p>
	<p>Support localism and promote the 'keep it local' theme</p>
<p>There are more local jobs for local people and profits are kept in local communities</p>	<p>Maximise opportunities for council activities to build local skills and create local employment</p>
	<p>Use local and social procurement where possible to employ local people for council contracts and other work</p>
	<p>Support local groups and organisations to become procurement ready</p>
	<p>Enable the use of council assets and facilities to support social and community enterprise</p>

Advocacy

- Advocate to the Governing Body for better planning that considers the impacts of climate change to future proof new housing and growth. This would include consideration such as blue-green networks, the location of town centres, the protection of highly productive land and more stringent zoning and consenting guidelines.
- Advocate to Eke Panuku for development and growth in Rodney to include land use provision and zoning for employment land that will deliver more high-quality local jobs.
- Advocate for amenities and services that will attract high quality businesses and staff. These include accessible and affordable public transport, a skilled local population, attractive local facilities, access to suppliers.
- Advocate to central government and the Governing Body for an increased economic development focus for Wellsford to enhance household prosperity for residents.
- Advocate to the Governing Body and Auckland Transport for the funding of flood mitigation work in areas where homes and main transport routes are regularly flooded, and floods are causing commuters and communities to be significantly adversely affected or isolated by flood waters.
- Advocate to central government and the Governing Body to prevent development in areas vulnerable to climate change and ensuring development is only allowed when funding is available for water and transport infrastructure, including public transport and community facilities and central government funded infrastructure, such as schools and hospitals.
- Advocate to protect our rural zones from haphazard industrial zones.
- Support Watercare's plans to make the drinking water supplies more resilient for areas such as Helensville, Parakai and Wellsford.
- Advocate to individual rate payers in Rodney, who are not on Watercare's metropolitan network, to build individual water resilience, including installing additional water storage capacity and adopting water conservation practices on their property.



Locals enjoying a café in Rodney



The Wellsford to Warkworth 998 bus

Tā Tātou Pūnaha Waka

Our Transport

Our transport networks are safe, accessible and well maintained

The Rodney Local Board area is 46 per cent the land mass of Auckland yet is home to only just over four per cent of Auckland's population, which presents unique challenges. Most importantly we struggle to secure adequate funding for essential services like road maintenance and public transport. Solutions are often not fit for the rural context; hence we are advocating for the adoption of the Rural Roads Design Guide to ensure we get more appropriate design standards for conditions such as gravel footpaths and rural bus stops.

According to a 2023 Auckland Transport report, the Rodney Local Board area has experienced the highest number of deaths and serious injuries on its roads compared to any other local boards in the past year. In light of these concerning findings, we will continue to steadfastly advocate for increased funding to develop fit-for-purpose rural roads. This includes improving unsealed roads (80 per cent of Auckland's gravel roads are in Rodney) and prioritising maintenance and renewals. We will also use our unique Transport Targeted Rate to explore available options to deliver improved roading surfaces. Additionally, we will continue to use the rate to implement safety projects aimed at benefiting pedestrians, cyclists and non-road users, all tailored to the unique needs of the rural and semi-rural context.

The North-West, particularly State Highway 16, is experiencing growing congestion that is significantly impacting the area. The lack of convenient, frequent, and rapid public transport options exacerbates this

problem and creates equity issues by limiting access to employment and education opportunities. With the Ara Tūhono - Pūhoi to Warkworth motorway extension now open, we will be advocating for congestion on state highways to be addressed as a priority, particularly for key transport corridors.

In addition to this, we recognise the importance of investing in public transport options to alleviate traffic, enhance road safety, and contribute to mitigating climate change. Using funds from our transport targeted rate, we aim to investigate the delivery of further public transport options that effectively serve the community's needs. We will continue to advocate to Auckland Transport for improvements and the expansion of Rodney's bus services, especially in new development areas. We believe that it is essential to ensure that any public transport solutions implemented in Rodney are fit for purpose, given the unique challenges posed by a large geographical area with a relatively low population.



Challenges

- Our large geographical area and low population makes providing public transport difficult.
- Rodney's residents have an above average commute to work and study. Commute times to tertiary education institutions are also longer than average.
- Growing congestion in the North-West, particularly on State Highway 16, coupled with a lack of convenient, frequent, and rapid public transport produces inequities in the area by limiting access to employment and education opportunities without needing long distance commutes.
- Serious accidents and deaths in Rodney are higher than any other local board area with speed being the main contributing factor.

Opportunities

- The Ara Tūhono - Pūhoi to Warkworth motorway extension connecting through to Matakana with Te Honohono ki Tai Road provides improved access, a much safer corridor, as well as faster and more reliable travel times to and from Northland, Warkworth and north-east Rodney.
- The Warkworth Community Transport Hub, funded through the Rodney Local Board Transport Targeted Rate, provides a central space for bus commuters needing to park their cars or bikes, before travelling north to Wellsford, and south to Warkworth township for connections to Matakana and the Kōwhai Coast, and onward to connect to the Northern Busway and Auckland destinations.
- Trail access from Pūhoi to Pākiri in Rodney is being established by working collaboratively and in a first-of-its-kind partnership with a range of central and local government agencies, a local community trust, community, and mana whenua.



Our Plan

What we want to achieve (Objectives)	What we will deliver in the next three years (Key initiatives)
Initiatives to be delivered with the Rodney Local Board Transport Targeted Rate	
Pedestrians and non-road users are safe	Deliver safety projects for pedestrians, cyclists and mobility devices appropriate to the rural and semi-rural context
Affordable, accessible and frequent public transport	Investigate further increasing the provision and uptake of public transport to reduce congestion, make roads safer and mitigate climate change
Safer road surfaces	Investigate available options to deliver improved roading surfaces

Advocacy

- Advocate to Auckland Transport for increased funding in the 10-year budget (long-term plan) for rural roads that are resilient including:
 - \$124 million for Auckland Transport's Unsealed Roads Improvement Programme to improve unsealed roads through strengthening and other methods
 - an increase of funding, ringfenced for maintenance and renewals exclusively, that allows Auckland Transport to renew and maintain at least eight to nine per cent of Auckland's roads in any given year as per Auckland Transport's Asset Management Plan.
- Advocate to Auckland Transport and Waka Kotahi to improve traffic congestion on State Highway 16 by funding the delivery of the North-West Strategic Network individual transport projects taking into account flood plains and for these projects to be included in the next Regional Land Transport Plan.
- Advocate to Waka Kotahi and Auckland Transport to prioritise enhanced safety and address congestion on key transport corridors and provide feedback on resource consents applications to limit the number of vehicle crossings, such as side roads and driveways, being introduced.
- Advocate to Auckland Transport for the use of the existing rail network to be used for commuter transport to service the North West.
- Advocate to Waka Kotahi to identify and mitigate flooding on key corridors that are vulnerable to flooding causing commuters and communities to be significantly adversely affected or isolated by flood waters.
- Advocate to Auckland Transport for the development and adoption of the Rural Roads Design Guide to set principles for various rural road types and provide more appropriate design standards for rural conditions such as for gravel footpaths and rural bus stops.
- Advocate to Auckland Transport for further improvements and the expansion of Rodney bus services particularly in new development areas including park-and-rides, dedicated bus ways, additional routes and stops, weekend services on busier routes, higher frequency on busy routes and greater safety for bus drivers.
- Advocate for Auckland Council and Auckland Transport to work together to support the delivery of walkways, trails and bridleways, as guided by greenways plans, to better connect our rural areas with local villages and recreational spaces, and to increase safety – ensuring that any new developments and subdivisions are also connected to this network.

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 10-year Budget 2021-2031 and updated through subsequent annual budget. Updated financial information and levels of service will be adopted as part of the 10-year Budget 2024-2034 which is due to be adopted in June 2024. The 10-year Budget 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 current 10-year Budget 2021-2031 outlines local board responsibilities, provided for directly in legislation or allocated to boards, are summarised into local activities and levels of service statements. These are described in the table below.

More information regarding the most recent levels of services, including performance measures and performance targets, can be found in the Rodney Local Board Agreement 2023/2024 and in the 10-year Budget 2021-2031 (Vol 2 section 2.6). This is available on the council website.

The levels of services and performance measures for local activities will be reviewed as part of the 10-year budget 2024-2034 and targets reviewed subsequent Annual Budgets.

Local Activities	Level of service statements
Local Community Services	
We support strong, diverse, and vibrant communities through libraries and literacy, arts and culture, parks, sport and recreation, and events delivered by a mix of council services, community group partnerships and volunteers	<p>Provide safe, reliable, and accessible social infrastructure for Aucklanders that contributes to placemaking and thriving communities</p> <p>Utilising the Empowered Communities Approach, we support Aucklanders to create thriving, connected and inclusive communities</p> <p>We provide safe and accessible parks, reserves, beaches, recreation programmes, opportunities and facilitates to get Aucklanders more active, more often</p> <p>We showcase Auckland's Māori identity and vibrant Māori culture</p> <p>We fund, enable, and deliver services, programmes, and facilities (art facilities, community centres, hire venues, and libraries) that enhance identity, connect people, and support Aucklanders to participate in community and civic life</p>
Local Planning and Development	
We support local town centres and communities to thrive by developing town centre plans and development, supporting Business Improvement Districts (BIDs), heritage plans and initiatives	We help attract investment, businesses and a skilled workforce to Auckland
Local Environmental Management	
We support healthy ecosystems and sustainability through local board-funded initiatives such as planting, pest control, stream and water quality enhancements, healthy homes, and waste minimisation projects.	We work with Aucklanders to manage the natural environment and enable low carbon lifestyles to build resilience to the effects of climate change

Local Governance

Activities in this group support the local board 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.

The measures for this group of activities are covered under the Regional Governance group of activities in the long-term plan which determine participation with Auckland Council decision making in general. This includes local decision-making





Tirohanga take pūtea whānui

Financial overview

Revenue, expenditure and capital investment by local activities for the Rodney Local Board for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024.

Annual Plan Financials		2023/2024 (\$000s)
Operating revenue		
Local community services		390
Local planning and development		-
Local environment management		-
Total operating revenue		390
Operating expenditure		
Local community services		14,201
Local planning and development		338
Local environment management		253
Local governance		1,279
Total operating expenditure		16,071
Net operating expenditure		15,681
Capital expenditure		
Local community services		10,050
Local planning and development		-
Local environment management		-
Local governance		-
Total capital expenditure		10,050¹
¹ This exceeds the estimate local board funding allocation for 2024/2025 in the 10-year Budget 2021-2031, which is due to decisions of the Governing Body in subsequent Annual Budgets, and expenses will be met from the relevant sources as identified by the Governing Body (including as set out in the Revenue and Financing Policy)		

Ngā Mema o tō Poari ā-Rohe o Rodney

Your Rodney Local Board members



Brent Bailey

Chairperson

m. 021 730 892

brent.bailey@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



Louise Johnston

Deputy Chairperson

m. 021 729 739

louise.johnston@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



Colin Smith

m. 021 731 051

colin.smith@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



Geoff Upson

m. 027 334 5062

geoff.upson@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



Guy Wishart

m. 027 334 1737

guy.wishart@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



Ivan Wagstaff

m. 027 334 1317

ivan.wagstaff@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



Mark Dennis

m. 027 334 4498

mark.dennis@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



Michelle Carmichael

m. 027 334 6334

michelle.carmichael@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



Tim Holdgate

m. 021 195 6366

tim.holdgate@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Find out more



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