

Making Space for Water

Tom Mansell – Head of Sustainable Outcomes

Mana whenua kaitiaki forum - 12 April 2024





Making Space for Water

We're proposing four objectives for managing flood risks:



Reduce existing flood risks

Risks in known flood areas are reduced, using a toolbox of flood management techniques.



Avoid creating new flood risks

New development avoids creating flood risks to people, property and infrastructure.



Raise people's awareness of flood risks

Aucklanders understand what flood risks mean for them. They know if they live in a flood hazard area, how to manage stormwater on their property, and what to do before, during and after a flood.



Be prepared for flood events

Reliable data and systems underpin the council's and Aucklanders' storm preparations.



Making space for water initiatives

Operations and maintenance

- Increased maintenance
- Flood intelligence

Neighbourhood solutions

- Community led flood resilience
- Stream rehabilitation
- Blue-green networks
- Rural settlements

Site specific interventions

- Overland flow path management



Funding expectations have changed

- Government favouring acquisition (category 3) for immediate hazard reduction
- Council funding will be required for most of the blue green networks
- Government will fund enabling works delivered in the next two years

12 Focus areas for Blue-green Network Projects



Enabling works in highest risk areas

Three projects for delivery in the next 18 months:

- Waimoko, Harania, Te Ararata
- Range of physical works to bridges, culverts, outfalls, stream profile
- Engineering focus
- Crown-funded

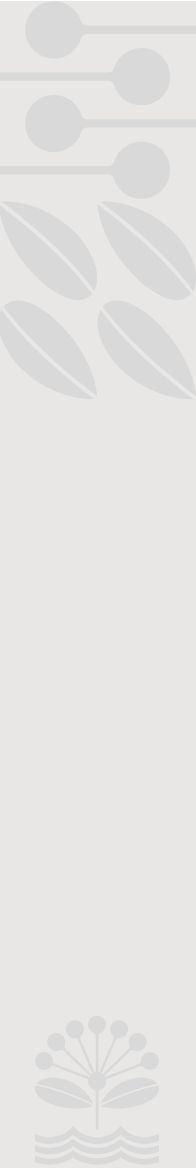
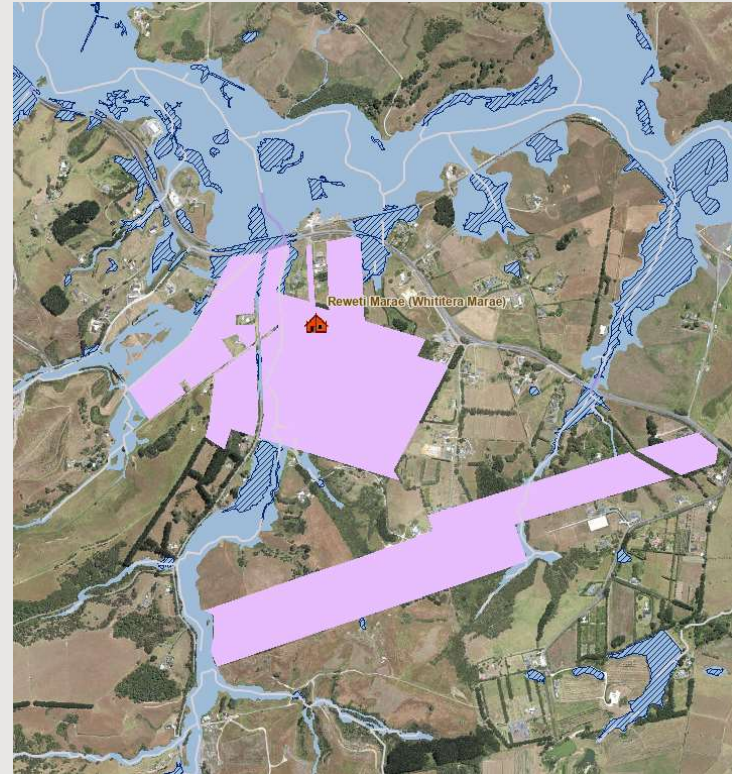
Next stage:

- Stream and riparian margin enhancement
- Environmental and community focus
- Council-funded



Flood impact on Māori freehold land

- Identified 300+ Māori freehold land parcels with flood hazards
- Unsure impact on buildings and homes
- Presentation at next forum on Crown processes for Māori freehold land





MANA WHENUA BG NETWORK ENGAGEMENT

Contact	1:1 Hui	Key Kōrero	Update	Actions
Ngāti Whātua Ōrakei	07/11/2023. Met with Mervyn via Teams	Ngāti Whātua are supportive of Making space for Water. Mervyn will discuss with iwi reps and update HW in the new year.	08/05/2024 - Have not heard back on where Ngāti Whatua would like to sit with involvement	
Waikato Tainui	Awaiting		No reply from Lorraine	
Ngāti te Ata	04/03/2024 Online hui with Paora Puru	Supportive of making space for water, more so with project in the south area.	Paora Puru is the lead contact for this area.	
Ngāti Tamaoho	14/12/2023. Met with Lucie via Teams	Ngāti Tamaoho are supportive of Making space for water and are willing to support Te Auaunga and Te Ararata		Follow up update hui needs to organised
Te Kawerau a Maki	28/11/2023. Met with Edward, in person Henderson Office	Te Kawerau a Maki are currently hiring staff to help back log, when new staff in trained in the new year, Staff member will be available to support Making Space for Water.		1:1 monthly hui are organised and set by TKaM
Te Akitai Waiohū	03/11/2023 Met with Adrian, in person Albert street	Jeff Lee will be the rep for Te Akitai Waiohū on Te Ararata and Harania		Follow up with Jeff to organise hui
Te Ahiwaru	27/02/2024 Met with Kowhai	Kowhai is supportive of being part of the MSFW programme and wants to be involved in the Te Ararata and Harania		Follow up update hui needs to organised
Marūtūāhu * Ngāti Maru (Geoff) * Patukirikiri (Paulette) * Ngāti Tamatera (Eddie) * Ngāti Whanaunga (Gavin)	29/11/2023, Met with Marūtūāhu, site visit Te Auaunga stage 2 * Geoff * Paulette * Eddie * Gavin	After completing a site visit, all iwi are supportive of making space for water. Iwi will lead in Te Auaunga stage 2, alongside Te Kawerau a Maki.		Follow up hui needed for an update of Te Auaunga stage 2
Ngāti Maru	24/01/2024 met with Dave via teams	fully support MS4W, willing to support Wairau Creek.		Follow up update hui needs to organised

19 September 2024

Dear Resident

Harania Creek Flood Resilience Project

Following last year's severe weather events, Auckland Council's Healthy Waters has been working to reduce the risk and impact of future extreme weather events and improve stormwater network resilience.

We are proposing a physical works project to reduce flooding and improve flood resilience for the streets around Harania Creek. We are in the early stages of design but work is likely to include replacing the embankments at Tennessee Avenue and Blake Road to give the creek more space to flow.

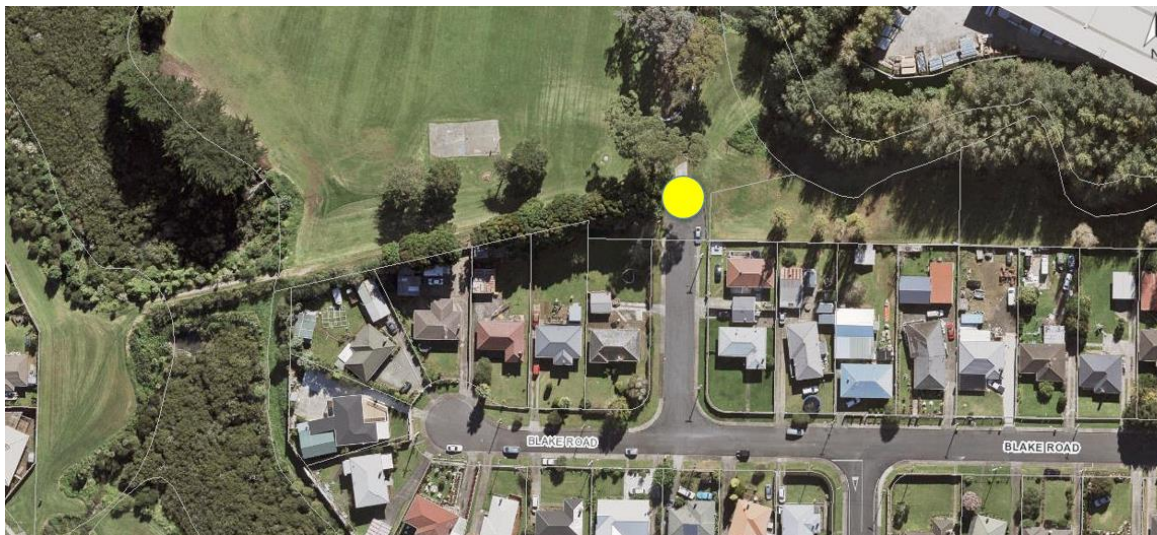
Construction works are anticipated to begin in March 2025 and expected to be completed by mid-2026.

We would like to meet with you Tuesday 1st October

Given the proximity of your property to the proposed project site you have been identified as being potentially impacted by construction effects.

We invite you to join a residents' working group where we'll discuss the effects, proposed mitigations, planning process, and next steps, followed by a site walk.

I'll be at the end of Blake Road (at Blake Road Reserve entrance) between 5:30-6:00pm (yellow dot below) to discuss the project.



If you have any questions beforehand, feel free to call me on 021 538 428 or via email at bluegreen@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz .

Kind regards,

Leighton Gillespie

Project Manager



[Home](#) > [Plans, policies, bylaws, reports and projects](#) > [Our projects](#) > [Projects in south Auckland](#) >

Harania Creek Flood Resilience Project


Harania Creek Flood Resilience Project

We want to improve flood resilience for Māngere residents by increasing the capacity of Harania Creek.

Making space for water to flow

In response to the severe weather events of 2023, we are speeding up our efforts to:

- reduce flood risks
- improve preparedness.

The Harania Creek Flood Resilience Project is part of the [Making Space for Water](#)  flood resilience programme. It is proposed to be co-funded with central government.

For more information, visit [Mayor supports 'Making Space for Water'](#) .

About the project

The Harania Creek flood resilience project will:

- significantly reduce the risk of flooding to the residential properties and roads around Harania Creek
- increase stormwater capacity and make the network more resilient to future storm events
- improve access to the stormwater network to make it faster and easier to maintain the site
- improve the downstream environment of Harania Creek by allowing a more natural and frequent flow of water to occur.

How we want to do this

The proposed project work includes:

- removing embankments at Tennessee Avenue and Blake Road to increase the water flow of Harania Creek
- constructing replacement wastewater pipes and pipe bridges
- building a footbridge over the stream at Tennessee Avenue
- planting and repairing the area around the open stream.

Area overview



Harania Creek Flood Resilience Project area.

Next steps

The [Transport and Infrastructure Committee](#) has endorsed the plan for this project.

We have submitted it to the government for approval and co-funding. We expect a decision on this in the next few months.

To complete physical works and reduce flood risk as quickly as possible, we have requested an [Order in Council](#), under the [Severe Weather Emergency Recovery Legislation Act 2023](#). This request will allow for rapid delivery of projects that will help communities to recover from the severe weather events of early 2023.

The Ministry for the Environment is leading policy work on the Order in Council proposal.

Read more on the [Ministry for Environment website](#).

More information

Email bluegreen@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz for more information about this project.



**August
2024**

Harania Creek Flood Resilience Project



Following last year's severe weather events, Auckland Council's Healthy Waters has been working to reduce the risk and impact of future extreme weather events and improve stormwater network resilience. We are proposing a physical works project to reduce flooding risk for homes near Harania Creek.

In order to develop the design, we are planning site surveys in the next few weeks. Construction is expected to start this summer and take approximately 18 months to complete.

These works are part of Auckland Council's Making Space for Water flood resilience programme, co-funded with the government to reduce flood risks by addressing critical flood-prone areas with sustainable stormwater solutions.

What are we doing?

We are proposing to replace the embankments at Tennessee Avenue and Blake Road with an open creek and pipe bridge. This will enable the waterways around Blake Road Reserve to flow more freely and lessen the likelihood of flooding in the future.



We are also proposing to build a foot bridge over the creek at Tennessee Avenue and enhance the newly created creek area with landscaping and planting.

Project Benefits

- Significantly reduce the risk of flooding to the residential properties and roads around Harania Creek.
- Increasing stormwater capacity and making the network more resilient to future storm events.
- Improving the downstream environment of Harania Creek by allowing a more natural and frequent flow of water to occur.
- Improving access to the stormwater network to make the site easier and quicker to maintain.



Concept picture of pipe bridge at Tennessee Avenue

While this upgrade will not completely resolve flooding, undertaking investment now will reduce risk by providing a greater level of protection against future flooding and ensure we are better prepared for heavy rain events.

How will physical works affect you?

If you live near to the Tennessee Avenue or Blake Road embankment work sites you may be affected while construction takes place.

- During works there will be noise, dust and vibrations, as per usual construction activity. We will endeavour to keep disruption to a minimum.
- The majority of work will take place in Blake Road Reserve and is unlikely to require access onto private property. We will contact you if we need to access your property.

Estimated project timelines:

- Investigation and survey work: August- September 2024
- Update the community and apply for consents: Late 2024
- Construction: Early 2025 - Mid 2026

Next steps:

- To complete physical works and reduce flood risk in Māngere as quickly as possible, Auckland Council has requested an 'Order in Council', under the Severe Weather Emergency Recovery Legislation Act 2023, to enable rapid delivery of projects that will help communities to recover from the severe weather events of early 2023.
- From 30 July – 23 August Ministry for the Environment will be inviting feedback about the Order in Council. To give your feedback on this process, visit their website www.environment.govt.nz/acts-and-regulations/orders-in-council/
- On the ground in Māngere, over the coming months our surveyors will be in the area measuring floor levels as well as assessing public land, the road and trees. You will be informed if they need to come onto your property.



Need help?



Visit: aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/bluegreen



Phone: 09 301 0101



Enquire: bluegreen@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

How can you get involved?

Please join us for an informal hui to meet the Healthy Waters project team. We will share more information about this project and answer questions from the community. Representatives from Recovery Office and Kāinga Ora will also be available.

Thursday 22nd August, 6:00-7.30pm

The Metro Theatre

362 Massey Road, Māngere East

Families are welcome and kai will be served from 6:00pm

The hui will start at 6.30pm

Other works in your area

The Harania Creek Flood Resilience Project is one of a number of flood resilience projects happening in Māngere that will protect hundreds of houses from future flooding risk. We are also upgrading the stormwater network at Te Ararata Creek and partnering with community groups, local board and iwi groups to increase flood resilience and reduce flood risk in the community.

Further information

Once we have more details about the design and construction of the project we will share this information with the local community.

In the meantime if you have any questions please come along to the information evening and talk to the project team or email: bluegreen@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

This information leaflet is also available in the following languages:

- Māori
- Cook Island Māori
- Samoan
- Tongan
- Simplified and Traditional Chinese

Email: bluegreen@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz to request a digital copy.

If you have a query about the council's Tāmaki Makaurau Recovery Office and the services available (including support), please email: recoveryoffice@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz or phone 09 884 2070



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For further information about the project



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FAQs



Te Ararata Creek and Harania Creek flood resilience projects

Community meetings Q&A

What is council doing to reduce flooding in Māngere?

Te Ararata Creek and Harania Creek flood resilience projects

Auckland Council, alongside the Government, is making significant investments to reduce the flooding risk in this community. Māngere is the first community to be receiving priority funding for flood resilience projects. This includes \$53 million for the rapid delivery of two specific flood resilience projects dedicated to addressing urgent stormwater infrastructure needs at Harania Creek and Te Ararata Creek in Māngere.

Upstream flood reduction work in Te Ararata Creek will be investigated once downstream works are completed. The proposed work is part of a separate fund and process which does not fit the criteria in the current prioritisation framework, as there are other areas in Auckland that also face extreme flooding risk that must be prioritised. While it cannot be delivered at the same time, work is progressing to develop a project as soon as we can.

Delivering projects as soon as possible

To complete physical works at Te Ararata and Harania creeks and reduce flood risk in Māngere as quickly as possible, Auckland Council has requested an 'Order in Council' from government, under the Severe Weather Emergency Recovery Legislation Act 2023. We are waiting to hear back on the outcome of this request.

This would make construction of the project a permitted activity and remove the requirement for a resource consent which could delay the project by 12-18 months.

For more information visit <https://environment.govt.nz/acts-and-regulations/orders-in-council/>

Increased maintenance and inspections

Some of the things that council has done, and is continuing to do in Māngere since the major storms last year are:

- Removed tonnes of debris from streams – including the Mahunga Drive culverts
- Increased inspections and maintenance of key pipes and streams to address issues early
- Increased catchpit cleaning (deep pits within roadside drains that are designed to catch debris before it enters stormwater pipes) from once to twice a year
- Upgrading to specially designed catchpits that allow water to flow in from behind or from the side if the top grate is blocked (over 100 installed so far)
- Investigating the installation of hotspot cameras at two locations in Māngere cameras to identify blockages for faster removal by Operations teams
- Partnered and funded community organisations (Te Ararata Stream Team and Māngere East Family Services) to do local clean up and workshops about flood resilience.

What is the flood risk at my home?

Why did flooding occur in 2023?

The weather events in early 2023 were extreme. The Auckland Anniversary storm was the largest and most intense regionwide rainfall event in Auckland's history since records began. This was followed by Cyclone Gabrielle, the most severe tropical cyclone in 50 years.

The Auckland Anniversary storm dumped more water on the city in a single day than it would typically see in three months. In Māngere (like many other parts of Auckland) this was more than double the amount expected in the largest rainfall events. It caused persistent rainfall for more than 24 hours, exceeding 230mm in many locations across the city and was very widespread impacting around 60% of the urban area. Having rain of that duration across such a wide geographical area is very unusual for Auckland.

The very high rainfall during the 2022 spring meant that soil was already saturated when the heavy rain came in January and the ground couldn't soak up more water. This caused flash flooding as water ran across the ground.

This video '[Why does Auckland flood?](#)' is part of a flooding series from the council's Healthy Waters team, designed to inform residents about flooding, flood safety and flood resilience.

Will flooding occur again?

The stormwater network is designed for Auckland's regular rainfall events and will continue to function to deal with normal rainfall. The 2023 storms were not typical and our city's stormwater piped system is not designed to handle extreme storms of that size.

Unfortunately we cannot predict if or when another large storm may happen again. However the flood resilience projects in Māngere will reduce risk by providing a greater level of protection against future flooding events. Any remaining flooding in residential areas will occur at a lower level and less frequently.

Every property has a different flood risk. The risk of your home flooding again depends on the size of the storm, your location and how close you are to the stream or other flood hazards, your style of house and the height of your floors, and things on your property or your neighbours which alters the flow of water (such as solid fences with no gaps at the bottom that cause pooling).

What can you do to reduce flood risk?

The stormwater system is made up of public and private watercourses which means all of us working together to achieve best outcomes. There are things you can do to prepare your whānau for storms and minimise flood damage to your property. Go to the 'Get Prepared Section' of our [Flood Viewer](#) tool for more information on:

- How to prepare your home for flooding
- Dos and don'ts of flooding
- How to stay safe during a flood

You can also help prevent flooding by reporting dumping in streams and stormwater blockages to council by calling on 09 301 0101.

Other questions

What is happening with property categorisation?

Auckland Council is assessing homes severely impacted by the 2023 storms with a focus on finding if there is a serious risk to life from future storms and flooding, and if they qualify for a buy-out or construction grant.

Thank you to everyone who has registered and is waiting for their category. We know it's been a long and difficult wait. With the Harania and Te Ararata stormwater projects now confirmed, we are moving forward with risk reports and will be in touch when we have confirmed your category. Each home will still receive a category based on the individual risk at their home, so there will still be a mix of Category 3, Category 2 and Category 1 properties.

We strongly encourage you to register before the **30 September 2024 deadline** if you had over half a metre of flooding in your home or received a red or yellow placard. For more information and translated materials visit ourauckland.nz/storms, or phone our Recovery Office team on 09 884 2070.

Why are new developments approved in areas that are at high risk of flooding?

It's very difficult for councils to stop people building in these areas with the current nationwide planning rules having an extremely high threshold. This means that when councils refuse consents, developers can take their case to the Environment Court and have our decisions overturned.

Auckland Council is progressing work on a change to the [Auckland Unitary Plan](#) to increase resilience to natural hazards. While this won't completely prevent building in floodplains it will strengthen the standards that must be met by developers when applying to build in areas that are at a high risk of natural hazards, like flooding. We encourage everyone to participate in the submission process for the Natural Hazards Plan. More promotion on this will be forthcoming, but your input is crucial in shaping a safer future.

What is happening next?

Flood resilience projects in Māngere

We are committed to keeping you informed and involved every step of the way. Here's what you can expect:

- October 2024 - February 2025: Detailed design phase for the upcoming projects.
- November 2024: We will be applying for consents and will hold a community update meeting towards the end of the year.
- Early 2025 - mid 2026: Construction.

We meet regularly with the Community Working Group throughout the design and construction phases.

Introducing the Project Manager

Leighton Gillespie is the Auckland Council Healthy Waters Project Manager for both flood resilience projects in Māngere. If you have questions about either project, you can email him at bluegreen@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz or call 09 301 0101 to request a call back.

Further information

Once we have more details about the design and construction of the projects we will share this information with the local community. In the meantime further information be found at aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/bluegreen

If you have a query about the council's Tāmaki Makaurau Recovery Office and the services available (including support), please email: recoveryoffice@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz or phone 09 884 2070.

You can also visit our partners I Am Māngere at the Māngere Town Centre, shop 16a.



Need help?



Visit: aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/bluegreen



Phone: 09 301 0101



Email: bluegreen@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz