Ōrākei Local Board Plan 2026 Summary of Feedback

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Summary of feedback on the draft Ōrākei Local Board Plan 2026

Purpose

This report summarises feedback received during the public consultation in June/July to inform the development of the Ōrākei Local Board Plan. This summary aims to capture themes rather than detail every point of feedback received.

Executive Summary

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 focus on the key areas local boards are responsible for and include objectives and some of the key initiatives that will be carried out to achieve them.

This report summarises the key activities that took place and the feedback that was heard during the consultation period.

Feedback can be viewed online on the Auckland Council AK Have Your Say page.

Engagement Approach

The draft Ōrākei Local Board Plan 2026 was developed using feedback received from public engagement carried out between November 2025 and April 2026. Feedback previously heard from the community on a wide range of topics, particularly during the 2026 Annual Budget consultation period, was also considered.

Between 23 June and 23 July 2026, the local board consulted on the draft plan to hear the community's thoughts. Feedback was received through:

- Have Your Say events
- community and partnership events
- written submissions including online and hard copy forms
- emails and letters
- digital tools including polls and story uploads
- Buzzly campaign for rangatahi (youth).

Support was provided to submitters including:

- translated and interpreted summary draft Local Board Plans and feedback forms
- information at Auckland Council libraries

- online webinars and information available on the AK Have Your Say hub page.

The primary consultation questions asked by feedback form were:

1. How well do you think our plan reflects the needs and aspirations for our community over the next three years?

   Very well | Quite well | Not very well | Not well at all | I don't know

2. The draft local board plan focuses on five key outcome areas for our community. Please let us know if you agree or disagree with the ways we propose to meet the community's needs for each outcome areas.

   Support all | Support most | Do not support most | Do not support any | I don't know

3. Auckland Council strategic framework identifies three considerations for all decisions and investments: Māori Outcomes, Climate Action and Equity Outcomes. These are woven throughout the plan. How well have we captured these considerations?

   Very well | Quite well | Not very well | Not well at all | I don't know

4. Do you have any other feedback on the Ōrākei Local Board Plan 2026?

Māori engagement

Mana whenua

A co-ordinated approach was taken across local boards, with mana whenua invited to engage through a single hui rather than receiving separate invitations from each board. For the Ōrākei Local Board, engagement with Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei occurred through an online discussion forum, followed by an invitation to provide written feedback during consultation on the draft plan.

Written feedback from Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei was strongly supportive of the draft Ōrākei Local Board Plan 2026. The submission acknowledged the board's longstanding Mana ki te Mana relationship with the iwi, its commitment to Māori outcomes, and recognition of key cultural sites and institutions, including Ōrākei Marae, Takaparawhau, Pokanoa/The Landing, and the Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei Reserves Board.

The submission supported the overall direction of the plan and encouraged continued early engagement, shared decision-making, and partnership in strategic planning, environmental restoration, climate resilience, cultural identity, and community wellbeing. Key matters raised included increasing the visibility of Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei narratives and ancestral place names in public spaces, formal recognition of Tuku Whenua (18 September), ongoing support for ecological restoration initiatives, and continued recognition of Ōrākei Marae as an important cultural and community resilience asset.

Awareness raising and Stakeholder and community engagement

Communications for the 21 local board plans consultation was delivered through an integrated campaign with consistent regional messaging and local content that built relevance and encouraged engagement.

Over the consultation campaign, the regional campaign had 6.6M views on social media (increased 146% against 2023), 146K organic engagements (increased 1,300%) and 48K link clicks (increased 100%).

We also utilised 221 Auckland Transport station billboards and bus stops, 56 library screens, 92 hoardings and community noticeboards and E-news updates both regionwide and locally targeted.

Locally, we delivered:

- A localised video and Our Auckland article
- Panels at Ōrākei and Ellerslie train stations and three hoardings across the board area
- Five inclusions across two different e-newsletters
- 11 posts on the local board Facebook page, gaining a total of 119,860 views, 2,480 interactions and 560 link clicks
- The top performing post was the boosted compliance warden video with 101,710 views, 2,034 engagements and 257 link clicks

Table 1: Summary of in-person consultation activities during the consultation period

Activity	Who was involved	How many people participated or feedback received
Advisory Panels	Local board chairs and deputy chairs were invited to participate in workshop session with advisory panels. The panels were organised into three groups: Diverse Communities: Ethnic, Pacific and Rainbow Advisory Panels Priorities: community connection, safety, representation, improved civic education, more specificity in plans Accessibility and Inclusion: Disability and Senior Advisory Panels Priorities: meaningful and ongoing engagement, door-to-door accessibility, recognition as core community members (aka not a deficit) Future Auckland: Youth Advisory Panel Priorities: invest in development opportunities, ongoing engagement, improved civic education, community/council partnerships	Panel presentation via three groups
Buzzly campaign	We used Buzzly (digital youth platform) to engage with rangatahi in our local area through one activation for the Ōrākei Local Board. We challenged youth to respond to the question: What should be the biggest priority for young people in your local area over the next three years?	5
Community Partners - facilitated targeted engagement – Bluspur Consulting	We worked with Bluespur Consulting to focus on our Pacific/Polynesian communities.	81
Community Partners - facilitated targeted engagement - TANI	We worked with T.A.N.I (The Asian Network Incorporated) to focus on our Asian communities.	73
Youth of Ōrākei	Youth of Ōrākei initially agreed to provide feedback, but unfortunately scheduling conflicts prevented a hui from taking place. The group circulated info about the consultation to its members.	N/A

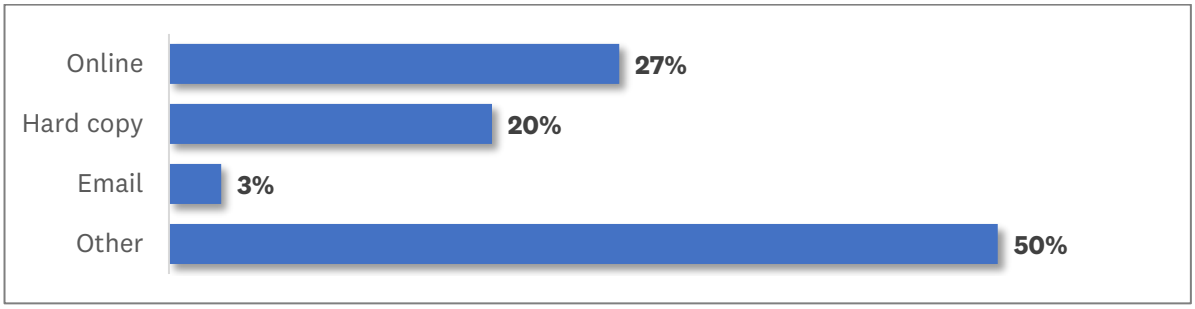
Activity	Who was involved	How many people participated or feedback received
Have Your Say Event 23 June St Heliers Church & Community Centre	Community hui / drop-in session Presentation with established community partners followed by a drop-in session for public	30 Informal feedback
Have Your Say Event 19 July Remuera Library	Drop-in session / Colouring-in competition	20 Informal 16 Hard copy
Have Your Say Event 18 July St Heliers Library	Drop-in session / Colouring-in competition	50 Informal 18 Hard copy

Summary of feedback

A total of 353 submissions were received on the draft Ōrākei Local Board Plan 2026, including 503 pieces feedback from individual residents, local organisations, mana whenua and regional organisations.

We provided submitters with a range of options to give feedback and received:

- 138 online submissions
- 99 hard copy forms
- 12 emails
- 35 via Digital Tools -30 Quick poll & 5 Buzzly
- 120 pieces of feedback from events
- 81 Bluespur Consulting forms
- 18 Easy-read forms

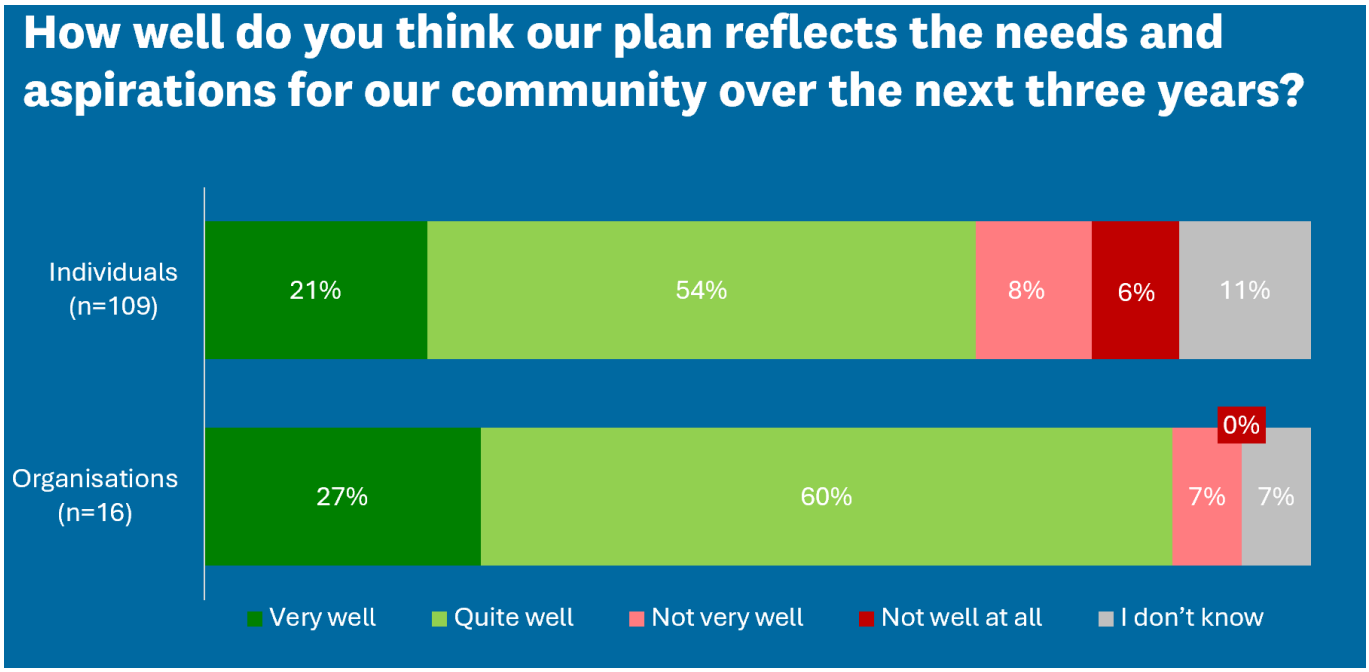


General feedback on the draft Ōrākei Local Board Plan

Overall, feedback indicated broad support for the direction of the draft plan, with most submitters considering it reflected the needs and aspirations of the community either very well or quite well. Particular support was expressed for the plan's focus on community wellbeing, environmental protection and restoration, quality public spaces, recreation opportunities, climate resilience, transport improvements and support for local centres.

While many submitters endorsed the overall vision and objectives, feedback also identified areas where greater ambition, clearer priorities, additional project detail and stronger advocacy were sought

Quantitative question and feedback received



Feedback on the Community, Natural Environment, Built Environment, Economic Development and Transport Outcomes in the draft Ōrākei Local Board Plan

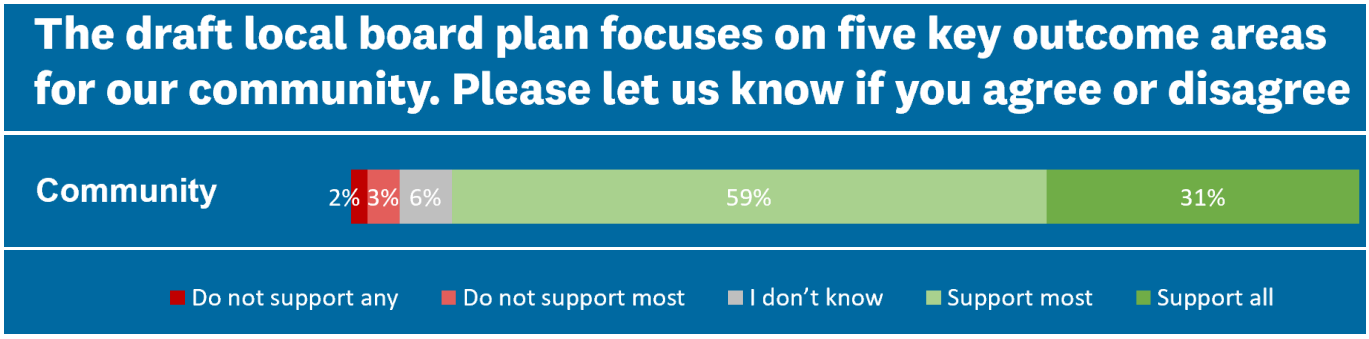
Community

Our people are at the heart to our vibrant and thriving community. The Ōrākei Local Board will invest in quality spaces and activities that enable community connection and participation.

Objectives

- Enable community partners to provide positive outcomes for our residents.
- Communities have great local options for indoor and outdoor play, sport and recreation.
- Parks and community facilities are well cared for and maintained.
- Our community knows how to get involved, is well informed and feels connected.
- Strong and productive mana whenua and mātāwaka relationships.

Quantitative questions and feedback received



Qualitative feedback

Key themes from the feedback included:

- Strong support for maintaining and improving community facilities, parks, libraries, recreation spaces and opportunities for community connection, belonging and participation.
- Greater investment in youth, families, volunteering, sport, recreation, community events and inclusive programmes that strengthen social cohesion and wellbeing.
- Desire for stronger community engagement, better communication about council activities and more accessible opportunities for residents to participate in local decision-making.

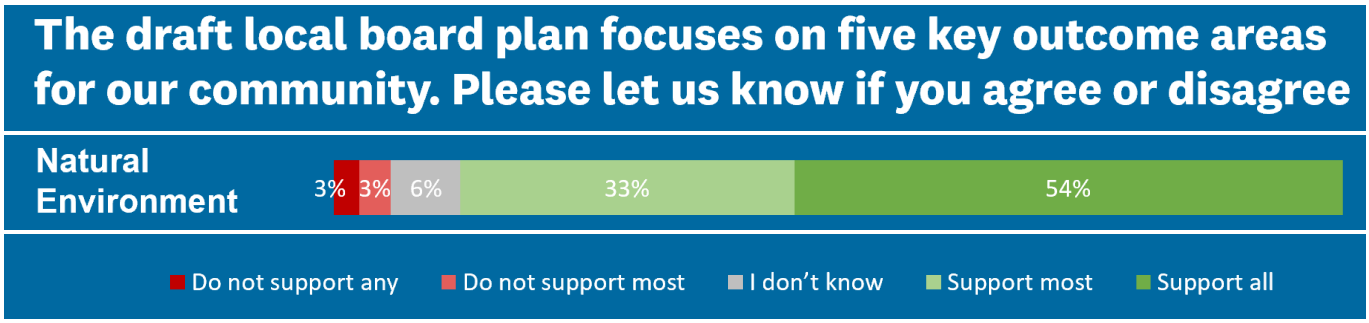
Natural Environment

We will improve and sustain a resilient and flourishing natural environment for future generations of Ōrākei.

Objectives

- Restore, protect and enhance our water quality and water ways.
- Strengthen the resilience of the community and environment.
- Council -community partnerships are strengthened for the benefit of the environment.
- Our forest, bush and wetland habitats continue to be enhanced for future generations.
- Improve conservation of our marine and coastal environment.

Quantitative questions and feedback received



Qualitative feedback

Key themes from the feedback included:

- Strong support for environmental restoration, biodiversity protection, native planting, pest management and improving the health of waterways, beaches and coastal environments.
- Significant concern about water quality, ageing stormwater and wastewater infrastructure, flooding resilience and the need to reduce pollution entering streams, estuaries and beaches.
- Broad support for climate action, urban tree canopy expansion, ecological restoration and nature-based solutions to improve environmental resilience.

Built Environment

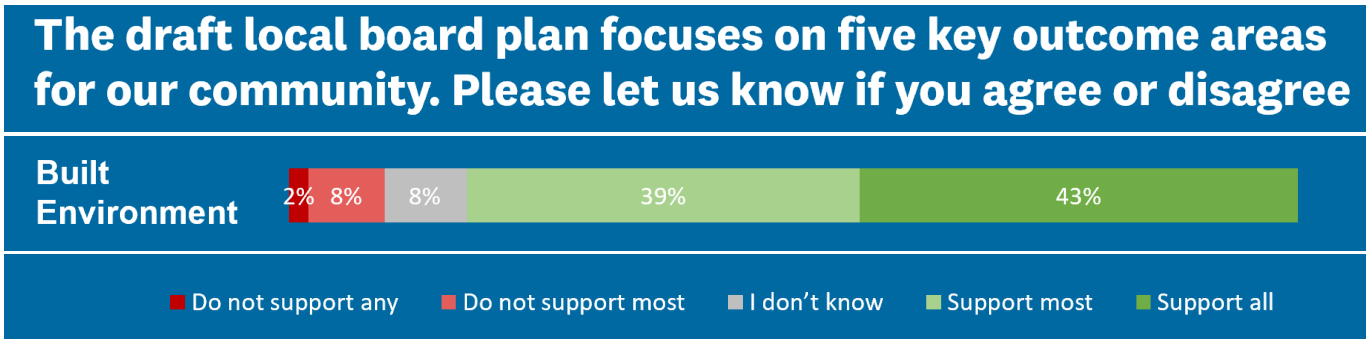
The board envisions a dynamic and effective built environment that reflects the needs and aspirations of the community.

Objectives

- Promote an urban landscape fit for our local board area.
- Develop new community assets to meet the needs of our changing and growing population.

- Open spaces and community facilities meet the needs of the growing population.

Quantitative questions and feedback received



Qualitative feedback

Key themes from the feedback included:

- Strong interest in ensuring growth and housing intensification is supported by adequate infrastructure, high-quality urban design and protection of neighbourhood character.
- Requests for investment in community infrastructure including community centres, sports facilities, public spaces, town centres and improved public amenities.
- Calls for greater focus on maintaining existing assets, improving resilience of infrastructure and ensuring development does not negatively affect environmental or community outcomes.

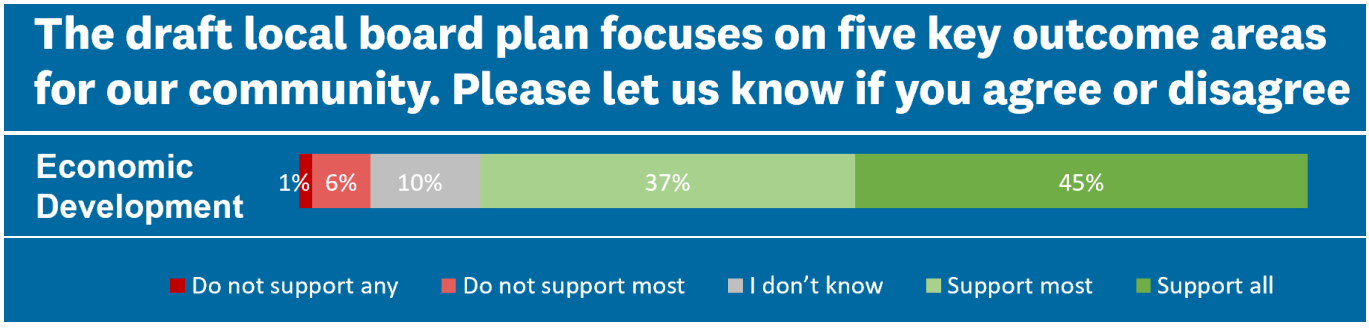
Economic Development

Ōrākei has prosperous businesses and economic centres that support thriving communities.

Objectives

- Town centres are hubs of business and social life.
- Support local businesses.
- Navigable and effective town-centres.

Quantitative questions and feedback received



Qualitative feedback

Key themes from the feedback included:

- Support for vibrant local centres, attracting visitors, strengthening local businesses and maintaining attractive town and village centres.

- Recognition that improved transport connections, activation, events and placemaking can help support local business activity and economic growth.
- Interest in ensuring economic development supports community wellbeing, employment opportunities and long-term local prosperity rather than growth alone.

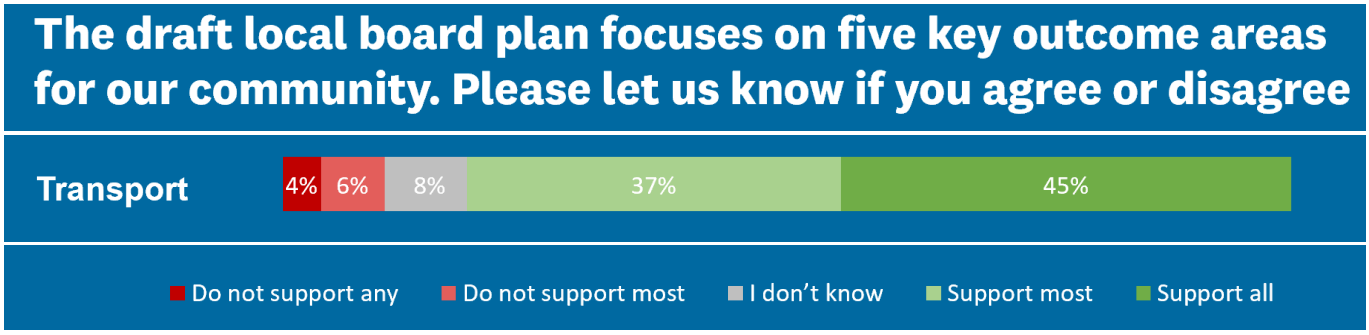
Transport

Ōrākei needs a transport system that works well for everyone, making it easy and safe to get around the local board area and connect to other parts of Tāmaki Makaurau.

Objectives

- Strengthen public transport connections so services are reliable, convenient, and easy to use.
- Responsible growth and management of alternative transport options.
- Improve the movement for goods and people across our transport network.
- Improve road safety and transport infrastructure.

Quantitative questions and feedback received



Qualitative feedback

Key themes from the feedback included:

- Strong demand for safer and better-connected walking, cycling and micromobility networks, particularly links between schools, town centres, parks and public transport.
- Requests for improvements to public transport reliability, accessibility and connectivity, alongside support for integrated transport options.
- Ongoing concerns about congestion, parking availability, road safety and ensuring transport infrastructure keeps pace with population growth and development.

Feedback on the required considerations of Māori, Climate and Equity Outcomes throughout the draft Ōrākei Local Board Plan

Māori Outcomes

Delivering outcomes for Māori is an important feature of the draft Ōrākei Local Board Plan.

Māori outcomes respond to both the Council's legislative obligations and to extensive engagement with Auckland's Māori communities.

The draft plan proposed the following specific objectives and priorities that support Māori outcomes in the Ōrākei Local Board area.

Community

- Strengthening partnerships with mana whenua and mātāwaka, supporting Māori-led initiatives, and recognising Māori identity, culture and governance.
- Honour Mana Motuhake by supporting Māori-led solutions.
- Continue support for Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei aspirations, the Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei Reserves Board and engagement with the Tūpuna Maunga Authority.

Natural Environment

- Partnering with mana whenua to restore environmental wellbeing and embed kaitiakitanga into environmental management.
- Work with mana whenua to restore the mauri of whenua, awa and taonga species and build climate resilience.
- Support Ko Te Pūkākī – Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei Ecological Restoration Project and strengthen kaitiakitanga.

Built Environment

- Recognising Māori heritage, identity and place through planning and development.
- Ensure the heritage of people, places and buildings is recognised, protected and valued.
- Provide input into regional policies and plans that reflect local cultural and community priorities.

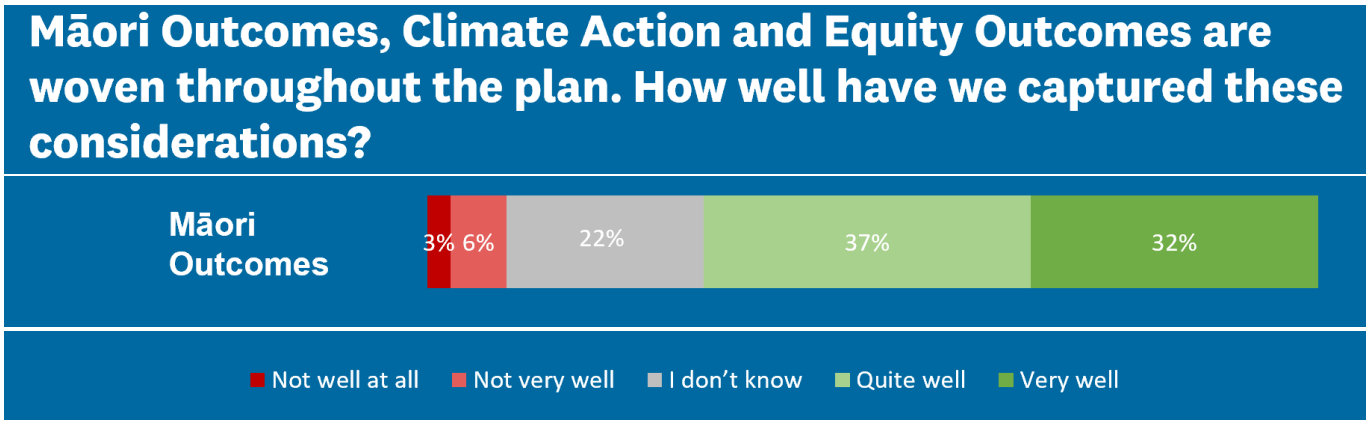
Economic Development

- Supporting Māori economic aspirations and local development opportunities.
- Work with Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei to support growth and development of local economic opportunities.
- Support vibrant town centres and local business networks that create opportunities for Māori enterprises and partnerships.

Transport

- Improving access and connections for all communities whilst supporting places and sites of cultural significance.
- Improve signage, wayfinding and connections across the transport network.
- Support walking and cycling links that improve access to community, cultural and recreational destinations.

Quantitative questions and feedback received



Qualitative feedback

Key themes from the feedback included:

- Strong support for mana whenua partnerships and Māori leadership, particularly strengthening relationships with Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei, recognising mana motuhake, supporting Māori-led initiatives, and involving mana whenua in planning, environmental restoration and decision-making.
- Greater visibility of Māori culture, history and identity in the local area, including support for Māori place names, storytelling, cultural interpretation, te reo Māori, recognition of sites of significance such as Takaparawhau and Tuku Whenua, and opportunities for wider community engagement with Māori culture.
- Mixed views from submitters regarding Māori outcomes, with many participants supporting stronger Māori outcomes and partnership approaches, while a smaller number questioned why Māori outcomes are identified separately and sought a greater focus on outcomes for all residents.

Climate outcomes

Local Boards also 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 draft plan proposed the following specific objectives and priorities that support climate outcomes in the Ōrākei Local Board area.

Community

- Building community resilience and preparedness for climate impacts.
- Strengthen community groups and marae to improve resilience to climate change.
- Update emergency readiness plans and support local groups to respond to severe weather events and emergencies.

Natural Environment

- Restoring ecosystems, improving water quality and adapting to climate change.
- Invest in strategic planting and restoration projects that improve environmental resilience to climate change.
- Implement the Ōrākei to Tāhuna Tōrea Shoreline Adaptation Plan and support climate adaptation initiatives.

Built Environment

- Supporting sustainable urban development and resilient infrastructure.
- Encourage developers to prioritise sustainable design in developments.
- Advocate for investment in renewals of critical infrastructure to support resilience.

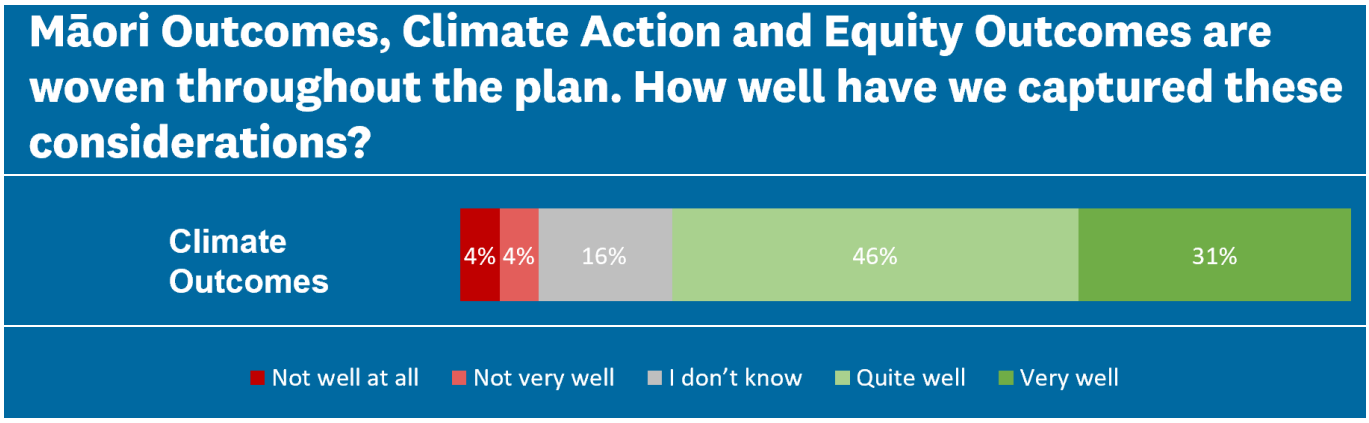
Economic Development

- Supporting sustainable business practices and adapting town centres to future challenges.
- Encourage resilient and sustainable business practices.
- Invest in attractive, vibrant town centres that remain resilient to economic and climate-related pressures.

Transport

- Promoting low-emission travel choices and reducing transport-related emissions.
- Support a climate-ready, low-emission transport system that reduces congestion and provides genuine travel choice.
- Expand walking, cycling and shared path networks and support more low-carbon transport infrastructure.

Quantitative questions and feedback received



Qualitative feedback

Key themes from the feedback included:

- Strong support for environmental protection and climate resilience, including ecological restoration, biodiversity enhancement, native planting, pest management, water quality improvements, coastal adaptation and protection of significant natural areas.
- Concern about infrastructure resilience and climate impacts, particularly flooding, stormwater and wastewater capacity, coastal erosion, beach water quality, and the need for infrastructure investment to respond to increasing severe weather events and growth pressures.
- Support for low-emission transport and sustainable urban development, including walking and cycling infrastructure, public transport improvements, urban ngahere expansion, sustainable design, and reducing reliance on private vehicles.

Equitable outcomes

Local Boards also have an important role to play in supporting and ensuring that Auckland's diverse communities and ensuring that local communities have what they need to thrive, where whānau have a good life, and where all Aucklanders can participate and belong.

The draft plan proposed the following objectives and priorities that specifically support equitable outcomes in our area:

The draft plan proposed the following specific objectives and priorities that support equitable outcomes in the Ōrākei Local Board area.

Community

- Improving inclusion, participation and access for all parts of the community.
- Create connections with communities who are heard from less, including youth, Pasifika and diverse language groups.
- Ensure community facilities provide opportunities for seniors, youth and people with disabilities.

Natural Environment

- Ensuring all communities can benefit from healthy environments and environmental stewardship opportunities.
- Support environmental education opportunities for tamariki and the wider community.
- Support community-led environmental and restoration initiatives through partnerships with Friends groups and kaitiaki organisations.

Built Environment

- Providing community infrastructure and open spaces that meet the needs of a growing and diverse population.
- Redevelop Meadowbank Community Centre and invest in new community facilities.
- Invest in assets that provide opportunities for active play, sport and recreation for all ages and abilities.

Economic Development

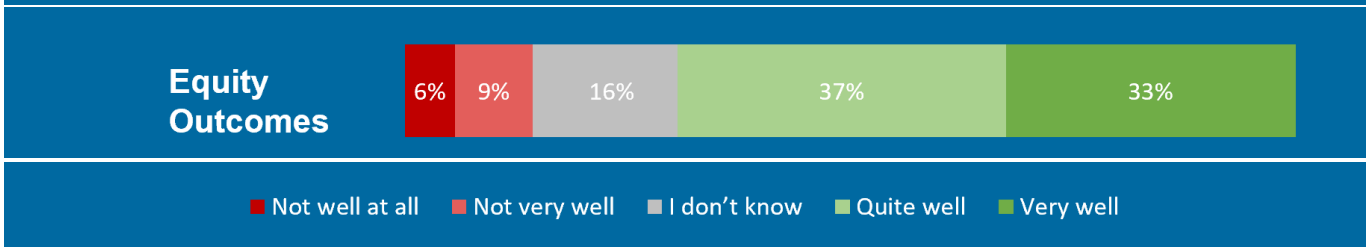
- Supporting access to vibrant town centres, local services and economic opportunities.
- Support town centres as hubs of business and social life for residents and visitors.
- Make parking and access arrangements work effectively for different users to improve visitor and business experiences.

Transport

- Making it easier and safer for everyone to move around Ōrākei regardless of age, ability or travel mode.
- Strengthen public transport connections so services are reliable, accessible and convenient.
- Improve road safety through better crossings, footpaths, wayfinding, cycling infrastructure and pedestrian facilities

Quantitative questions and feedback received

Māori Outcomes, Climate Action and Equity Outcomes are woven throughout the plan. How well have we captured these considerations?



Qualitative feedback

Key themes from the feedback included:

- Strong emphasis on access and inclusion for all residents, including better access to community facilities, public spaces, recreation opportunities, transport, and services for young people, older people, disabled people, culturally diverse communities and lower-income households.
- Concerns that some proposals may create barriers to participation, particularly submissions opposing paid parking at Ōkahu Landing, arguing it would reduce equitable access to the waterfront, recreation, marine activities and community participation. This was one of the most consistent themes in the feedback.
- Mixed views on the concept of equity outcomes, with many submitters supporting targeted approaches for under-served communities, while others argued that investment and services should focus equally on all residents rather than specific groups.

Feedback received from organisations

Local Organisations

Seven submissions were received from local organisations representing business, sport and recreation, resident associations, community organisations and marine recreation interests. Overall, these organisations were supportive of the draft plan's direction and priorities. Key themes included support for investment in community facilities, sport and recreation infrastructure, town centre revitalisation, environmental enhancement, active transport improvements and strengthened community partnerships. Local organisations also highlighted the importance of maintaining access to community, recreational and marine facilities, supporting local economic activity, and ensuring infrastructure and transport connections keep pace with growth and community needs

Regional organisations

Seventeen submissions were received from regional organisations representing environmental, health, arts and culture, sport and recreation, community wellbeing, active transport, homelessness, heritage, and mana whenua interests. Overall, these submissions were generally supportive of the draft plan's direction while recommending greater emphasis on active transport, environmental restoration, arts and culture, community wellbeing, food resilience, accessibility, sport and recreation infrastructure, and strengthened partnerships with mana whenua and community organisations.

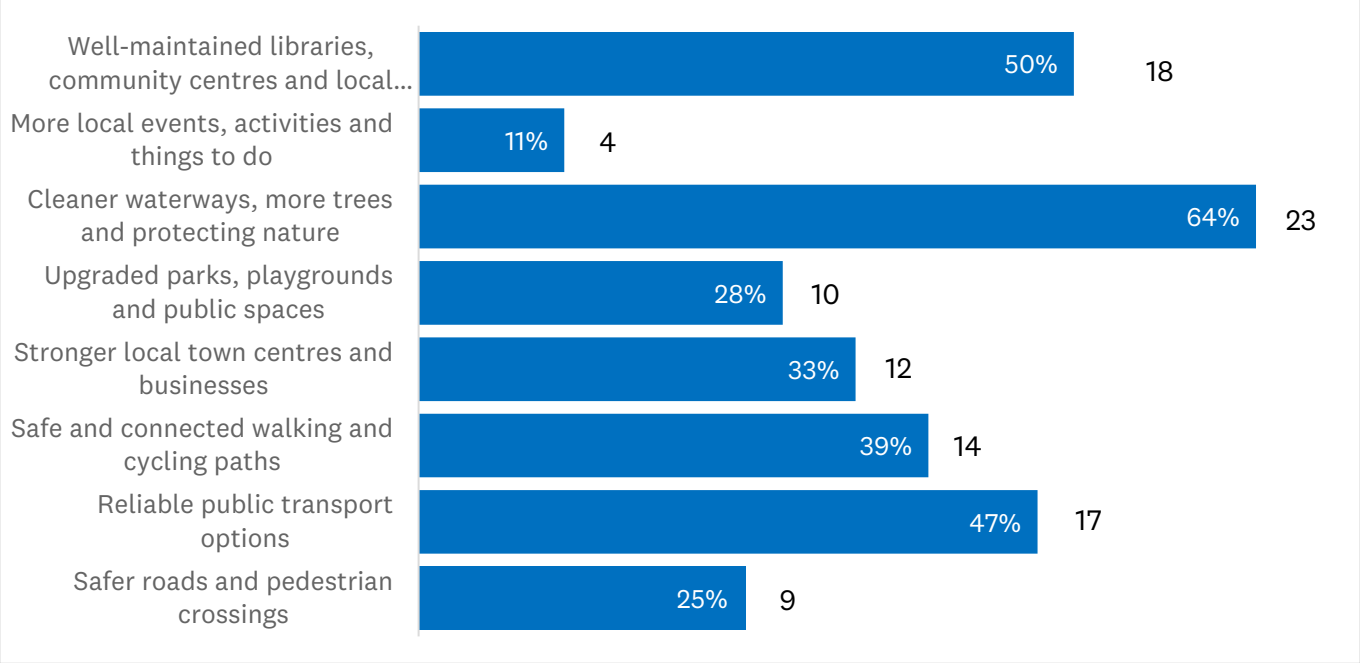
Other feedback received

The following themes were raised by submitters that are not directly related to the key consultation topics outlined elsewhere in this summary:

- Submitters expressed concern about the scale, design quality and cumulative impacts of housing intensification, including the loss of neighbourhood character, increased pressure on local streets, insufficient on-site parking provision, and the effects of multi-unit developments on established suburbs such as Glendowie, St Heliers and Remuera.
- Some submitters considered the draft plan too high level and sought greater detail on proposed projects, expected outcomes, implementation timeframes and funding priorities. There were also requests for improved communication and reporting so the community can better understand progress and hold decision-makers accountable.
- Some submitters raised concerns about increasing rates and council expenditure, and advocated for a stronger focus on core services, infrastructure investment, asset maintenance and prudent financial management to ensure value for money for ratepayer.

Other questions

A quick poll was hosted on the Have Your Say site asking participants 'What would you prioritise in your community?' 36 contributions were recorded



Who we heard from

The graphs below indicate the demographic profile of those that answered the demographic questions.

