Consultation on the draft Local Board Plans 2026

Written Feedback

Rodney Volume #1

23 June 2026 to 23 July 2026

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Have Your Say on the Draft Rodney Local Board Plan 2026

#440

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: Aktive

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback:

1. How well do these focus areas reflect what matters most to your community?

Community - Rodney has connected, resilient communities supported by parks, facilities, and spaces for all ages and abilities, that reflect local identity and help people to thrive.	
Natural Environment - Rodney's natural environment is healthy, resilient and restored, providing clean waterways, thriving ecosystems and high-quality natural spaces that protect our future and improve everyday wellbeing.	
Built Environment - Rodney grows well with resilient, high-quality public spaces and infrastructure that reflect local character and support healthy, well-designed communities.	
Economic Development - Rodney has a strong, diverse local economy where businesses and town centres thrive and people can access local jobs, skills, and sustainable tourism opportunities.	
Transport - Rodney has a safer, more reliable, and better-connected transport network that supports rural communities, town centres and access to key destinations.	

2. Is there anything you think is missing from these focus areas?

3. Which improvements would you most like to see in Rodney?
(Select up to 3 options)

4. **Overall, how well does the draft Rodney Local Board Plan, as a whole, reflect the priorities of your community?**

5. **Do you have any other feedback you would like to share about the draft local board plan?**

   Refer attached submission

AK Have your Say
Draft 2026 Rodney Local Board Plan

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission on the draft 2026 Rodney Local Board Plan.

Introduction

Aktive is a charitable trust with a vision of making Auckland the world's most active city. Our purpose is to unite and inspire leaders and organisations in Tāmaki Makaurau to enhance the wellbeing of Aucklanders and create more connected communities through sport and physical activity.

Aktive has chosen to focus its efforts on tamariki and rangatahi who are underactive or where historic inequities exist. This sees us working with and for tamariki and rangatahi who are:

- Māori
- living in low socio-economic areas
- disabled
- young women and girls
- from Pacific, Indian and Asian communities
- from the Rainbow community.

We are a key strategic partner of Sport New Zealand Ihi Aotearoa, Auckland Council and major grant-makers and funders. Aktive partners with, and invests in, a range of organisations and projects that get more people active in Auckland.

Response to the draft 2026 Rodney Local Board Plan

We have read the consultation documents and draft 2026 Rodney Local Board Plan to help inform this submission. We firstly want to acknowledge the significant investment into our sector by Local Boards.

Community

Aktive supports the Objective '*Provide parks and open spaces for all ages, abilities, interests and cultural backgrounds that encourage participation and improve wellbeing'* and support the following key initiatives:

- *Plan and prioritise park upgrades for example with seating, shade, drinking water, accessible paths, and lighting so spaces are easy for everyone to access, flexible and support varied activities.*
- *Provide for outdoor recreation in multi-use parks through appropriate design that safely supports walking, family cycling, horse riding (where appropriate), and dog-friendly provision, balancing recreation needs and local context.*
- *Support local groups to deliver their own services and spaces like easy to access activities, nature play, informal recreation and community gardens with the right support and resourcing.*

We agree with the Objective '*Build climate-resilient community spaces by planning and designing parks and facilities that adapt to climate change, using nature-based solutions where possible'* and support the following key initiatives:

- *Integrate nature-based solutions into park renewals to enhance the function and amenity of the assets, using elements such as swales and wetland planting, shade canopy, resilient all-weather surface.*
- *Prioritise phased adaptation works at coastal and flood-affected parks to protect recreation use and safe access where hazards are already impacting facilities and open space.*
- *Include climate-resilient design features in all minor works and renewals so climate-resilience becomes a routine part of everyday delivery.*
- *Coordinate with stormwater and coastal programmes to ensure paths, parks and upgrades are planned in the right places at the right times and consider flooding and coastal risks.*

We agree with the Objective '*Strengthen Māori outcomes in community spaces by supporting the incorporation of mātauranga Māori and partnering with mana whenua through co-design to protect and restore the mauri of places and spaces'* and support the following key initiatives:

- *Work with mana whenua, where appropriate, when developing new park and community space projects so Māori cultural narratives and wayfinding signage reflect the mauri (life force) of each place.*
- *Enable Māori-led programmes and events like hīkoi, cultural storytelling, taonga tākaro and connections with nature in parks and community spaces in partnership with mana whenua and marae.*

We strongly support the Objective '*Improve access to quality play, recreation and community facilities by converting them to multi-use, adaptable spaces and prioritising investment based on need, usage and growth'* and support the following key initiatives:

- *Implement a three-year play programme guided by the Rodney Gap Analysis and Play Provision Guidelines and the Rodney Play Plan to provide play options (including nature play) for people of all ages and abilities in areas of greatest need and growth.*
- *Transition facilities to multi-use, adaptable places and review our under used buildings and spaces to repurpose or sell and reinvest where growth and usage are highest.*
- *Make community facilities more multi-purpose by coordinating bookings, using movable equipment and offering a wider mix of activities across halls, libraries and recreation spaces.*

Natural Environment

Aktive strongly supports the Objective *'Protect and restore indigenous biodiversity through conservation partnerships, pest management, and community stewardship while ensuring these environments remain safe, accessible, and actively maintained for public recreation and water-based activities, where appropriate'* and support the following key initiatives:

- *Support protection and restoration projects that protect priority ecological areas such as the forests of Tamahunga, South Head and Atuanui, the dune and coastal ecosystems of Te Arai / Pākiri, and significant species habitats around Kaipara Harbour, Omaha, and Tomarata's dune lakes.*
- *Increase community awareness and action to reduce the spread of freshwater and marine pests, with a focus on lakes, waterways and key boat-launching points connecting Rodney's coastal communities with Kawau and the Hauraki Gulf Islands.*

Built Environment

Aktive supports the Objective *'Strengthen town centres and local hubs so they remain vibrant, attractive and reflect local character, supported by coordinated placemaking and high-quality public spaces'* and support the following key initiative:

- *Support coordinated placemaking to create welcoming places so improvements to paths, parks, transport and shared spaces work well together for local communities.*

We see value in the Objective *'Ensure growth is supported by the parks, paths, public spaces and facilities our communities need, using partnerships and development opportunities to secure high-quality outdoor recreation and community infrastructure'* and support the following key initiatives:

- *Invest in outdoor recreation and public spaces to respond to growth and increasing use, including more paths, shade, seating, green spaces and small park upgrades in growing neighbourhoods.*
- *Use partnerships and development opportunities to provide more community spaces, playgrounds, paths, access to pools and other amenities that would otherwise be difficult to fund through local board budgets alone.*
- *Plan new parks and public spaces in growth areas like Milldale and parts of Warkworth, and coordinate infrastructure upgrades like transport, stormwater and open spaces so delivery keeps pace with development.*

We see value in the Objective "*Improve the resilience of buildings, public spaces and local infrastructure by encouraging future-proofed, climate-ready design and supporting communities to reduce the impacts of extreme weather*" and support the following key initiative:

- *Design public spaces and upgrades to be more resilient to flooding, storms and heat, particularly in areas already affected by severe weather, and keep communities informed about how major works improve long-term safety and resilience.*

Transport

Aktive supports the Objective *'Create safer, more connected walking and cycling routes to key local destinations'* and support the following key initiatives:

- *Connected walking and cycling routes to key local destinations. Deliver ongoing improvements to walking and cycling routes around schools, town and village centres, and key destinations by filling in missing links, improving footpaths and crossings, and making routes clearer, so people can get around locally more safely and easily.*
- *Close critical gaps in footpaths, shared paths and greenways to create connected local networks.*

Advocacy

Aktive supports the following Local Board advocacy priorities:

- *Advocate for the retention and to increase investment in the Sport and Recreation Facilities Investment Fund and Regional Sport and Recreational Facilities Operating Grant which enable our residents to take part in community sports and recreation activities.*
- *Advocate for more investment in regional parks in our local board area to meet the pressures of population growth and tourism.*
- *Advocate to make sure new development does not go ahead before essential infrastructure is in place — including for water, wastewater, and roads, and other community facilities like infrastructure for schools and healthcare provided by central government.*

Overall comments

Overall, we see many positive outcomes from the draft Plan and welcome the strong emphasis on sport and recreation. We strongly support the focus on play and informal recreation as well as encouraging participation and improving wellbeing throughout the draft Plan. We see great value in developing a three-year play programme guided by the Rodney Gap Analysis and Play Provision Guidelines and the Rodney Play Plan to provide play options (including nature play) for people of all ages and abilities in areas of greatest need.

We see the value and support the emphasis the draft plan places on climate-resilience by encouraging future-proofed, climate-ready design and supporting communities to reduce the impacts of extreme weather.

We are particularly pleased the Local Board sees the value in the Sport and Recreation Facility Investment Fund and has identified its importance for funding community-led projects. Increasing this Fund by $35 million was a critical aspect of Aktive's and the sector's advocacy to the 2024-2024 Long-term Plan and we believe that the impacts of this additional funding are significant. We will again advocate for this funding to be increased or maintained for the 2027-2037 Long-term Plan and look forward to support from the Rodney Local Board. We also agree that the Regional Facilities Operating Grant is a critical support fund for many significant community facilities and Aktive will advocate for this Fund to be increased or maintained to reflect current demand in the 2027-2037 Long-term Plan.

We acknowledge the Local Board's investment into the development of the local board sport and recreation facilities plan which is supported. However, while we acknowledge the Rodney Local Board Sport and Recreation Facilities Plan is currently under development investment and implantation of its priorities will occur in this current trimester. We therefore respectfully submit that it should be referenced within this Plan to ensure it remains a priority for the Local Board.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the 2026 Local Board Plan consultation; this opportunity is greatly valued. Aktive is happy to expand on any of the points above in greater detail as required.

We look forward to the positive play, active recreation and sport outcomes Local Board investment in our communities will deliver.

[redacted]

Have Your Say on the Draft Rodney Local Board Plan 2026

#355

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: Albertland Heritage Museum

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

1. How well do these focus areas reflect what matters most to your community?

Community - Rodney has connected, resilient communities supported by parks, facilities, and spaces for all ages and abilities, that reflect local identity and help people to thrive.	**2**
Natural Environment - Rodney's natural environment is healthy, resilient and restored, providing clean waterways, thriving ecosystems and high-quality natural spaces that protect our future and improve everyday wellbeing.	2
Built Environment - Rodney grows well with resilient, high-quality public spaces and infrastructure that reflect local character and support healthy, well-designed communities.	2
Economic Development - Rodney has a strong, diverse local economy where businesses and town centres thrive and people can access local jobs, skills, and sustainable tourism opportunities.	2
Transport - Rodney has a safer, more reliable, and better-connected transport network that supports rural communities, town centres and access to key destinations.	2

2. Is there anything you think is missing from these focus areas?

Some very careful thinking through of the design of public spaces is needed. For example, Wellsford does not have one centre. something to think about when the main road bypasses the town. I think planning and design experts need to do this work and decisions be made in a comprehensive working towards an overall visionary and plan.

3. **Which improvements would you most like to see in Rodney? (Select up to 3 options)**

   More local activities and events,More environmental restoration,Other, please specify:I would like to see some financial support given to local museums, mostly run by volunteers. This would be a good way of investing in community in a financially manageable way. For example, not having to build anything new as such, but build capacity on what's already there.

4. **Overall, how well does the draft Rodney Local Board Plan, as a whole, reflect the priorities of your community?**

   Quite well

5. **Do you have any other feedback you would like to share about the draft local board plan?**

   N/A

Have Your Say on the Draft Rodney Local Board Plan 2026

#429

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: Art Centre Helensville

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

1. How well do these focus areas reflect what matters most to your community?

Community - Rodney has connected, resilient communities supported by parks, facilities, and spaces for all ages and abilities, that reflect local identity and help people to thrive.	**4**
Natural Environment - Rodney's natural environment is healthy, resilient and restored, providing clean waterways, thriving ecosystems and high-quality natural spaces that protect our future and improve everyday wellbeing.	4
Built Environment - Rodney grows well with resilient, high-quality public spaces and infrastructure that reflect local character and support healthy, well-designed communities.	4
Economic Development - Rodney has a strong, diverse local economy where businesses and town centres thrive and people can access local jobs, skills, and sustainable tourism opportunities.	4
Transport - Rodney has a safer, more reliable, and better-connected transport network that supports rural communities, town centres and access to key destinations.	4

2. Is there anything you think is missing from these focus areas?

3. Which improvements would you most like to see in Rodney?
(Select up to 3 options)

Better community facilities,Improved parks and public spaces,Support for local businesses

4. **Overall, how well does the draft Rodney Local Board Plan, as a whole, reflect the priorities of your community?**

   Very well

5. **Do you have any other feedback you would like to share about the draft local board plan?**

Have Your Say on the Draft Rodney Local Board Plan 2026

#467

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: Arts Council of New Zealand Toi Aotearoa (Creative New Zealand)

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback:

1. How well do these focus areas reflect what matters most to your community?

Community - Rodney has connected, resilient communities supported by parks, facilities, and spaces for all ages and abilities, that reflect local identity and help people to thrive.	
Natural Environment - Rodney's natural environment is healthy, resilient and restored, providing clean waterways, thriving ecosystems and high-quality natural spaces that protect our future and improve everyday wellbeing.	
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2. Is there anything you think is missing from these focus areas?

3. Which improvements would you most like to see in Rodney?
(Select up to 3 options)

4. **Overall, how well does the draft Rodney Local Board Plan, as a whole, reflect the priorities of your community?**

5. **Do you have any other feedback you would like to share about the draft local board plan?**

   See attached file

creativenz
ARTS COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND TOI AOTEAROA

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info@creativenz.govt.nz
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Te Aro, Wellington
6011

22 July 2026

Auckland Local Board Plans

By email to: akhaveyoursay@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

E te Kaunihera, tēnā koutou katoa

Submission to:	Auckland Council Te Kaunihera o Tāmaki Makaurau
Subject:	**Draft Auckland Local Board Plans 2026**
From:	Arts Council of New Zealand Toi Aotearoa (Creative New Zealand)

1. Creative New Zealand welcomes the opportunity to provide feedback on Auckland Local Boards' three-year plans for 2026.

2. Arts, culture, creativity and ngā toi Māori build stronger, more connected communities across Auckland, and create vibrant and prosperous communities where people want to live, work and visit.

3. Auckland Council has 21 local boards, each playing an essential role in supporting arts and culture across the Auckland region. The **Auckland Local Board Plans are an important opportunity for Local Boards to build on their investment in the arts**, and unlock the arts' economic, cultural and social benefits.

4. We thank Auckland Council and each of the 21 Local Boards for their ongoing support of arts, ngā toi, culture and creativity in Tāmaki Makaurau, and look forward to continuing to work with you to realise the enormous potential creativity can bring to all your communities.

Arts, culture, creativity and ngā toi Māori are foundational community services that shape how people live, connect and feel about where they belong

5. From festivals, concerts, public art and murals to galleries, libraries, arts hubs and marae, creativity shapes how the city looks, sounds and feels. It creates vibrant communities that people are proud to call home.

6. We know that Aucklanders value the arts and are engaging with the arts more than ever before. Two in three Aucklanders agree that arts and culture have a vital role to play in the future of where they live. Support for public funding of the arts in Auckland has increased since 2020, with over half of Aucklanders believing Auckland Council should help fund the arts.

7. Our *New Zealanders and the Arts—Ko Aotearoa me ōna Toi* research[1] shows that Aucklanders recognise the economic and social benefits of the arts, with:
    - 75 percent of Aucklanders agreeing that the arts create jobs, both in and around the creative industries, and the majority agreeing that the arts contribute positively to our economy
    - over half of Aucklanders valuing the arts for creating opportunities to socialise and connect
    - 69 percent of Aucklanders agreeing that the arts play a role in raising awareness of societal and environmental issues.

8. Young people, Māori, Pacific peoples and Asian New Zealanders are also more likely than other Auckland residents to agree that the arts are an important way of connecting with their culture, and that taking part in the arts supports their identity. Rainbow communities and people with lived experience of disability participate highly in the arts and need more accessible and inclusive environments to support their engagement.

Together we can create healthy, sustainable and thriving arts ecosystems in local communities

9. Through the Local Board Plans, we encourage each of the Local Boards to prioritise investment in the following.
    - **Cultural programmes and events** which encourage people to visit their local town centres, attracting visitors and shoppers. These programmes and events also bring diverse local communities together, build social connections and bring public spaces to life.
    - **Events and festivals that boost economic development and tourism** are also essential pathways for artists, producers, technicians and arts administrators to build the skills, knowledge and expertise that support bigger events, such as Pasifika and larger musicals and concerts. Smaller festivals and events are crucial to build the skills, knowledge and expertise that support bigger events such as Pasifika and larger musicals, concerts and exhibitions.
    - **Public art, murals and activated public spaces** provide a sense of place, telling the history and stories of mana whenua and your communities' unique identities, and making public spaces safer. We encourage working with your local arts and culture

[1] Auckland residents survey findings in *New Zealanders and the arts—Ko Aotearoa me ōna toi* (2023): https://creativenz.govt.nz/-/media/project/creative-nz/creativenz/publicationsfiles/2024-nzers-and-the-arts/20240730nzartsaucklandfinal.pdf

organisations, artists and creatives to explore ways of working together to further community opportunities.

- **Community halls, venues and gathering spaces** are important facilities for people to gather, rehearse and participate in community choirs, dance, kapa haka, theatre groups, reading clubs, craft-making and more, to experience arts and culture.
- **Making council owned venues available to arts communities to use free of charge or at reduced rates**. Dedicated spaces for Māori and Pacific peoples in your local areas are also crucial cultural centres for whānau, hapū, iwi and the wider community.
- **Ensuring investment reaches across the wider arts ecosystem**, including creative infrastructure in the city that works closely with communities across all of Auckland, ensuring a network of cultural infrastructure and cultural facilities. This network needs resources to deliver in a complementary way, to support staff who have the skills, knowledge and experience to successfully deliver services and activities in ways that are fit-for-purpose, high-quality and responsive to the needs of residents and visitors.
- **Lean into *Toi Whītiki***, Auckland Council's Arts and Culture Strategic Action Plan, which sets out a fantastic, community-led and region-wide roadmap.

Prioritise investment in arts, culture, creativity and ngā toi Māori as important community services

10. Our research demonstrates that Aucklanders place considerable value on the arts at a community level.[2] Arts and culture programmes and services support local board priorities, including:
    - employment for rangatahi
    - safer communities
    - celebrating diverse communities
    - town centre vitality
    - stronger local economies.

[2] Auckland residents survey findings in *New Zealanders and the arts—Ko Aotearoa me ōna toi* (2023): https://creativenz.govt.nz/-/media/project/creative-nz/creativenz/publicationsfiles/2024-nzers-and-the-arts/20240730nzartsaucklandfinal.pdf

11. To ensure these programmes continue to serve crucial community functions, local boards' prioritisation of arts and culture in three-year plans is essential.

Supporting arts and culture in Local Board Plans delivers social, cultural, environmental and economic benefits

12. We know councils around the country are facing significant pressures, with tight budgets and growing community expectations meaning plans are being carefully designed to deliver value and a pathway for the future. Arts, culture, creativity and ngā toi are part of the solution.

13. Auckland Council's recently commissioned *The Arts Matter* research found that Council's investment in arts and ngā toi is advancing outcomes across Council's vision and priorities.[3] This includes significant social, cultural, environmental and economic contributions that:

    - support community connection at local festivals and events
    - grow local economies by creating jobs, supporting local businesses and driving tourism
    - boost environmental awareness through storytelling, education and building understanding of complex issues like climate change
    - build social resilience by revitalising city centres and transforming public spaces into safe, vibrant and socially cohesive hubs
    - spark innovation and learning with creative practice-building skills, including imagination, problem solving and learning.

14. The arts contribute $18.5 billion to New Zealand's economy, 4.2 percent of our total GDP[4] and more than our wine, seafood and international education sectors.

15. In 2024, Auckland's arts and creative sector contributed over $8.5 billion to New Zealand's GDP, creating jobs and supporting local businesses. It is the largest arts and creative employer in the country, employing more than 50,000 people. The *Auckland Economic Monitor* shows 'Arts and recreation services' are experiencing strong growth in Auckland, with 11.7 percent of growth in contributions to Auckland's GDP and 7.1 percent of employment growth in the year to March 2024.

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3 Auckland Council, *The Arts Matter*, 2026.

4 Infometrics Sector Profiles 2025, Manatū Taonga Ministry for Culture & Heritage, Arts and Creative Industry Profile Report.

16. However, this growth relies on a strong arts ecosystem and pathways for young people to experience creativity, in order to nurture and develop creativity.

17. Economic conditions are putting sustained pressure on the arts community – creators, presenters and supporters alike. Arts organisations operate on thin margins and are highly vulnerable to any changes in relationships with funders. Making a living from the arts is hard for artists and practitioners,[5] and the wider arts ecosystem is fragile. While public engagement with the arts is strong compared with other countries, arts are often on the margins of public investment and support.

Ngā toi Māori and mātauranga Māori are distinctive to Aotearoa New Zealand and central to our unique national identity

18. Te reo, mātauranga Māori and ngā toi Māori are central to Auckland's unique identity, as the largest Māori city in the world. Success in protecting, revitalising and promoting Māori artforms supports many artists, practitioners and tourism operators in the region, and positively enhances Auckland's national and international reputation.

Together we can create healthy, sustainable and thriving arts ecosystems in local communities

19. We highly value Auckland Council and the Auckland Local Boards as partners in the arts, alongside mana whenua, iwi and hapū, community trusts and private givers. Demand for Creative New Zealand's services is high, and we are supporting a much lower proportion of proposals than we have historically. Private investments, including corporate sponsorship and private donations, are also down in the current economic climate.

20. Over the coming year we will be implementing our tuku rauemi approach. This means empowering communities as decision-makers, entrusting them to support arts and ngā toi Māori development that best meets their communities' needs. To do this, we will partner with organisations across the regions to lead local arts development and capability building, set their own priorities and make funding decisions.

21. We believe a regional partnership approach will strengthen co-operation on longer-term planning and investment between regional stakeholders, including local government and trusts, and Creative New Zealand. This approach will also create opportunities to grow

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[5] Creative New Zealand, *A Profile of Creative Professionals 2023*. New Zealanders employed in creative professions continue to experience low pay compared to New Zealanders earning a salary or wage. The median income for creative professionals is just $37,000, substantially less than the median income of $61,000 for New Zealanders earning a wage or salary.

investment regionally by leveraging Creative New Zealand funds, incentivising new investment, and helping arts organisations partner to secure philanthropic funding.

22. Auckland's communities are vital for the arts and ngā toi Māori to develop and grow. We want to see an arts ecosystem in the region where artists, creatives and ringatoi are supported to thrive, with viable creative careers and strong arts infrastructure. Together we can create a healthy and strong environment for the arts community, to help achieve its potential and share the benefits of the arts and ngā toi with all Aucklanders.

Creative New Zealand's interest in the arts in Auckland

23. Creative New Zealand receives funding through Vote: Arts, Culture and Heritage and the New Zealand Lottery Grants Board Te Puna Tahua. In 2024/25, Creative New Zealand **invested nearly $61 million in the arts in New Zealand**, through investing in the arts, developing the arts, and providing leadership in the arts.

24. In 2024/25, we **invested $17.7 million of direct financial support in Auckland**, almost 30 percent of our total investment by region. In addition, our investment in activity that takes place nationwide (17.2 percent) and online (4.5 percent) sees benefits flow to Auckland by supporting arts and cultural experiences presented in the region; and our international programme (7.1 percent) adds additional investment to Auckland via artists based in the region.

25. Under the Creative Communities Scheme, we provide funding to territorial authorities to support local arts activities. The annual allocation to Auckland Council under the Scheme is **$1.33 million**. In 2024/25, this funding supported **246 projects** which engaged 26,539 participants and had 395,572 attendances. Allocations to territorial authorities under the Scheme are based on a population-based formula.

Final thoughts

26. Thank you again for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Local Board Plans.

27. To quote Deputy Mayor Desley Simpson at the launch of *The Arts Matter,* 'Arts matter because people matter. A culturally vibrant Tāmaki Makaurau is essential to our region's future and the stories we tell as a nation. So, let's champion creativity… as a foundation for belonging, for identity, for innovation and community resilience.' We wholeheartedly agree.

7

[redacted]

Have Your Say on the Draft Rodney Local Board Plan 2026

#331

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: Badminton North Harbour

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

1. How well do these focus areas reflect what matters most to your community?

Community - Rodney has connected, resilient communities supported by parks, facilities, and spaces for all ages and abilities, that reflect local identity and help people to thrive.	**4**
Natural Environment - Rodney's natural environment is healthy, resilient and restored, providing clean waterways, thriving ecosystems and high-quality natural spaces that protect our future and improve everyday wellbeing.	3
Built Environment - Rodney grows well with resilient, high-quality public spaces and infrastructure that reflect local character and support healthy, well-designed communities.	3
Economic Development - Rodney has a strong, diverse local economy where businesses and town centres thrive and people can access local jobs, skills, and sustainable tourism opportunities.	3
Transport - Rodney has a safer, more reliable, and better-connected transport network that supports rural communities, town centres and access to key destinations.	3

2. Is there anything you think is missing from these focus areas?

The identification of Sport with in the community ensuring engagement across our many ethnicities, health and well being both physically and mentally to all our community Sport is so very important in New Zealanders life styles

3. **Which improvements would you most like to see in Rodney? (Select up to 3 options)**

   Better community facilities,Improved parks and public spaces,Other, please specify:SPort and recreation

4. **Overall, how well does the draft Rodney Local Board Plan, as a whole, reflect the priorities of your community?**

   Not very well

5. **Do you have any other feedback you would like to share about the draft local board plan?**

   Based on the migration statistics of the AUcklnad region and especially from the Harbour Bridge north we need to include sport as a focus for our community. Ensuring we offer opportunity to our children, youth and adult participants. This encourages healty well being and engagement throughout our community and assists with Medical and health related issues especially later in life. SPort is recognised as being of huge benefit and should be included in the Boards future vision

Have Your Say on the Draft Rodney Local Board Plan 2026

#394

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: Blackbridge Environmental Protection Society Inc .

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

1. How well do these focus areas reflect what matters most to your community?

Community - Rodney has connected, resilient communities supported by parks, facilities, and spaces for all ages and abilities, that reflect local identity and help people to thrive.	**4**
Natural Environment - Rodney's natural environment is healthy, resilient and restored, providing clean waterways, thriving ecosystems and high-quality natural spaces that protect our future and improve everyday wellbeing.	4
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2. Is there anything you think is missing from these focus areas?

3. Which improvements would you most like to see in Rodney?
(Select up to 3 options)

Improved parks and public spaces,Better walking/cycling connections,Better public transport options

4. **Overall, how well does the draft Rodney Local Board Plan, as a whole, reflect the priorities of your community?**

   Quite well

5. **Do you have any other feedback you would like to share about the draft local board plan?**

   Blackbridge Environmental Protection Society: Feedback on the Rodney Local Board Plan

   The Blackbridge Environmental Protection Society is concerned that the storm recovery properties in our area remain in a derelict state and are now serving as a magnet for antisocial behaviour. We request that the Local Board draft plan be amended to mandate better maintenance of these properties, specifically through the removal of pest plants and animals and improved security measures. We strongly advocate for these sites to be revegetated with native species and integrated into the future greenways trail, as identified in the Rodney Local Board Greenways Plan. Furthermore, if these properties are vested as reserves, we recommend they be earmarked as potential locations for developers' offset planting mitigations.

   We are deeply concerned that the rural character of Dairy Flat—particularly along Dairy Flat Highway, Postman's Road, and Wilks Road—is being eroded by the proliferation of industrial-type businesses, both consented and unconsented. Despite the 'rural - future urban' zoning, the increasing number of these ad hoc businesses, which lack landscaping, is creating a haphazard, unmanaged industrial aesthetic. We urge the Board to advocate for changes to the Unitary Plan to prevent the further erosion of rural character in this future urban zone. Additionally, we request that the Council take a proactive approach in addressing unconsented industrial businesses operating along these routes.

   We also request increased funding for the removal of pest plants along major routes, such as Dairy Flat Highway, and for more frequent roadside litter collection.

   Regarding Green Road Park—the heart of the Dairy Flat subdivision—we thank the Local Board for its continued investment in the pathway network. However, we note that the car park is frequently at capacity, particularly on weekends, leading to congestion and restricted access for park users. We suggest the Local Board include a plan for a larger, more permanent car park to accommodate demand. To enhance the park's value, we request funding for specimen trees alongside pathways, particularly in passive recreational areas. We also seek to ensure the park is fully inclusive by making trails accessible for wheelchair users and installing essential amenities such as picnic tables, improved entrance signage, wheeled/nature play areas, and mounting blocks for equestrians.

   Finally, regarding the proposed access to Green Road Park via Three Oaks Drive in the master plan: local residents are interested in providing this public easement through their property. We request that the Local Board further investigate this offer.

We really like the local board plan, but please don't forget about the Dairy Flat subdivision!

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We really like the local board plan, but please don't forget about the Dairy Flat subdivision!

Have Your Say on the Draft Rodney Local Board Plan 2026

#59

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: City Builders Association

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback:

1. How well do these focus areas reflect what matters most to your community?

Community - Rodney has connected, resilient communities supported by parks, facilities, and spaces for all ages and abilities, that reflect local identity and help people to thrive.	**2**
Natural Environment - Rodney's natural environment is healthy, resilient and restored, providing clean waterways, thriving ecosystems and high-quality natural spaces that protect our future and improve everyday wellbeing.	2
Built Environment - Rodney grows well with resilient, high-quality public spaces and infrastructure that reflect local character and support healthy, well-designed communities.	2
Economic Development - Rodney has a strong, diverse local economy where businesses and town centres thrive and people can access local jobs, skills, and sustainable tourism opportunities.	2
Transport - Rodney has a safer, more reliable, and better-connected transport network that supports rural communities, town centres and access to key destinations.	2

2. Is there anything you think is missing from these focus areas?

3. Which improvements would you most like to see in Rodney? (Select up to 3 options)

Support for local businesses

4. Overall, how well does the draft Rodney Local Board Plan, as a whole, reflect the priorities of your community?

Quite well

5. Do you have any other feedback you would like to share about the draft local board plan?

I support the Rodney Local Board Plan 2026 emphasis on protecting rural and coastal character, supporting local tourism and primary production economy, improving connectivity (including transport links to townships like Warkworth and Wellsford), enhancing parks and community facilities, and managing sensitive growth in this northern rural fringe.

However, with the 7.9% rates increase for 2026/27 already locked in amid ongoing council debt and cost pressures, the board must apply strong fiscal restraint and demonstrate prudent financial management under Local Government Act 2002 s.101. Rural services, coastal protection, and connectivity projects bring real demands that should not disproportionately burden existing ratepayers. Fully cost and sequence initiatives, make clear choices on what to defer or scale back, and avoid spreading resources too thinly. Demand stronger efficiency in delivery of local services and facilities.

In particular, protect and efficiently maintain high-value assets such as parks, sports facilities, coastal reserves, and rural community spaces that deliver strong returns on recreation, tourism, wellbeing, and local identity. Prioritise practical environmental restoration and transport improvements that offer multiple benefits. In the final adopted plan and Local Board Agreement, clearly outline efficiency measures, trade-offs, and how core local priorities like rural character protection, township vitality, and connectivity will be advanced without further rates escalation. Rodney ratepayers need value for money and focused delivery on the things that matter most in this northern fringe area.

Have Your Say on the Draft Rodney Local Board Plan 2026

#469

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: Civic Trust Auckland (CTA)

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback:

1. How well do these focus areas reflect what matters most to your community?

Community - Rodney has connected, resilient communities supported by parks, facilities, and spaces for all ages and abilities, that reflect local identity and help people to thrive.	
Natural Environment - Rodney's natural environment is healthy, resilient and restored, providing clean waterways, thriving ecosystems and high-quality natural spaces that protect our future and improve everyday wellbeing.	
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Transport - Rodney has a safer, more reliable, and better-connected transport network that supports rural communities, town centres and access to key destinations.	

2. Is there anything you think is missing from these focus areas?

3. Which improvements would you most like to see in Rodney?
(Select up to 3 options)

4. **Overall, how well does the draft Rodney Local Board Plan, as a whole, reflect the priorities of your community?**

5. **Do you have any other feedback you would like to share about the draft local board plan?**

   See attached file

Submission of Civic Trust Auckland
Draft Local Board Plans – all



[redacted]
www.civictrustauckland.org.nz

Introduction

1. Civic Trust Auckland (CTA) is a non-profit public interest group, incorporated in 1968, with activities and interests throughout the greater Auckland region

2. The aims of the Trust include:

- Protection of natural landforms
- Preservation of heritage, in all its aspects
- Encouragement of good planning, for the city and region.

3. CTA is on Auckland Council's list of regional stakeholders and we have previously provided submissions on Local Board plans, as well as on many other Auckland Council plans. We submitted on Council's Annual Plan 2026/2027, and that submission is on our website here. We understand that our submissions on the Annual Plan were made available for local board consideration. We refer in this submission to the draft local board plans to some of the points we made in our Annual Plan submission (in **bold**).

4. We would here like to thank the Local Board members for their work and advocacy. We have a couple of suggestions for your newsletters: that there could be more items about what has been happening in the local board area in addition to the standard Auckland Council notices, and that perhaps in each issue the chair could introduce one of the other board members, so that communities have more opportunity to get to know all of their Local Board members.

5. CTA generally supports the initiatives in the draft local board plans. Our focus is primarily on the Environment sections of the plans.

6. We would also like to commend the aspiration of various local boards to develop parks and spaces that are inclusive, can be easily used and accessed by everyone and meet the needs of the community, including (as per the Howick Local Board Plan) neurodiverse children. We emphasise the point we have made in previous submissions about universal design, and also playgrounds that are accessible for children with disabilities. We draw your attention in particular to Magical Bridge NZ Playground in Hamilton as an example of a playground that is intended to cater for children with disabilities.

7. In our February 2014 submission on the Proposed Auckland Unitary Plan, and in several of our other submissions, we supported the principle of universal design. Our 2014 submission said:

- Universal Design principles need to be incorporated into new builds and modifications of existing residential buildings in order to cater not only for people with disabilities but others who can benefit from improved access, including the ageing population, those using pushchairs, moving house or office, injured people and people carrying loads. This will ensure access to housing, jobs, public transport, businesses, community and recreational facilities throughout Auckland for all Aucklanders and increase the choice of where people can live, work and play.
- Incorporation of Universal Design principles will improve the quality of life for people who currently face significant barriers in terms of physical access. The economic benefit is that such people will be able to live in independent accommodation and those of working age will have more opportunity to work and thus support themselves and contribute more to the economy. These barriers include stairs and showers with lips.
- Solutions to these barriers include open plan houses with open plan bathrooms with wet shower areas, limited stairs, handrails. A percentage of new housing stock should cater for these needs. This would open up options in the private rental market, taking away the current reliance on Housing New Zealand houses and enable people with access barriers to buy or rent houses without the need for extensive and costly modifications. The Auckland Plan states on page 70, *"One in five Aucklanders has a disability, and this figure will increase with an ageing population. There is unrealised potential for Aucklanders with disabilities to contribute socially and economically. Barriers that prevent this, such as attitudes and physical access, must be addressed".*
- On page 74, The Auckland Plan states, *"Other communities and groups, such as ethnic communities and those with disabilities, also face barriers. Removing structural or institutional barriers so that all Aucklanders are viewed and treated equally is fundamental to improving the well-being of all, and realising the full potential of our diverse populations."*

8. We would like Local Boards to include in their advocacy to Council some requirement in policy and rules for the provision of accessible housing, universal design principles.

9. We would also like to see more advocacy with regard to public transport, for example, with stories in Local Board newsletters about successful and enjoyable rides on public transport, or perhaps competitions between local boards to see which one has the greatest number of public transport rides logged by their community in a particular month, similar to the Bike Month (March) and Biketober (October) initiatives.

10. We appreciate the friendliness and good service given by bus drivers across the city, which supports these very necessary services.

11. Although we can appreciate that advertising on buses is a useful way for Auckland Transport to gain revenue, we suggest that AT exercises caution when it comes to obscuring the passengers' view through the bus windows, and the perpetual circulation of mobile ratepayer-funded advertising certainly has its detractors.

12. It is good to see Local Boards encouraging the use of low-carbon transport options. However, CTA does not give unlimited support to scooters, as per our Annual Plan submission (pg 6), where we stated that: **"where a cycle lane has been provided, e-scooters *must* be ridden in the cycle lane…. e-scooters pose a danger to people on foot, especially those with hearing, sight, or mobility issues. Being passed closely by a scooter is a distressing experience for a pedestrian, and already many people have been injured by e-scooters. Nationally, between 2021 and 2023, there were over 7,000 ACC claims for e-scooter related injuries, with a 37% increase in 2023. There have been several deaths from e-scooters in Auckland and many serious head injuries. We therefore submit that e-scooters be banned from footpaths, at least in places where there is a high density of pedestrians. We also submit that the current speed limit for commercial e-scooters (we understand it is 25 kph) is too high for when scooters are sharing the same space as pedestrians."**

13. We'd also like to draw to other Local Boards' attention the Henderson-Massey key initiative of investigating "smart" traffic lights that use sensors or cameras to give longer green lights where traffic is heavy, respond to rush hours, incidents and weather and prioritise buses. CTA supports some sort of light sequencing and enablement of left-turning when not crossing the path of oncoming traffic, thereby saving time and emissions.

14. We'd like Local Boards to promote car pooling as a transport option, and facilitate this within their Local Board area, namely, commuting (by neighbours, co-workers, or classmates), school runs (by parents taking turns driving a group of neighbourhood children to school and back), and business (efficient coordination of tasks and workers to enable shared transportation as needed).

15. CTA supports Local Boards investing in expanding the pedestrian network, and, although the cycling network cannot go everywhere, CTA supports its extension particularly where it enables commuting. We also support Local Boards advocating for such public transport measures as bus shelters and seating at bus stops. We also support the proposal by several Local Boards of an extra discount for students and children on public transport fares on top of the weekly $50 fare cap.

16. We are pleased to see Local Boards including in their key initiatives to support their community to be better prepared for emergencies like floods and storms, including reviewing the provision of community-led emergency centres.

17. CTA is of the view that Local Boards can learn much from each other, and we would encourage members to read each others' Draft Local Board Plans and collaborate on matters of

mutual interest. Many aspects of plans relate to more than one board (especially to directly neighbouring boards) and some of them relate to Auckland as a whole, for example, as regards transport, climate change and community engagement, and shared management of the harbour edge of the Waitematā Harbour.

18. CTA notes that many Local Boards are intending to review the use of their Council buildings. Notwithstanding the temptation to sell assets deemed no longer to be of use, CTA supports rigorous investigation as to what alternative use those assets may be put to. We would particularly like to highlight this advocacy point from the Waiheke Local Board (pg 22 of their plan): "*Any available council property being considered for health facilities or affordable housing,"* as a much better alternative to selling underused Council buildings.

Area Plans

1. We include here a summary of Graeme Easte's presentation to the Policy and Planning Committee on 10 March 2026 (here is a link to it), which CTA supports, advocating for the application of Area Plans. (Graeme began by playing the song "Little Boxes" by Pete Seeger.)

2. It was originally intended that the Unitary Plan (operative in 2016) would be supplemented with 21 Area Plans - one for each Local Board area - to reflect its local issues, challenges and opportunities over a 30-year time frame. All Local Boards did extensive workshopping with planning staff and community representatives, in order to fine-tune the application of the Unitary Plan process as it applied to their particular area but also to begin work on their own Area Plan.

3. Initially only four Area Plans were to be fully developed as pilots. Development of the remaining Area Plans was cancelled in about 2015. Ten of the 17 Local Boards subsequently developed "mini" Area Plans, Precinct Plans or Centre Plans for parts of their area.

4. Graeme recommended that work on expanding the coverage of Area Plans should start with those Local Boards which have expressed strong interest in such a workstream, and that the older existing plans should have priority for a refresh, but not at the expense of those Boards without Area Plans or only partial coverage.

5. Four Local Boards have Area Plans that cover their entire area:

- Devonport-Takapuna (plus 3 Centre Plans)
- Hibiscus and Bays (plus 3 Centre Plans)
- Māngere-Ōtāhuhu
- Ōtara-Papatoetoe

Ten Local Boards have only partial Area Plans or Centre Plans:

- Albert-Eden (1 Precinct Plan, 2 shared plans)
- Franklin (1 Centre Plan)
- Henderson-Massey (2 Centre Plans)
- Howick (2 Centre Plans)
- Manurewa } shared partial

- Papakura } Area Plan
- Puketāpapa (1 shared plan)
- Rodney (1 Centre Plan)
- Waitākere Ranges (1 Centre Plan)
- Waitematā (3 Centre Plans + 1 shared plan)

Seven Local Boards have no Area or Centre Plans at all:

- Great Barrier
- Kaipātiki
- Ōrākei
- Maungakiekie-Tāmaki
- Upper Harbour
- Waiheke
- Whau

6. Local Board Chairs have told Graeme that having local plans has made a real difference to accommodating development in their ward, particularly as the urban environment intensifies.

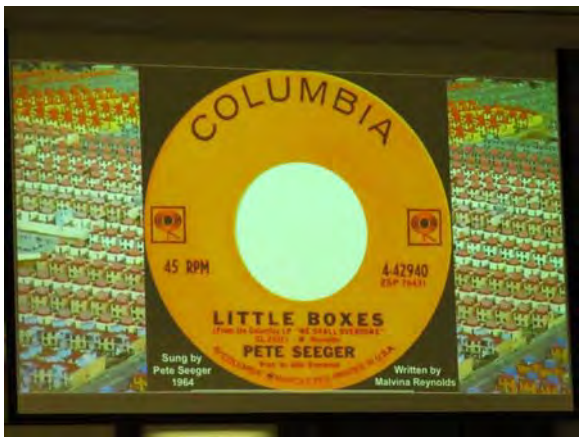
7. Graeme's request to the Policy and Planning Committee:

(1) That in revising the existing Auckland Plan (the Auckland Spatial Plan) in line with the new legislation, and any consequent changes to the Unitary Plan, consideration be given to potential measures to protect and enhance **local** features and character.

(2) That when the work on the Regional Spatial Plan and the Unitary Plan begins to tail off, then freed-up staff time and resources be reallocated to work on new and revised Local Area Plans.

(3) That priority should be given to those areas without an Area Plan at all.





NB When quoting from Local Board plans in our submission, we use *italics.* When quoting from our Annual Plan 2026/2027 submission, we use **bold.** Following Council's apparent oversight of some of our submissions in the Annual Plan 2026-2027 process, our advice from Council staff

has been to resubmit those points relevant to the 3-Year Local Board Plans so that they may be considered at the earliest convenience.

Albert-Eden

1. We were pleased to see a photo of the Waiōrea Community Recycling Centre on the Local Board Plan cover. We have expressed our support for the centre in previous submissions, and some CTA members are regular visitors to the centre. We still think recycling centres and/or libraries could be a drop-off place for used batteries, and would again encourage Council to consider the merits of this idea.

2. CTA supports Albert-Eden communities that consistently say that *"climate action and environment projects are a priority"* (pg 10), and we support the Local Board in setting out a low carbon pathway in its Climate Action Plan. We endorse environmental restoration in areas like Te Auauanga, Waititīko, Pt Chevalier Beach and Mōtū Manawa Marine Reserve, rare lava rock forests and around the tūpuna maunga.

3. We are pleased that the plan reflects *"reducing emissions, protecting biodiversity, building community resilience"* (pg 11) and that the Local Board refers to the relevant Shoreline Adaption Plan to guide actions.

4. CTA also supports the following:

- *Help households be ready for an emergency, refresh the Albert-Eden Local Board Emergency Readiness and Response Plan and support marae and groups to join our Community Emergency Hub network* (pg 14).

- *Improve Chamberlain Park by adding a new local park and walking and cycling paths, restoring Waitītiko / Meola Creek and shifting golf holes to keep an 18-hole golf course* (pg 15).

5. CTA submitted in June 2015 on keeping the 18-hole course, being only public golf course on the central isthmus and used by a diverse range of Aucklanders of all ages and ethnicities, at that time seeing in excess of 50,000 rounds per year, so we are very supportive of this outcome that accommodates broader community usage without surrendering the 18-hole nature of the golf course.

- *Make the most of land purchased in the flood buy-out by turning any suitable sites into new parks* (pg16).

- *Implement low carbon practices through capital projects when upgrading or developing our assets, for example minimising construction waste or adding renewal energy generation* (pg 16).

6. In our submission on the government's Emissions Reduction Plan in November 2021, we stated "that adaptive reuse of heritage buildings, as well as buildings in general should also be considered in the first instance. An example is the Civic Administration Building in Auckland's civic square, where a recent promotion for these apartments states: 'The most environmentally friendly new build is the one you don't actually build…. The CAB has reused its original steel frame…. Reusing such a large portion of the building (after passing considerable forms of strength testing) vastly reduces its carbon footprint…. Our team has painstakingly removed 19 floors/2,130 tonnes of concrete and diverted 98% of the demolition material from landfill.'"

7. We support the advocacy for *"Increased budget for buying open space, to ensure the shortfalls in service provision in urban areas can be addressed"* (pg 16).

8. CTA supports all the objectives listed on pages 18-19. In particular, we support the community changing their travel patterns *"to include more low carbon options."* However, please note our comments in the introduction to this submission about e-scooters.

9. We strongly support the following key initiatives in the plan: *"Work with Ministry of Housing and Urban Development and the three Tāmaki Makaurau rōpū of Marutūāhu, Ngāti Whātua and Waiohua-Tāmaki who are creating Te Kukūnga Waka (Carrington residential development). Provide community services for new communities coming to large-scale developments in our area, like Te Kukūnga Waka (Carrington residential development) and University of Auckland Epsom Campus (pg 21); and the advocacy (pg 23): "Preservation and use of the heritage building at the northern end of Te Kukūnga Waka (Carrington residential development), working with Marutūāhu and their aspirations."*

10. As per our submission on the 2023 Local Board Plan, CTA recognises the regional nature of Building One's heritage significance, as denoted by its inclusion on Council's heritage schedule as a Category A building, and its Category 1 building status on Heritage NZ's List, and strongly supports a community wellbeing hub being incorporated into this building on the Carrington residential site. Currently, we are concerned that Building One is deteriorating, and that with tiles removed from the roof, rain is getting in, to add to the damage done by vandals over the years the building has been left empty. We strongly urge the Local Board to lobby Auckland Council and the Ministry for Cities, Environment, Regions and Transport to protect this Category I and Category A building so that it can be preserved. It is a matter of urgency to make the building watertight, for example, by the use of tarpaulins, or by having the tiles that were removed from the roof put back in place. CTA understands that the building was set aside for adaptive re-use and that within the Albert-Eden Local Board Area reside many of the 600 groups or individuals who have expressed interest in a tenancy in the building.

11. Our Annual Plan submission included the following: **“We also suggest the local board takes any action available, including enforcement orders, to halt and remedy what appear to be intentional actions that will harm the main building of Oakley/Carrington Hospital at the Unitec campus. The building is Category A Scheduled Heritage within the Auckland Unitary Plan (Item 1618), excluding the additions made after 1905, and is a Category 1 Historic Place on the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga (HNZPT) List / Rārangi Korero (Item 96). https://www.heritage.org.nz/list-details/96/Carrington%20Hospital%20(Former).”**

12. That submission included a photo showing the roof of Building One. We include below a historic photo of the building and also an updated photo showing a close-up of the roof, the gap where the tiles should be continuing all the way around the building, then two photos showing damage inside the building.

13. We strongly support the Local Board retaining this objective in its plan: *“Protect and celebrate our historic heritage by being good stewards of the assets we own and supporting others to care for theirs”* (page 22) and we suggest that it follows that the Local Board should focus its efforts on Building One.









14. We support the Local Board's advocacy, especially: *"Planning rules to protect historic heritage, special character, viewshafts of the tūpuna maunga (ancestral mountains) and sites and places of significance to mana whenua."*

15. Our Annual Plan submission also included: **"the local board advocates to Council for the repurposing of the old Mt Eden Prison."**

16. We support the priorities to: *"Provide safe and accessible walking, cycling and micro-mobility options for people to use, including by adding missing links and connections"* (pg 28); *"Provide the missing walking and cycling connection running east to west across our local board area"* (pg 29); *"Set safe speed limits to provide a consistent and safe speed environment, working towards survivable speeds on our local roads;"* (pg 29) and *"Ensure footpaths are wide, accessible, and safe"* (pg 29).

17. We repeat our request from our 2023 feedback that a Liberty Swing be reinstated in Rocket Park, along with some of the other original equipment for this special park, to support children with disabilities, as per the objective in the 2026 plan (pg 14): *"We celebrate diversity, making sure everyone is empowered to participate and feel like they belong,"* the key initiatives (pg 14): *"Reduce barriers so everyone can be an active part of our community, especially children, young and older people, migrant communities, LGBTQ+ communities, people with physical or intellectual disabilities and transient populations;* and *Work with groups to ensure that our programmes work for everyone and that our spaces feel safe and accessible,"* the objective (pg 15): *"People and communities have access to spaces and services that improve their wellbeing, help them learn and meet their changing needs;"* and the objective: *"Our community is healthy and active and can include movement and fun in everyday life,"* with the associated initiative: *"Make our parks and public places fun so everyone has space and feels comfortable to play and recreate, especially children,"* and the obj*ective: "*Our parks and open space meet the needs of our changing population" (pg 15).

18. We understand that the original purpose of Rocket Park was to provide accessibility for children with disabilities. We draw the Local Board's attention to this blog about the Magical Bridge NZ Playground in Hamilton https://www.magicalbridge.co.nz/

Aotea-Great-Barrier

1. CTA strongly supports the climate change and resilience initiatives that the Local Board has invested in (pg 10).

2. We support (in particular) the key initiatives to:

- *Partner with mana whenua to restore the mauri (life force) of whenua, moana, awa and taonga species and strengthen climate resilience on the island.*
- *Support the local Emergency Response Team to deliver emergency readiness, response and recovery initiatives to strengthen island resilience.*

- *Improve our council 'microgrid' to help us better capture, store and manage electricity locally.*
- *Ensure our village spaces, parks, reserves and beaches are safe, well-maintained and reflect our natural way of life.*
- *Partner with mana whenua, Department of Conservation and the community to investigate connecting track networks.*

3. We support all the Environment key initiatives and all the advocacy in this section. We are of the view that all the other Local Boards could support this advocacy as well, as much of it is relevant to the rest of Auckland.

4. In association with Tautaki Auckland, the Local Board developed the Aotea Great Barrier Island Destination Management Plan (focused on sustainable, regenerative tourism that balances economic growth with environmental protection) and CTA supports those identified efforts to those ends (pp 20-22).

5. We support the priorities under Transport, in particular (which we also supported in 2023): *"Support the introduction of a community passenger transport service"* (pg 25).

Devonport-Takapuna

1. In our last Local Board Plan submission, we encouraged the Local Board "to advocate for bike racks on buses that go across the Auckland Harbour Bridge," so we are very pleased to note that there are now 15 buses that carry bicycles over the harbour bridge.

2. We support the following objective: *"Our parks, facilities and recreational spaces are safe, accessible and meet the needs of our community"* and we particularly support the following key initiatives: *"Ensure accessibility is a key consideration in the development and maintenance of our parks, facilities and recreational spaces; Develop and maintain our parks, community facilities and recreational spaces with sustainable and locally sourced materials where possible;"* and *"Complete the Devonport-Takapuna Local Parks Management Plan."*

3. We support the objective to *"… explore opportunities to reflect Māori identity and support Māori wellbeing in our parks, public spaces and community facilities"* and the key initiatives associated with this objective.

4. We strongly support the Local Board's advocacy for the *"Establishment of a regional heritage facilities maintenance fund to support local boards to maintain, renew and preserve heritage buildings"* (pg 14).

5. We would have liked to have seen the retention of the objective that: "Natural and built heritage are conserved and both colonial and Māori history and significant places are valued, promoted, and celebrated" (page 19, 2023 Local Board Plan).

6. We support all of the Local Board's objectives under Environment (pp 16-17) and all the key initiatives, with comments as follows:

As regards *"Support appropriate planting and the principle of 'the right tree in the right place,"* we note that trees that grow large sometimes block views of both landscapes and attractive buildings, and that trees should not be encased in concrete, nor should they be put in a place where they will impact on infrastructure such as water pipes. In 2023 we stated, in response to the 'right tree in the right place' principle that "we would caution that the wrong tree in the wrong place (in any Local Board area) does not necessarily get removed but that it is allowed to live out its natural life, or there is consideration given to transplanting the tree. We understand that there is modern machinery that enables the transplanting of large trees. Perhaps Local Boards (including this one) could advocate to the Governing Body and/or central government for investment in one of these machines."

7. Regarding *"Support initiatives … such as education on: using bike hubs and electric scooters … different ways to travel for short journeys,"* please see our comments in the introduction to this submission about e-scooters on pages 2-3.

8. We support all the advocacy for the Natural Environment (pg 17).

9. We support all the Built Environment key initiatives (pg 19).

10. We would support the retention of the initiative from the previous plan: "Utilisation of regional funding to retrofit assets and upgrade them with solar energy saving measures" (pg 22, 2023 Local Board Plan).

11. We support the advocacy to the governing body as per page 20:

- *More funding to protect and renew our heritage assets.*
- *Invest in infrastructure and open spaces in areas where increased housing density is planned under Unitary Plan Change 120.*
- *Consult more with the Auckland Urban Design Panel for advice around large-scale developments.*

12. Regarding large-scale developments, we bring the Local Board's attention to the principles of universal design as outlined on pages 1-2 of this submission.

13. On page 24 under Transport, *"High dependency on motor vehicles"* is mentioned as a challenge, and we submit that the Local Board could encourage and advocate for the use of public transport, as per our suggestion on page 2.

14. We look forward to Local Boards having more control over local transport decisions as a result of the proposed legislation reform.

15. We support slowing traffic, in the interests of safety, as per the priority on page 24: *"Install speed advisory signs and other measures to help slow traffic across the area."*

16. From our Annual Plan submission:
CTA supports the following activities/projects proposed by this local board:

- **Working with Council to support people impacted by flooding events**
- **Advocacy to the Governing Body or other entities for support, including the Lake Road upgrade, the development of the Francis Esmonde link and a new ferry terminal at Bayswater**
- **Completion and adoption of the Devonport -Takapuna Local Parks Management Plan to help guide decisions and investment in parks and open spaces.**

17. We note that The Flagstaff, the Devonport Local Community Newspaper, revealed (on 2 July, 2026) the five 8-storey tower development plans proposed for Devonport by Peninsula Capital. These multi-level buildings rising behind heritage streetscape (pictured below) clearly block the maunga behind and would surely impact the proposed UNESCO World Heritage Site status that is being sought for all the Tūpuna Maunga of Auckland.



18. If intensification of such a scale is to be considered, perhaps master planning for that end of the peninsula might include consideration of the RNZN vacating its current site (and possibly relocating to Whangarei), in part, good for housing in Auckland and also potentially positive for Northland.

Franklin

1. CTA supports the objectives and key initiatives (pages 17-18) under "Natural Environment," and the advocacy on pages 18-19.

2. We suggest the retention of the following initiative from the 2023 plan (pg 26/33?): "Require all public space projects in urban/future urban areas to actively contribute to increases in tree canopy cover and more green infrastructure."

3. Under Transport, we support the Local Board working towards safe travel by foot, bike and mobility scooter, and note the inclusion of mobility scooters (page 27).

4. We support the ideas listed in the Opportunities section (page 28), particularly that of leveraging the Manukau Harbour and Hauraki Gulf as a Blue Highway. We see this as benefitting other parts of Auckland too, reducing reliance on the roading network and congestion across the city.

5. Under Transport priorities, we note: *"Investigate options to improve safety and environmental protection on Franklin's beaches, so that vehicle use does not create harm to people or place e.g. at Karioitahi Beach, Umupuia and Kawakawa Bay."* In general, we do not support vehicles driving on beaches. We strongly support the priority to *"Work with community providers to facilitate youth uptake of walking and cycling as a mechanism to address congestion and parking capacity,"* which we see as also facilitating youth health and environmental health. We support advocacy for better public transport routes, including more ferry services.

6. From our Annual Plan submission:

CTA supports the following activities/projects proposed by this local board:

- **Continue to invest in community-led pest management and environmental restoration programmes, with an emphasis on initiatives that engage Māori and youth**
- **Local and community leadership in the delivery of initiatives and programmes where appropriate**
- **Progress delivery of the Paparata Local Purpose Reserve (Bombay) concept plan**
- **Investigate and develop options that will address community safety and environment at Karioitahi Beach so that this special place can be enjoyed by locals and visitors and the unique environment is protected**
- **Commence work to progress delivery of the Paparata Local Purpose Reserve (Bombay) concept plan , ensuring that the local community has the opportunity to partner in delivery where feasible.**
- **Continue to seek options for the development of Clarks Beach Reserves in line with future need so that the board is able to invest in improvements that align with both future need and existing community aspiration.**

CTA commends the Franklin Local Board for its intention to engage with the community in order to garner their ideas and input.

<u>Henderson-Massey</u>

1. We support the Local Board in continuing with the key initiative (pg 14) to *"Develop parks, community and play spaces that can be easily used and accessed by everyone and meet the needs of the community,"* and draw members' attention to Magical Bridge NZ Playground in Hamilton, mentioned in the introduction to our submission.

2. We support all the key initiatives in the Natural Environment section (pp 17-18) and the advocacy on page 18.

3. Under Built Environment, we strongly support the objective of *"Community places and spaces are more accessible, sustainable and improve our collective wellbeing"* (pg 20), and in particular, the key initiatives of *"Make sure we consider sustainability and accessibility when we build and maintain community facilities and buildings"* and *"Identify and progress neighbourhood transport initiatives that improve safety, such as walking and cycling paths and speed calming measures."*

4. Regarding sustainability and accessibility, please see our comments about universal design on page 2.

5. In the Transport section, we particularly support the following key initiatives: *"Look into and set up traffic flow solutions such as 'smart' traffic lights that use sensors or cameras to give longer green lights where traffic is heavy, respond to rush hours, incidents and weather and prioritise buses;" "Introduce a weekly public transport fare cap for children and young people in addition to the existing $50 fare cap"* and *"Prioritise safety and ways to reduce the number of speeding vehicles in local streets and around every local school."* While an enhanced pedestrian environment is desirable, so too is the free flow of traffic, sequenced where necessary.

Hibiscus and Bays

1. In our last Local Board Plan submission, we encouraged the Local Board to advocate to Auckland Transport for bike racks on buses that go across the Auckland Harbour Bridge, so we are delighted that there are now 15 buses that carry bicycles over the harbour bridge on the NX1 route.

2. Under Community on page 15, we support the key initiative of *"Support communities to share stories about local heritage in ways that help people understand their area, feel a sense of identity and belonging, and learn about local history. This includes using te reo Māori place names and a range of storytelling approaches."*

3. We support all the key initiatives and advocacy under Natural Environment (pp 19-20). We note that one key initiative is: *"Support the development and increased use of parks, reserves and sports fields that are accessible, equitable and meet current and future community needs."* A visit by a CTA Board member to the Alice Eaves Scenic Reserve in January this year

revealed that although there is supposedly a track alongside the Nukumea Stream that is suitable for wheelchairs, it was not possible to get the wheelchair past the kauri dieback cleaning station, it being misleading to describe the track as accessible for wheelchairs.

4. We support the key initiatives and advocacy under Built Environment (pp 22-23) and under Transport (pg 29).

5. From our Annual Plan submission:

CTA supports the following activities/projects proposed by this local board:

· **Supporting further protection of our sea, soil and fresh water from contamination and sedimentation, through increased monitoring and extending projects such as local stream restoration including the Weiti River**
· **Continuing our commitment to protecting our natural environment - such as advancing restoration efforts along the Weiti River and strengthening monitoring to reduce contamination and sedimentation in our waterways**
· **Ensuring Hibiscus and Bays is welcoming and supportive for all through collaboration with a broader range of local residents and an increased focus on inclusive design, so it is accessible and usable for people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds**

CTA strongly supports this Local Board's focus on inclusive design, and would like to see other Local Boards focus on this as well, and for it to be included in Auckland Council's vision.

The remainder has been covered on page 2 of this submission.

<u>Howick</u>

1. We support the Local Board's long list of key initiatives on pages 14-16 under Community and will provide comments on the following. *"Work with Animal Management to address local issues, and clearly communicate rules and regulations to the community, especially the rules around having dogs in public spaces"* (pg 14). Some dog owners do not seem to know that their dogs should be on a leash at all times in public spaces, except in designated off-leash areas. Other owners clearly do know this, and are flouting this rule. We encourage this Local Board (and all others) to implement the $300 fine for a dog being off-leash in an on-leash area, as well as the other infringements relating to dogs. There are owners who regularly walk their dogs off-leash, and their disregard for Auckland Council's Dog Management Bylaw is unfair on other dog owners and to those members of the public who have a real fear of dogs, whatever they look like and whatever size they are.

2. *"Develop inclusive play spaces designed for neurodiverse children, supporting safe, engaging, and enjoyable experiences for all"* (pg 14). We strongly support this initiative. Like universal design, such play spaces are suitable for everyone. Please see our note on page 1

about the Magical Bridge NZ Playground in Hamilton, established in December 2023, New Zealand's first fully inclusive and accessible playground designed for people of all ages, sizes, and physical or neurological abilities.

3. We support the objectives and key initiatives under Natural Environment on pages 18-21, and the advocacy on pages 21-222 noting, however, as in our 2023 feedback, as regards the following key initiative: *"Support the Tūpuna Maunga Authority to protect and enhance Ōhuiarangi / Pigeon Mountain"* that we do support protecting the maunga but we do not support the removal of trees from any of the maunga across Auckland. We maintain the position that particular trees that are not wanted on the maunga should live out their natural lives while replacement planting of other species is planned for.

4. We support the objectives and key initiatives under Built Environment on pages 24 - 26, though we caution with regard to *"Look into selling underperforming properties to help fund priority projects."* It may be better for these properties to remain in Council ownership rather than be lost to the private sector, and rather than use their sale to fund projects, make them perform better. This is a case where the community should be consulted about the use of buildings within their area, as regrettably, some Council buildings are not fully utilised due to lack of information about them, and also regrettably, some underused Council buildings are not maintained and become unusable.

5. Under Transport, the priority *"Identify high congestion areas and investigate options for improvement to reduce travel time and keep our emissions low"* seems to in part be answered by *"Provide safe, reliable, and timely public transport, with improved bus services, accessible routes, and well -designed, sheltered bus stops for the community."* We think there is an opportunity for all Local Boards to promote public transport more, for Local Board members to use it more themselves, and to investigate barriers to people using transport. We would like to see, for example, employers offer more incentives for their employees to use public transport and for the reintroduction of glide time, where practicable, to remove the barrier of being late for work.

6. From our Annual Plan submission:

CTA supports the following activities/projects proposed by this local board:

- **Run regular seminars for community groups/organisations on the local grant's application process**
- **Continue advocacy of the Tāmaki Estuary on water quality and coastal erosion**
- **Support our volunteer groups with resources needed for ecological volunteering, such as stream clean-ups and pest plant weeding**
- **Tackling the challenges of environmental protection and restoration remains a high priority**
- **Continue to support environmental groups and explore new initiatives**

Kaipātiki

1. We note the following on page 4 (From the Chair): *"To ensure a sustainable network of community assets, the board will take a fiscally responsible, long-term approach to renewing them. This includes reviewing the condition and performance of existing assets and recognising that, under ongoing limited funding, some assets may need to be considered for decommissioning (for example removing or deconstructing them)."* We repeat what we have written above in this submission, that unfortunately, some Council buildings are not fully utilised due to lack of information about them, and also unfortunately, some underused Council buildings are not maintained and become unusable. In our view, the community should be consulted about the use of buildings in their area.

2. In the 2023 draft plan, CTA supported the initiative (pg 14) to: "Investigate installing solar on facilities with significant solar potential, including: Birkenhead Pool and Leisure Centre, Kaipātiki Local Board Office, Glenfield Pool and Leisure Centre." We are therefore pleased to know that the Birkenhead Pool and Leisure Centre now has solar panels installed on its roof, that roof work is underway at the Glenfield Centre to add solar panels, and that the Board Office is in line to receive solar panels as well.

3. CTA supported the Kaipātiki Local Board's advocacy to the Governing Body in the draft 2023 plan (pg 18) "to protect and celebrate our built and cultural heritage" and would like to see this retained in the 2026 plan.

4. Also in the 2023 plan, we supported "the ability for local boards to have direct decision-making authority to make temporary changes to dog access rules to mitigate environmental or social problems" (page 23) and we are pleased to note that the changes proposed by the Kaipātiki and Devonport-Takapuna Local Boards to rules for local beaches and reserves came into effect in January 2026.

5. Again, we support advocacy to *"reinstate legislation that provides general tree protection Central Government"* (page 20), and would also continue to support the following, if it were included in the plan: "for urban planning legislation to adequately protect special ecological areas" (2023 plan, pg 23).

6. We strongly support this new advocacy: *"Advocate to introduce waste recovery schemes that make those who create waste responsible for dealing with it"* (pg 20).

7. We are pleased that the following key initiative has been retained: *"Consider the effects of climate change when developing places and spaces by avoiding areas or activities that are vulnerable to climate risks like drought, extreme rainfall, coastal flooding and heat."*

8. We continue to support *"continued improvement of the bus and ferry network serving Kaipātiki with: cheaper ferry and bus fares, maintaining our existing three ferry services – with increased frequency, more buses going to more destinations more often,"* and also *"a continued*

move to electric buses and ferries serving Kaipātiki" (pg 31). In our view, the Waitematā Harbour could be used much more for transport - being a waterway that does not need maintenance the way roads and rail do.

9. Under Community, one of the key initiatives is: *"Invest in natural solutions that improve our parks and public spaces, including planting notable trees for shade, wildflower meadows for increased biodiversity and natural play items such as māra hūpara."* We support this initiative (alongside all the others), and appreciate that the wildflower meadows will attract more insects and other biodiversity than grass. We would like to see fruit trees included in the plantings in parks and public spaces, for the additional benefit of providing food for the community. We also like the use of māra hūpara, not only for the connection with both nature and local Māori history, but also due to its attractiveness and sustainability.

10. We support all the objectives, key initiatives, and advocacy under Natural Environment (pages 19 - 21). A number of our board members have enjoyed walking along the treetop boardwalk at Kauri Glen Reserve.

11. Under Transport, we strongly support the following priority: "*Consider introducing reduced speed limits (safer speeds) on a case-by-case basis on roads where vulnerable road users are often present, and where the impact on traffic flow will be minor"* (pg 31). It is our understanding that driving in a city, constantly stopping and starting at traffic lights, a lower speed limit tends to affect travel time only by seconds.

12. Under Economic Development, we support the following two key initiatives: *"Support local businesses to use more sustainable practices, such as reducing waste, cutting greenhouse gas emissions and using resources more efficiently,"* and *"Promote retail opportunities provided by the Wairau zero-waste hub and other second -hand providers like op-shops."*

13. From our Annual Plan submission:

CTA supports the following activities/projects proposed by this local board:

- **Support environmental groups, community volunteers, and our diverse communities to carry out environmental restoration projects, including stream clean-ups, habitat improvement, native riparian planting, and pest control**
- **Improvements to Little Shoal Bay / Wai Manawa Reserve**
- **Healthy Waters Ngā Wairau project, working alongside that project to ensure the parks, sport, and recreational outcomes are being suitably included and considered**
- **Invest in maintenance and renewal of our parks, playgrounds, community buildings, recreation facilities, and other public spaces so they continue to meet our communities needs**
- **Support a community-led approach for the delivery of relevant and diverse services that develop and connect the community**

· **Make substantial progress on the planning and delivery of major local projects, including the Beach Haven Coastal Connection (Stage 3), Birkenhead War Memorial masterplan implementation, and improvements to Little Shoal Bay / Wai Manawa Reserve**

CTA endorses the Kaipātiki Local Board's community-led approach, and congratulates this local board on the huge response (about 5,000 people) to its consultation on the future use of recreation at A.F. Thomas Park. However this consultation was done, it clearly worked, and perhaps lessons can be learned by other local boards.

Māngere-Ōtāhuhu

1. In our 2023 submission on the Local Board Plans, CTA supported the Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board to "Revive the Māngere Gateway Heritage plan to enhance Stonefields and promote and regain heritage values" (pg 17). We understand that the Local Board has been actively working to revive this plan, including funding programmes designed to enhance the Otuataua Stonefields, and we are pleased about this.

2. We support all the key initiatives under Natural Environment in the current draft plan (pp 17-18), in particular: *"Support the creation of a new Māngere Ōtāhuhu Community Recycling Centre, making it easier for people to recycle and reduce waste,"* and we endorse the opportunity under Economic Development that *"The proposed community recycling centre could help create new sustainable community enterprises and provide more jobs."* We also particularly support: *"Fund education and community programmes that work with people to reduce and manage household waste, prevent illegal dumping, and build shared care and pride in our local environment,"* and *"Work with the community to develop and deliver local climate action plans and support community-led projects that help people cut emissions, use energy wisely and choose low -carbon ways to get around."*

3. We would like to note that CTA is very supportive of Respect Mt Richmond / Ōtāhuhu in its efforts to save the exotic trees on that maunga. On page 10 in your plan it is noted that *"Māngere -Ōtāhuhu has low tree canopy cover"* and that a key initiative (pg 17) is *"Work with landowners and developers to plant more trees (ngāhere) across private land, new developments and green open spaces;"* and an advocacy point (pg 18) is *"Funding to help local boards achieve regional and local targets for urban ngahere (tree) cover in the areas where there is less than 15 per cent of tree canopy cover. This provides habitats for birds and insects, and shade from extreme heat."* It is our view that exotic trees contribute to the canopy just as much as natives, and they also provide habitat for fauna and shade for people. We have proposed in various submissions that unwanted trees be left to live out their natural lives, and that it should be only then that they are replaced with other trees.

4. We note the challenge stated in the Built Environment section (pg 19): *"Plan Change 120 proposes to avoid building homes in flood-prone parts of Māngere-Ōtāhuhu to improve safety, but pushes to build new housing into fewer areas. This could increase pressure on already stretched local infrastructure and services.*" In our submission on Plan Change 120, we

supported those communities which stated that infrastructure and services would be put under pressure by intensification, including in our points as follows: 7(c) “CTA submits that to reduce capacity in certain locations, such intensification could be reallocated elsewhere in order to meet the arbitrary 2 million total required by PC120. This might be done by, for example, allowing THAB in some locations or allowing a variation in the number of floors in an apartment block; 8(c) PC120 needs to include planning for infrastructure, in order to support safe, resilient, and sustainable intensification. This includes schools, hospitals, green space, and transport. Growth should be directed to places where the necessary infrastructure is planned, funded, and deliverable; 8(d) In our view, it is poor planning to rely on potential legislation and/or private investment for future infrastructure. We know that some parts of the city have been waiting years for appropriate infrastructure and we know that the availability of funding for such work is not increasing. CTA considers that development should not be enabled where infrastructure is not practicably able to be provided.” The ability to accommodate such changes is now more attainable given the reduction of the government’s target from 2 million homes down to 1.4 million homes.

5. CTA supports all the key initiatives on page 20, particularly: *“Make sure new community buildings are designed to work well in a changing climate, are healthy and contribute to a quality built environment,”* as well as all the advocacy on page 21.

6. We also support all the priorities under Transport (pg 26).

7. From our Annual Plan submission:

CTA supports the following activities/projects proposed by this local board:

- **Deliver coastal and storm -water resilience work in the Manukau Harbour -adjacent suburbs (such as improvements to seawalls or planting buffer zones) to support long -term climate adaptation**
- **Continue the native tree planting and understory restoration programme across key reserves and corridors (for example around waterways in Māngere East and Favona**
- **Roll out community -led waste -minimisation and resource -recovery initiatives — supporting local groups to divert material from landfill**
- **Work with Auckland Transport and Economic Development Office to support our transport and economic aspirations**

CTA supports the efforts of Respect Mount Richmond Ōtāhuhu to save the trees on their local maunga from felling by the Tūpuna Maunga Authority. This group is having to raise community money to defend itself in court against the TMA, which is funded by Council (ratepayer) money. We do not think that removing trees from the maunga aligns with Auckland's Urban Ngahere (Forest) Strategy. This strategy states that it will have been successful when (amongst other aims) it has:

- **increased canopy cover to 30 per cent across Auckland's urban area, and at least 15 per cent in every local board area**

- **increased the network of green infrastructure on public land**
- **improved links between green spaces by establishing ecological corridors**
- **instilled a sense of pride in Aucklanders for their urban ngahere.**

The strategy also states that "Protecting existing ngahere is crucial to safeguarding the added values and benefits mature trees provide …. (pg 42). The benefits provided by trees become exponentially greater as they mature. It's also more cost effective to care for mature trees…. People often have strong emotional connections to landmark, mature trees in their neighbourhoods, and are more likely to mourn the loss of a large tree. Additionally, some native species, such as kākā, and bats, prefer taller trees and their presence can significantly improve the biodiversity value of an area (pg 45)."

CTA submits that there needs to be better alignment between the Urban Ngahere Strategy and the Tūpuna Maunga Authority's Operational Plan, and that the views of all Aucklanders need to be taken into account.

Manurewa

1. In the 2023 plan, CTA was pleased to note: "increase awareness of the notable tree schedule to protect more of our trees" (page 26) and we supported the key initiative to "Replace every tree removed from the streetscape due to damage, storms and accidents within one year" (page 27). We understand that due to financial constraints, further storm damage, and high operational costs have meant that this goal was not met, but we encourage the Local Board to continue with tree replacement. We submit that awareness of the notable tree schedule could be included in the Local Board's advocacy to the Governing Body.

2. Regarding the key initiative *"Look at options to improve access and usability across our parks and facilities. This may include identifying and removing physical barriers, upgrading paths, amenities, and signage, and working closely with disability groups to meet their needs"* (pg 17) we draw the Local Board's attention to the Magical Bridge NZ Playground in Hamilton as being a playground that caters for children with disabilities.

3. CTA supports all the climate change and sustainability initiatives on page 17, as well at the key initiatives under Natural Environment on pages 20-21 and the advocacy on page 22.

4. We support the Economic Development key initiatives of: *"Support industrial zones to move to a low-impact, low-carbon economy and adapt to the impacts of climate change;"* and *"Support initiatives that strengthen community economic resilience in response to climate change. This may include community-led renewable energy projects, such as solar generation and storage, that reduce energy costs, create local jobs, and increase energy security."*

5. We support the Transport priorities on page 29 and 30, particularly: *"Continue to support evidence-based ways to slow down traffic. This could be speed humps and raised pedestrian crossings around schools;"* and *"Look at options to improve safety and traffic management like*

slowing down traffic and improved parking around the Homai quadrant which includes Sturdee Road." We understand that when driving in a city and constantly stopping and starting at traffic lights, a lower speed limit tends to affect travel time only by seconds. We note that some suburbs have introduced 30 km or 40 km limits in some areas, which seem to work well.

6. From our Annual Plan submission:

CTA supports the following activities/projects proposed by this local board:

· **Continue to support ways to plant and retain more trees on public and private land and suburban streets**
· **Deliver a new neighbourhood park at Glenveagh Reserve.**
· **Continue to invest in our two illegal dumping pilot programmes: a proactive illegal dumping collection initiative and an illegal dumping enforcement programme.**

<u>Maungakiekie-Tāmaki</u>

1. With regard to the advocacy to *"Work with relevant agencies to advocate for policies and initiatives that reduce dog attacks, support responsible ownership, and keep our community safe"* (pg15), CTA suggests that this advocacy could include asking Auckland Council to direct its Animal Management Officers to remind/warn dog owners that they need to keep their dogs on a leash at all times, except in off-leash areas, and if they do not, they are liable for a $300 fine.

2. We support the Natural Environment key initiatives (pp 17-18), particularly *"Support rangatahi as leaders in climate action and investigate opportunities for rangatahi led environmental initiatives."* We also support the advocacy in this section (pp18-19).

3. We support the Built Environment key initiatives (pp 21-22) and the advocacy on page 22. We recommend the example of the Magical Bridge NZ Playground in Hamilton as a playground that caters for children with disabilities, as regards the initiative: *"Develop playground designs which are inclusive of all ages and abilities."*

4. We support the following Economic Development key initiatives page 24: *"Support initiatives which encourage businesses to do something about their impact on the environment"* (pg 24) and *"Support initiatives which encourage local procurement and the promotion of services within our community"* (pg 25).

5. CTA supports the Transport priorities (pp 27-28).

6. From our Annual Plan submission:

CTA supports the following activities/projects proposed by this local board:

- **Partnering with mana whenua and community groups on restoration, food resilience planting, and environmental education**
- **Exploring increased compliance resourcing and enhancing community emergency preparedness**
- **Continuing work to improve our parks and open spaces, including progressing plans for Waikaraka Park, focused on making sure local facilities, parks and green spaces keep pace**
- **Advancing important environmental restoration projects like Ōmaru Creek, continuing to care for our natural environment guided by shared values.**

CTA congratulates the Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board on the completion of the Te Kōpua o Hiku bridge at the Panmure Basin, which will mean safer, easier walking and cycling.

Ōrākei

1. In the 2023 draft plans, CTA supported the seismic restoration of the Remuera Library and we are pleased to see this project completed.

2. We strongly support the first key initiative on page 21: *"Ensure that the heritage of our people, places and buildings is recognised, protected and valued by working with council organisations, supporting community groups and investing in eligible projects."*

3. We also support the Natural Environment key initiatives (pp 17-18) and the advocacy on page 19.

4. Alongside *"Encourage developers to prioritise sustainable design in their developments"* (pg 21), CTA would like to see "Encourage developers to prioritise universal design in their developments," and we refer the Local Board to page 2 of this submission, where we have written about universal design.

5. Regarding the initiative: "Look for opportunities to provide new venues for community use such as land reclamation (creating new land by filling in areas of water), buying property or working with community providers," firstly, we would urge the Local Board to undertake extensive consultation before considering land reclamation, due to the expense, the requirement for constant maintenance, and the vulnerability to flooding. Further, when we read on the next page the initiative: *"Decommission under-used assets like Leicester Hall, to invest in better value assets and services,"* we question why the Local Board would consider new venues for community use when there already are such venues, such as Leicester Hall, which has a kitchen, off-street parking, and is wheelchair accessible. We suggest that the Local Board considers that the community might like to be involved in the maintenance of such buildings, and potentially making it more fit for purpose, rather than looking to provide new buildings.

Furthermore, are such venues as Leicester Hall well-known to the community? Could they be advertised in the Local Board newsletters?

6. Potentially, *"Review[ing] the local board's lease portfolio to ensure that leased sites are providing the best value to community and identify what might be missing"* would bring to light what is needed, what is already available, and what could be done to make the best use of such assets.

7. We support the priorities under Transport and the associated advocacy. We support speed limits for e-bikes, e-scooters and low-powered vehicles, and we would like to see a ban on e-scooters using footpaths, in line with the Local Board aiming at more safety for pedestrians.

8. From our Annual Plan submission:

CTA supports the following activities/projects proposed by this local board:

- **Increasing investment in restoration and pest-management programmes to grow and protect your natural environment. Our reserves and open spaces are one of the most vital resources in Ōrākei**
- **Continued investment in growing and protecting our parks and playgrounds.**

CTA endorses efforts by this board to work with the neighbouring Waitematā Local Board on matters regarding the health of the Waitematā Harbour that connecting those board areas.

<u>Otara-Papatoetoe</u>

1. CTA supports the initiatives on page 14 under Community: *"Support climate resilience and local sustainability education and engagement initiatives for young people;"* and *"Continue to develop a 'multi -park management plan' that manages the use, development and protection of all parks, reserves and open spaces in the area."*

2. We support the Natural Environment key initiatives on pages 17-18 and the advocacy on page 18.

3. We suggest that the criticism on page 26 of *"Unreliable, infrequent and limited public transport options encourage more residents to travel by car"* is less valid than it was 3 years ago, as public transport in Auckland is improving all the time. We are of the view that what is needed is more promotion of public transport to people who do not think outside of taking their car with them everywhere they go.

4. We support the priorities on pages 27 and 28 under Transport. As per our submission 3 years ago, we support free public transport, not only to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and congestion, but to improve the health of the population, as overall, we do not move enough. We have suggested in previous submissions a trial of free transport.

5. We agree that Puhinui Station is a crucial transport hub, and, as we stated in our 2023 submission, we are of the view that the AirportLink service needs more publicity.

6. From our Annual Plan submission:

CTA does not support this local board changing garden edging to chemical application, as this is an environmental risk, with chemicals running into waterways, killings beneficial insects and disrupting the natural soil balance. We note that weeds can build up resistance to the chemicals.

We do support this local board's seismic strengthening of Papatoetoe Town Hall, a 1917 heritage hall which is still in frequent use for community events.

Papakura

1. Under Community, we support the key initiative: *"Support the protection of sites of Māori and European significance including the enhancement of Pukekooiwiriki Paa."*

2. CTA also supports the Natural Environment key initiatives on pages 18-20 and the advocacy on page 20.

3. Thank you for including *"Support 'universal access' design so people of all ages and abilities can access our facilities, and 'Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design' (CPTED) in upgrades where budgets allow"* in your key initiatives under Built Environment. CTA is a strong supporter of universal design, and your draft plan is the only one we have seen that mentions this design principle, which we see as catering not only for people with disabilities but others who can benefit from improved access, including the ageing population, thus increasing housing options for more people and improving the quality of life for people who currently face significant barriers in terms of physical access.

4. Under this same objective, *"Resilience, safety and universal access,"* we point out that in addition to native trees to *"provide shade, shelter and heat-resilient landscaping,"* that non-native trees provide the same benefits, and some provide fruit as well.

5. Also on page 24, under *"Objective 6: Regeneration and service property optimisation: Identify and sell assets that are underused and reinvest the money from the sales into upgrades for community spaces and facilities to benefit the community,"* we suggest (as we have to several other Local Boards) that some Council buildings are not fully utilised due to the community lacking awareness of them, that some underused Council buildings are not maintained properly

and so become unusable, and that the community should be consulted about the use of buildings in their area.

6. We support all the priorities and advocacy under Transport (pp 33-36).

7. From our Annual Plan submission:

CTA does not support discontinuing funding for the following: ecological and environmental volunteers; Pest Free Urban South; Papakura Stream restoration; Wai care water quality education programming; Manukau Harbour Forum; and Finding Papakura Bats initiatives.

We do support the reduction of the number of public rubbish bins in public spaces as long as this leads to less rubbish, not more.

We also support the following:
· Progress a refresh of the greenways plan and other pathway opportunities (in particular , the McLennan Memorial Park pathway , plus connecting Kauri Flats School to Pulman Park, as well as connections around Hingaia to Drury).

<u>Puketāpapa</u>

1. Regarding the key initiatives under Community, we make the following comments.

"Assess the possibility of additional space for off-leash dog exercising." We hope that this initiative will lead to more compliance in on-leash areas, which is a problem across the city, with people out walking feeling intimidated by dogs and also by some of their owners, who do not like being challenged about their off-leash dog(s).

"Review current community services and facilities and assess how well they meet the needs of a growing population to identify any unmet needs and plan for future investment." We recommend that such a review involve strong engagement with the community, as part of this review may reveal that there are some services and facilities about which the community is not aware.

"Fund a masterplan for Monte Cecilia Park to consider the future use of the park, including the Liston Village land and any other future community facilities." We are grateful for the Local Board opposition to the proposed demolition of dwellings at Liston Village, due to the ongoing and growing need for housing for elderly people.

2. We support the key initiatives under Natural Environment on pages 18-19, especially the updating of the Puketāpapa Local Climate Action Plan and the Puketāpapa Urban Ngahere Action Plan 2021, as we are aware that plans can be written and celebrated but then forgotten,

partly as a result of new people coming into various roles. We also support the advocacy on pages 19-20.

3. Under the Built Environment key initiatives (page 22) CTA is pleased to see *"Find ways to respond to the future growth expected in our area as a result of Proposed Plan Change 120, for example review the area plan for parts of Puketāpapa and Albert-Eden local boards."* We would encourage the Local Board to review the area plan, as per our notes about area and centre plans (on page 4-5).

4. We support the advocacy (pg 23): *"Advocate to build power lines underground, particularly where footpath space is limited"* and *"Advocate for 'beautification' at the White Swan Road Transpower substation in Mt Roskill."* Aside from the issue of limited space, we support beautifying streetscapes by removing visual contamination.

5. Under Economic Development, we support the key initiatives (pg 25): *"Sustainable business programmes that help reduce carbon emissions"* and "Fund programmes that help reduce pollution"

6. We support under Transport, the priority *"Seek transport solutions that better-manage traffic flow during peak times, like 'dynamic' lanes that can change direction or use, and responsive traffic lights to help reduce waiting times"* (pg 27). We have read that the Henderson-Massey Local Board is looking at "smart" traffic lights, so perhaps these two Local Boards could share their learnings such traffic lights, initially with each other, then with other Local Boards.

7. From our Annual Plan submission:

CTA supports the following project proposed by this local board:

- **Investigating how to respond to the future growth expected in our area as a result of Proposed Plan Change 120: Housing Intensification and Resilience**

We also support the following projects, particularly the community informed vision:

- **Deliver new neighbourhood park at 3-7 Howell Crescent, Roskill**
- **Wairaki Stream Ecological Enhancement and daylighting projects**
- **Developing a Monte Cecilia Master Plan, providing us with a community informed vision, and enable us to strategically invest in the park in the years ahead.**
- **Focusing our environmental restoration work along the awa and coastline. In particular control of pest plants and animals, protection of native species and the restoration of walking tracks so they feel safe and accessible to the community again.**

<u>Rodney</u>

1. A key initiative under Community on page 12 that we support is *"Include climate-resilient design features in all minor works and renewals so climate-resilience becomes a routine part of everyday delivery."*

2. Under Community on page 13, *"Transition facilities to multi-use, adaptable places and review our underused buildings and spaces to repurpose or sell and reinvest where growth and usage are highest,"* we suggest that such facilities are of high importance to the community and that if they are considered underused currently, then selling them is not the right response. Perhaps those community groups that currently take advantage of the community discount offered (up to 50% off) could be encouraged to pay the full amount, as they would presumably consider this preferable to losing the building. We like the key initiative of *"Make community facilities more multi-purpose by coordinating bookings, using movable equipment and offering a wider mix of activities across halls, libraries and recreation spaces."*

3. Under Advocacy on page 14, CTA strongly supports *"Advocate for more investment in regional parks in our local board area to meet the pressures of population growth and tourism."*

4. CTA supports all the key initiatives under Natural Environment (pp 16-17) and the advocacy (pp 17-18.

5. We support the advocacy under Built Environment, especially *"Advocate to make sure new development does not go ahead before essential infrastructure is in place."* Our comments about infrastructure and PC120 on page 14 are relevant to this.

6. Under Transport, we support the key initiative *"Improve public transport frequency, reliability and services hours on key routes"* (pg 28).

7. From our Annual Plan submission:

CTA supports the following activities/projects proposed by this local board:

· **Progress reserve and playgrounds projects, enhance greenways, increase rural roadside weed control, and maintain heritage sites**

We particularly support this local board's aim to maintain heritage sites.

· **Support volunteers to restore biodiversity through planting, pest plant and animal control, species protection, and local education**
· **Provide waste education, school freshwater programmes, and community-led stream restoration and catchment management plans to improve waterway health**
· **Supporting volunteers and environmental groups with planting, pest control, and clean -ups to protect biodiversity and create safe habitats for wildlife.**

<u>Upper Harbour</u>

1. CTA supports the Natural Environment key initiatives on pages 15-16.

2. In the 2023 draft plan, the Local Board stated that "Reducing carbon emissions as individuals can be difficult" and that "Communities need support and opportunities to make changes and live more sustainably" (page 16). We are pleased to see that in the current draft plan, included is: *"Support community-led initiatives and projects that encourage sustainable lifestyles, waste minimisation climate resilience and adaptation,"* along with further support for people to take positive environmental action.

3. We support all the advocacy on page 16 and 17, particularly *"Advocate for more funding for compliance and education to ensure that minimising construction and demolition waste is a priority,"* as this has been a submission point for CTA, for example, in our submission on the government's Emissions Reduction Plan, as referred to on page 6 of this submission.

4. Under Built Environment, key initiative, page 19: *"Improve or dispose of assets that provide lower community benefits to provide more funds for priority spaces and facilities,"* as with our comments for other Local Boards, we caution about disposing of Council buildings because they are such a useful asset for the community, and suggest that instead, community groups may prefer to pay more for hire than lose the use of a building forever, and that buildings could be better advertised, for example, via Local Board newsletters. We therefore support the initiative on page 20: *"Support different uses of community spaces, including sharing spaces with community lease holders and creating hubs and community partnership opportunities."*

5. We support the transport priorities on page 26, particularly: *"Advocate to make public transport cheaper and easier for young people to use" and "Advocate for Hobsonville ferry to be included in the $50 a week Auckland public transport fare cap initiative."* Perhaps the Upper Harbour Local Board would like to join the other Local Board that are advocating for young people to be entitled to a further discount on the $50 fare cap.

6. From our Annual Plan submission:

CTA does not support reducing discretionary funding across all programmes and projects including environmental outcomes, events and activations, cycling initiatives and community outcomes.

We do support reducing maintenance like bollard and post and rail repairs and some garden maintenance, cost savings that most local boards are considering.

We do not agree with the proposed Option 2: Increase spectator fee and supervising adult fee at Albany Stadium Pool by $1 (Fees will become $2), and certainly not Option 3: Increase spectator fee and supervising adult fee by $ 4 (Fees will become $5).

We suggest that an alternative to increasing those fees would be to better monitor and enforce other existing regulations, e.g., implement the already existing fines ($300) for walking a dog off-leash in an on-leash area. Such infringements could perhaps be

attended to by compliance officers who are already looking at issues of non-compliance by members of the public.

We do support the following:

· **Prioritise support for initiatives that deliver outcomes for our environment including community -led ecological initiatives, construction waste education, and the restoration projects.**

Waiheke

1. CTA supports all the Natural Environment key initiatives pages 16-17 and highlight *"Promote responsible pet ownership,"* as this is an initiative that we think all Local Boards could adopt. We also particularly like *"Continue to support and endorse organisations that enable Waiheke to move toward a fossil-fuel free future"* and *"Investigate the feasibility of using solar microgrids to power our community facilities."*

2. We are also very supportive of all the advocacy on page 18 and would like all Local Boards that have shores to adopt those same points, and all the Local Boards in Auckland to join you in advocating to *"Ban the sale and use of fireworks in Aotearoa."*

3. We support all of the key initiatives under Built Environment (pp 20-22) and recommend investigating the Magical Bridge NZ Playground in Hamilton for the initiative: *"Make sure we prioritise accessibility and inclusivity when we renew our playgrounds and facilities in line with the 'Waiheke Be Accessible' plan."*

4. We support all the advocacy on page 22, in particular *"Any available council property being considered for health facilities or affordable housing,"* as a much better alternative to selling underused Council buildings.

5. As regard the priorities under Transport, CTA particularly supports *"Advocate for legislative change that would enable Waiheke ferries to be included in the Public Transport Operating Model;" "Advocate for the integration of AT HOP cards so monthly passes can be used on all ferry services;"* and *"Support work toward ensuring routes to all Waiheke schools are safe for walking and cycling."*

6. We also suggest encouraging seniors who travel for free on HOP Gold cards to Waiheke to make a donation at the ferry terminal at Matiatia or online, perhaps towards a Waiheke community or an ecological need.

7. From our Annual Plan submission:

CTA supports the following activities/projects proposed by this local board:

- **Deliver investment in key areas, specifically:**
- **programmes which protect, restore, and enhance the island's natural environment**
- **Deliver actions within the Waiheke Local Carbon Action Plan**
- **Create connection to places and heritage through the installation of historical and cultural markers and dual naming of parks**
- **Improve walking/cycling network connections as outlined within the Waiheke Pathways Plan**
- **Ecological restoration and pest management programmes remain a high priority and the increase in birdlife and improved eco -systems is a testament to the on-going investment in this space**
- **Delivering actions from our Climate Action Plan remains a priority . To support resiliency on the motu, solar panels will be installed at Onetangi Sports Pavilion and Ostend Hall, and we will investigate development of community microgrids.**

CTA notes that many local boards had planned the dual naming of parks and we hope that these plans have either already been carried out or will soon be underway.

We suggest that learnings from investigating the development of community microgrids could inform other local boards.

Waitākere Ranges

1. In the 2023 Local Board Draft Plan, CTA supported this key initiative, which in various forms has been adopted by other Local Boards: *"Ensure universal design for accessibility is embedded into all park development projects to enable everyone to access their local parks"* (page 25). We would encourage its reinstatement in this year's draft plan.

2. Under Community, we support *"Prepare a Waitākere Ranges Local Parks Management Plan for our 200 local parks"* (pg 14). We like the emphasis on supporting "well *sited tree planting in parks,"* and the intention to *"Investigate a solar panel pilot on a community facility."* The Aotea / Great Barrier Island Service Centre could perhaps assist with this pilot, being fully powered by solar energy.

3. We note on page 15 *"Support for continued recreational use of the Avondale Racecourse,"* and CTA supports this aspiration too, this multi-purpose large green space serving not just West Auckland but other residents across the city, such as with the longstanding Avondale Market
The land also has a vital role in absorbing excess rainfall and slowing floodwaters. We support this board and the Whau Local Board in their request to Auckland Council to purchase the property as a public asset.

4. We support the Local Board in continuing to work to *"formally recognise the area as a Dark Sky place"* (pg 16).

5. It is pleasing to see the 27 active environmental volunteer groups being recognised and appreciated by the Local Board (pg 16).

6. CTA supports all the Natural Environment key initiatives (pg 18) and the advocacy (pg 19).

7. In the Transport section, we endorse the statement that *"Freeing up road space for those without alternatives (e.g., tradespeople) is essential"* (pg 26). We support the Transport priorities (pg 28), particularly, *"A bus or shuttle services to places like Piha, and appropriately sized buses on narrow / vulnerable bush clad routes."*

8. From our Annual Plan submission:

CTA supports the following activities/projects proposed by this local board:

- **Mobility scooter, walking and cycling connections, particularly through parks**
- **Continue to invest in environmental restoration programmes with a focus on the Waitākere Ranges Heritage Area and our waterways**
- **Deliver park development, including play and amenity improvements in Swanson, Te Henga and Titirangi**
- **Provide tree planting and shelter to provide shade and amenity in parks, as well as berm planting in streets with low tree cover**
- **Continue to invest in local climate action to increase resilience and decrease emissions**
- **Working on fit-for-purpose transport improvements like investigating a trial bus service to Piha, advocating for smaller buses, and creating safer local connections**
- **Improve Glen Eden town centre, and protect and enhance the nationally significant Waitākere Ranges Heritage Area**
- **Support the Waitākere Ranges Heritage Area Forum work programme, particularly community engagement**
- **Review maintenance of local parks and facilities to ensure they are well maintained while looking for savings**

<u>Waitematā</u>

1. In CTA's submission on the 2023 draft plan, we strongly supported this advocacy: *"Auckland Council to advocate for changes to legislation and regulations to enable councils to introduce planning controls on how urban trees are assessed and protected. Auckland Council to simplify and better resource processes for identifying and protecting mature trees"* (page 25). We would like to see this point retained in the 2026 plan.

2. In CTA's submission on the 2023 draft plan, under "Our Places" there were a detailed points about the city's historic heritage which we would like to see included in the 2026 plan to provide more detailed form than the somewhat general objective (pg 23 in the 2026 plan) *"Our unique special character and our historic heritage is valued, protected and enhanced."* In last year's

draft plan, we read: “We want to increase understanding, protection and conservation of city centre heritage places, landscapes and stories” (page 33) and “Valued elements of heritage and special character in the local board area should be recognised formally and informally to assist with its protection and incorporation in the development of our urban landscapes” (page 34).

3. There was also this key initiative (pg 36): “Provide feedback on resource consents and planning processes to ensure heritage sites and Special Character Areas are protected” and the following advocacy (pg 37): “Advocate to the Governing Body to allocate adequate funds to restore and preserve its heritage buildings, including incorporating seismic strengthening where necessary, to ensure their ongoing usage; Advocate to the Governing Body to allocate adequate funds to continue identification and formal protection of heritage and character elements of the Waitematā environment; and Advocate to the Governing Body to retain the council’s Heritage Acquisition Fund to assist with the protection and adaptive re-use of significant heritage buildings in the local board area.”

4. We submit that some of this advocacy in points 2 and 3 above be included again.

5. We also supported the following initiatives (pg 44): “Support the preservation of significant heritage buildings such as Carlile House, the former Fitzroy Hotel and St James Theatre.” We are pleased to see that the St James Theatre is currently being restored and we wish the Local Board to support initiatives that make the facility viable. Carlile House and the Fitzroy Hotel are languishing and we submit that the Local Board include some advocacy position that would enable efforts to retain these buildings.

6. As last year, CTA submits that an important addition to the draft plan is the recognition that significant parts of the landscape need protecting, particularly the Waitematā Harbour and volcanic cones, and notwithstanding governmental aversion to amenity, the views of that harbour from certain identified vantage points and the view of and between the volcanic cones that it would we are all assured qualify as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

7. Under Community, as regards the key initiative on page 15: *“Review our portfolio of buildings and consider reducing our asset footprint to have fewer but better assets that are fit for purpose and well used,”* as part of any proposed community facility rationalisation, CTA opposes the sale of Grey Lynn Public Library, and consider that building (pictured below left) which faces the busy arterial route of Great North Road, usefully provides the basis of expansion on the site (pictured below right), which runs down to Arch Hill Reserve.





8. We support all the key initiatives under Natural Environment on pages 18-19 and the advocacy on page 20.

9. Under Built Environment, we particularly appreciate the opportunity expressed as *"We value our special character and historic heritage areas and want to enable appropriate development that does not compromise the values that make them special to our community*" (pg 22).

10. We support the long list of key initiatives on pages 22-24. Having strongly supported the key initiative in the 2023 plan to: *"Deliver seismic strengthening, restoration and modernisation of Leys Institute Library and Gymnasium to preserve as a heritage taonga for future generations"* and having submitted for this through a number of Council processes, CTA is pleased to see the key initiative in the 2026 draft plan: *"Complete the refurbishment of the Leys Institute and Gymnasium into a valuable library and community facility and celebrate its reopening alongside the Friends of Leys Institute and the wider community"* (pg 23).

11. We support the advocacy on page 24-25: *"Enabling appropriate development, such as infill housing behind a character property and raising the height of houses, in special character and historic heritage areas without compromising the features that make them valued by the community."* We note the risk of over-intensification and so our support is very much subject to avoidance of negative effects that may compromise the underlying heritage values.

12. We support the idea to *"Reduce barriers to outdoor dining, street trading and activations making it easier for bars, cafes and community groups to use footpaths and street space to create vibrant people friendly streets."*

13. We particularly support the priority of *"Review streets where slower speeds are appropriate and explore opportunities for low-traffic neighbourhoods and greater safety around schools."*

14. CTA has the view that this initiative is essential for pedestrian safety: *"Provide clear direction on the management of micromobility that balances safety, accessibility for different groups, particularly in high-density and pedestrian areas."* Having people on skateboards, bicycles and e-scooters ride down the footpaths on Queen Street is plainly dangerous for pedestrians. It

seems that no one is taking any responsibility for this, despite the increasing number of accidents and near accidents with e-scooters, the latter making walking in the city centre in particular an experience fraught with anxiety. Furthermore, adults don't seem to know or care that riding a bicycle on the footpath is illegal, and while bylaws state that skateboarders must not ride in a way that could be dangerous, intimidating, or a nuisance, simply riding a skateboard on the footpath on Queen St is dangerous and intimidating.

15. We also note, as mentioned in the Challenges section for Transport, "aging and uneven footpaths," with many trip hazards, but it is also to be seen with new paving (e.g., on Victoria Street East), where slippery materials were used and currently signs are up to warn pedestrians about slipping, as some people have already slipped and fallen. Pedestrians were also put in danger with the slippery-when-wet tiles that were installed some years ago on Karangahape Road. Such design mistakes should not be repeated.

16. From our Annual Plan submission:

3(d) CTA does not support the currently proposed further expenditure on High Street in the city centre. As we said during our 23 March presentation, this expenditure is unnecessary, and, notwithstanding the supportive consultation results produced, the changes are, in fact, unwanted by many of the High Street businesses, which have had to bear several disruptions over the last couple of decades.

3(e) Council does not have endless money and there is no demonstrable return for the level of investment envisaged for High Street. If a redesign does go ahead, however, it should be simplified. The existing road already provides good natural drainage, and so, rather than digging up the whole street, something like the CCMP vision (below left), perhaps just substitute different new kerbstones, like the ones Council has used successfully up in Karangahape Road (below right).





3(f) Emily Place has $10.5 million in line to be spent; however, there are other projects around the city that we consider are more worthwhile, for example, fixing the Ernest Davis steps, and other projects that would enhance the neighbourhood.



(In conjunction with fixing the Ernest David steps, it would be a worthwhile project at the same time to consider creating a pocket park at the bottom of the steps adjacent to the scheduled Station Hotel. This would involve Auckland Transport.)

3(g) CTA strongly supports Jan Gehl's 2010 proposal to make Hobson and Nelson Streets two-way: (see pp 104-107). This would transform these streets from high-speed, one-way "motorway-focused" roads, which would slow traffic and improve local connectivity. Consideration might also usefully be given to retention of the level and southern-most span of the soon to be demolished Hobson Street on-ramp. It's an existing and potentially useful piece of urban infrastructure.

Whau

1. Under Community (pg 14), we support *"Develop a Whau Local Parks Management Plan to guide the use, enjoyment, maintenance, protection and preservation of the 146 parks and reserves in the local board area."*

2. Under *"Community and environment are prepared for climate change and lower emissions"* (pg 14) we support the following key initiatives: *"Support community groups to help people of all backgrounds and abilities to get emergency ready for local hazards including severe weather events;" "Increase programmes and education around climate change risks and ways to take*

action, including in schools and for our diverse communities;" "Plant more trees to increase our tree canopy cover in our town centres, parks, and road reserves;" and "Support implementation of the Shoreline Adaptation Plans (Manukau Harbour North SAP and Waitemata Harbour West SAP) to manage coastal erosion and coastal flooding risks affecting council land and assets."

3. CTA supports all the key initiatives under Natural Environment (pg 17) and the advocacy on page 18.

4. We support the key initiative (pg 20) *"Plant trees in town centres and along road reserves to create green corridors that connect small and large open spaces,"* using the principle of the right tree in the right place.

5. We support *"Install physical markers to celebrate the historical Māori portage route between Waitematā and Manukau Harbours via the Whau River"* (pg 20), noting that for the Auckland Heritage Festival in October 2017, CTA held two events, in collaboration with Walk Auckland, where participants walked the portage routes in Otahuhu and New Lynn.

6. We strongly support *"Investment in greenspace, including funding to secure Avondale Racecourse to provide open space and recreation areas for the community."*

7. We note the document titled 'Avondale - Town Centre Regeneration High Level Project Plan, produced by Eke Panuku in November 2017. (AVONDALE) It notes *The Avondale Racecourse is adjacent to the town centre. It provides an attractive outlook and contributes to the character of the area through its racing activities and the popular Sunday markets. The racecourse also represents a potential future opportunity to significantly contribute to housing supply in Auckland.*





8. More recently, a submission by NZTR to Auckland Council's proposed Plan Change 120 to encourage intensive housing development rezoning for buildings up to 34.5m high. CTA considers the scale of development proposed is evident in the height limits anticipated under PC120 seems excessive. CTA supports the Whau Local Board's proposed 'Investment in greenspace, including funding to secure Avondale Racecourse to provide open space and recreation areas for the community.' Some of the community's wishes for retention of open space are outlined on this link below:

9. Under Economic Development, we endorse *"Support local businesses to reduce emissions and waste and lessen their impact on local waterways."*

10. We support all of the Transport priorities on pages 24-25, particularly noting *"Encourage more public transport use and multi -modal travel through … provide bike infrastructure on trains and buses."* We note that 15 buses on the NX1 route now have space for bicycles, and that buses that travel to and from Whau could be similarly outfitted.

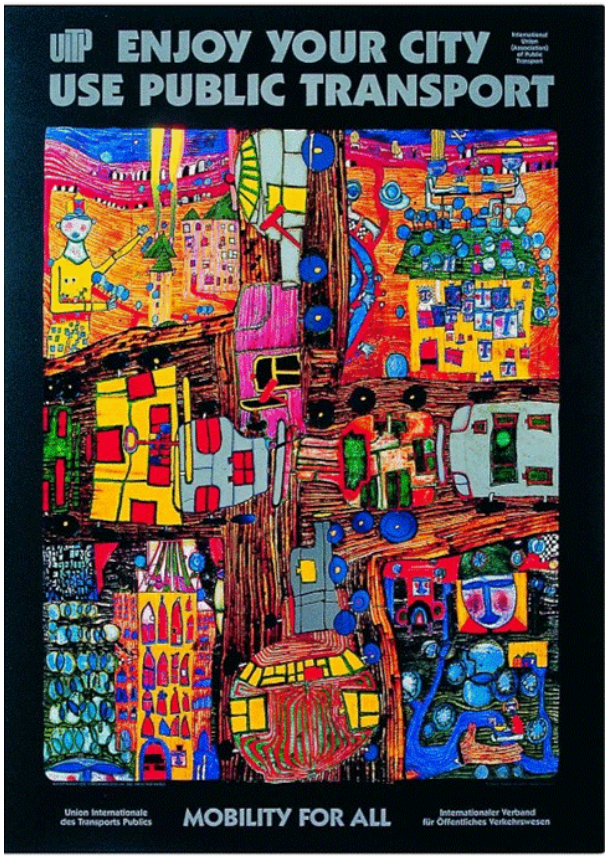
11. From our Annual Plan submission:

CTA supports the following activities/projects proposed by this local board:

- **Improve water quality and flood resilience of Whau streams and rivers through collaboration with volunteers, local schools, community hubs, organisations, and neighbouring local boards**
- **Develop a Local Parks Management Plan to guide decisions on managing use, development, and protection of all 146 parks, reserves and open space within the Whau**
- **Plan and design a local park in conjunction with the stormwater pond construction at the old Crown Lynn Pottery site**
- **Improve coordination for community resilience and emergency preparedness across Whau hubs, houses, and other community spaces**
- **Progress Whau heritage initiatives including to renew and provide interpretation for existing Pou and to install physical markers along the historic portage route that links the Waitematā and Manukau harbours.**
- **Aim to improve the water quality and flood resilience of our waterways and fund a coordinator to support emergency preparedness.**
- **Advocate for the acquisition of a significant proportion of Avondale Racecourse to remain open space.**
- **Construction of Te Hono library and community centre, design of a pool and recreation centre in the Whau area and a park at Crown Lynn Place.**
- **Aim to deliver initiatives that recognise the rich heritage in our area.**

We conclude by sharing these two inspiring posters by Hundertwasser that promote public transport:





Date of submission: 23 July, 2026

Have Your Say on the Draft Rodney Local Board Plan 2026

#423

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: Coatesville Resident and Rate Payer Association (CRRA)

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

1. How well do these focus areas reflect what matters most to your community?

Community - Rodney has connected, resilient communities supported by parks, facilities, and spaces for all ages and abilities, that reflect local identity and help people to thrive.	**3**
Natural Environment - Rodney's natural environment is healthy, resilient and restored, providing clean waterways, thriving ecosystems and high-quality natural spaces that protect our future and improve everyday wellbeing.	3
Built Environment - Rodney grows well with resilient, high-quality public spaces and infrastructure that reflect local character and support healthy, well-designed communities.	3
Economic Development - Rodney has a strong, diverse local economy where businesses and town centres thrive and people can access local jobs, skills, and sustainable tourism opportunities.	3
Transport - Rodney has a safer, more reliable, and better-connected transport network that supports rural communities, town centres and access to key destinations.	3

2. Is there anything you think is missing from these focus areas?

please review the attached document for further feedback

3. Which improvements would you most like to see in Rodney? (Select up to 3 options)

Better community facilities,More environmental restoration,Improved parks and public spaces

4. **Overall, how well does the draft Rodney Local Board Plan, as a whole, reflect the priorities of your community?**

   Quite well

5. **Do you have any other feedback you would like to share about the draft local board plan?**

   please review the attached document for further feedback

Local Board Plan Submission

We support the focus areas identified in the plan, especially Community and the Natural environment.
We appreciate the support from Council to enable us to run the highly valued and well attended Anzac service each year. This brings together our community across all age groups and supports community connection in our lifestyle community.
The Coatesville hall and recreation reserve is an important and valued part of our village life. A public toilet separate to the hall would be useful to support activation of the reserve for events and provide a necessary facility for the increasing number of visitors and residents attending the Coatesville Reserve.
The Coatesville hall is also in great need of refurbishment especially the kitchen which is used for many events but is now becoming increasing unreliable due to the old age of the equipment and the lack of modern amenities.
In the same area of the Coatesville reserve, the local residents and especially families would benefit from further sport equipments to be installed, the current fitness outdoor equipment is not sufficiently looked after and more regular maintenance should be provided.
We support the continued development, accessibility, and environmental care of Green Road Park on behalf of our local community and for those who travel from further afield to enjoy all it has to offer, especially for the equestrian community who can no longer safely ride on local roads.
Green Road park is the open space heart of the Dairy Flat subdivision and is a destination for horse riding, walking, running and volunteering, and we support ongoing investment in making the master plans for the park come to life to maximise the amenity that can be enjoyed by the increasing number of visitors. Improvements could be made to wayfinding signage, more carparking including dedicated parking for horse floats and trucks and picnic tables or seating and nature play facilities around the park. The toilet is essential and hopefully not far away.
To maintain the safety of pathways, please consider allocating more budget for more frequent gravel top-ups during the winter months. We also ask that the main paths include accessible routes for all users, including wheelchair users, mobility scooter users, and pram users, so everyone can enjoy the park.
We support the Friends of Green road volunteers who are seeking to create an avenue of trees planted alongside the main pathways, similar to Cornwall Park.
Community Activation: Funding for Park Events (Parks, Sport, and Recreation)
To bring the community together and fully utilise this fantastic asset, please consider dedicated council funding of events such as orienteering and fun runs through the park. Supporting these active recreation events will encourage healthy, active lifestyles and showcase Green Road Park's beautiful natural environment to the wider community.
Local Footpaths and Greenways Plan (Transport and Connectivity)
We welcome the board's focus on improving local transport choices. We request that funding be allocated to safe walking, cycling, and horse-riding connections to Green Road Park, **as identified in the Rodney West Greenways Plan (2019).** We believe there

is an opportunity to utilise the Sunnyside Road storm recovery properties to form a greenway from Coatesville village to the Sunnyside road entrance to Green road park.
We believe their needs to be more budget allocated to removing privet and other pest plants along main road corridors.
To support the on going management of flooding in the Sunnyside Road area and particularly alongside the Rangitopuni stream, we will be seeking further support from the Council to undertake more regular checks and maintenance including regular clearance of the river which will further mitigate the risk of flooding for local residents.
Speed Limits – there are inconsistent speed limits around Coatesville and consider that a review is needed for Wake Road, Ridge Road, Glenmore Road, Mills Flat road to reduce them in line with the speed limit for Coatesville Riverhead highway.

We see a need for proactive consideration of new sport and recreation facilities to cater for the rapidly increasing population, acknowledging how important our open space network of parks and sports facilities is for connecting communities, especially those in green field development areas who have to drive for access to all facilities and activities.

There is a lack of wheeled play opportunities for our children in the Dairy Flat subdivision and would like to request that our area have a turn with the pop up track that is currently in Snells Beach. There are opportunities for this across the wider Dairy Flat area in Milldale, Green Road park and Dairy flat reserve behind the hall to test the demand for a permanent facility.

Have Your Say on the Draft Rodney Local Board Plan 2026

#435

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: Communities Against Alcohol Harm

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback:

1. How well do these focus areas reflect what matters most to your community?

Community - Rodney has connected, resilient communities supported by parks, facilities, and spaces for all ages and abilities, that reflect local identity and help people to thrive.	
Natural Environment - Rodney's natural environment is healthy, resilient and restored, providing clean waterways, thriving ecosystems and high-quality natural spaces that protect our future and improve everyday wellbeing.	
Built Environment - Rodney grows well with resilient, high-quality public spaces and infrastructure that reflect local character and support healthy, well-designed communities.	
Economic Development - Rodney has a strong, diverse local economy where businesses and town centres thrive and people can access local jobs, skills, and sustainable tourism opportunities.	
Transport - Rodney has a safer, more reliable, and better-connected transport network that supports rural communities, town centres and access to key destinations.	

2. Is there anything you think is missing from these focus areas?

Community

Concerned the draft plan does not address safety and community well-being.

- The proliferation of off-licences, particularly in Warkworth, Wellsford, and Snells Beach can significantly impact community well-being and safety.

- Concern about early youth drinking, systemic failures in preventing sales to minors, and inexperienced young drivers in alcohol affected crashes resulting in death or injury.

- Recommend setting a goal around community safety, for example: Communities are safe, connected, resilient and supported to thrive. A community safety goal could be supported by a key initiative, for example: Support community safety approaches including youth development, road safety, and alcohol and other drug harm reduction programmes.

- Recommend including advocacy: Advocate for legislative and policy change to help reduce social harm from alcohol, tobacco and vaping.

3. Which improvements would you most like to see in Rodney? (Select up to 3 options)

4. Overall, how well does the draft Rodney Local Board Plan, as a whole, reflect the priorities of your community?

5. Do you have any other feedback you would like to share about the draft local board plan?

Overall support the vision and priorities set out in the draft plan.

CAAH welcomes opportunities to partner with the local board to continue helping people navigating complex alcohol licensing processes, working to reduce alcohol-related harm and improving safety in

CAAH would like to present their feedback to the local board if this option is available.

23 July 2026

Local Board Plan
Auckland Council
Private Bag 92300
Victoria Street West
Auckland 1142

Rodney Local Board Plan 2026

Introduction

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the draft Rodney Local Board Plan 2026 (the draft plan).

This feedback is provided on behalf of Communities Against Alcohol Harm (CAAH). We are a charity that supports communities in navigating alcohol licensing processes to reduce alcohol-related harm across Aotearoa.

Since 2014 CAAH has provided advice and support to local community organisations, members of the public, local government members and stakeholders relating to applications for alcohol licences within local community areas initially in South Auckland but now throughout Aotearoa.

We are active in the community supporting work to reduce alcohol-related harm. We offer pro bono support to objectors and organisations, including our current work with schools, parents, churches, and youth services organisations in Rodney concerned about alcohol harm. We also support local board members in their alcohol licensing role.

Feedback

Overall we support the vision and priorities set out in the draft plan.

However we are concerned that the draft plan does not address safety and community well-being. We know that residents experience alcohol-related harm such as noise, nuisance and anti-social behaviour. The proliferation of off-licences, particularly in Warkworth, Wellsford, and Snells Beach can significantly impact community well-being and safety. A key concern in the community is the intersection of early youth drinking, systemic failures in preventing sales to minors, and inexperienced young drivers in alcohol-affected crashes resulting in death or injury.

We therefore recommend the local board consider setting a goal around community safety, for example: *Communities are safe, connected, resilient and supported to thrive.* A community safety goal could be supported by a key initiative, for example: *Support community safety approaches including youth development, road safety, and alcohol and other drug harm reduction programmes.*

We also recommend the local board include an advocacy position: *Advocate for legislative and policy change to help reduce social harm from alcohol, tobacco and vaping.*

CAAH welcomes opportunities to partner with the local board to continue helping people navigating complex alcohol licensing processes, working to reduce alcohol-related harm and improving safety in Rodney.

We would like to present our feedback to the local board if this option is available.

Ngā mihi,



Have Your Say on the Draft Rodney Local Board Plan 2026

#468

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: Community Groups Feeding the Homeless Inc.

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback:

1. How well do these focus areas reflect what matters most to your community?

Community - Rodney has connected, resilient communities supported by parks, facilities, and spaces for all ages and abilities, that reflect local identity and help people to thrive.	
Natural Environment - Rodney's natural environment is healthy, resilient and restored, providing clean waterways, thriving ecosystems and high-quality natural spaces that protect our future and improve everyday wellbeing.	
Built Environment - Rodney grows well with resilient, high-quality public spaces and infrastructure that reflect local character and support healthy, well-designed communities.	
Economic Development - Rodney has a strong, diverse local economy where businesses and town centres thrive and people can access local jobs, skills, and sustainable tourism opportunities.	
Transport - Rodney has a safer, more reliable, and better-connected transport network that supports rural communities, town centres and access to key destinations.	

2. Is there anything you think is missing from these focus areas?

3. Which improvements would you most like to see in Rodney?
(Select up to 3 options)

4. **Overall, how well does the draft Rodney Local Board Plan, as a whole, reflect the priorities of your community?**

5. **Do you have any other feedback you would like to share about the draft local board plan?**

   See attached file

Submission of Community Groups Feeding the Homeless

Draft Local Board Plans - all

[redacted]
Organisation: Community Groups Feeding the Homeless Inc.
Date of submission: 23 July 2026

The focus of Community Groups Feeding the Homeless (CGFH), in existence for 8 years, is on feeding homeless people and supporting them in other ways. We act as an umbrella group that supports a number of groups, including Sunday Blessings (Waitematā) and Waka of Caring (Manurewa). We maintain a list of free community meals in the city centre.

We greatly appreciate the support that local boards in general give to people experiencing homelessness and at risk of experiencing homelessness, including the funding provided by the Manurewa Local Board to support the Waka of Caring drop-in centre, and by the Waitematā Local Board for Sunday Blessings, WeCare and CGFH itself.

We repeat our advocacy as per the 2023 Local Board Plans for pātaka kai (https://www.patakai.co.nz/) and community fridges to be established and supported in all Local Board areas.

In our 2023 feedback, we suggested that once the food scraps bins were in place, that the community be encouraged to place any edible food that they don't need in a pātaka kai or community fridge rather than in their food scraps bin.

We would also like to remind Local Boards that all the Sikh gurdwaras throughout Auckland are open 24/7, with food available for anyone in need.

We see the Local Board newsletters as a useful way to inform local communities about such things as pātaka kai and encourage the public and food outlets to donate their excess food to them, and to donate unneeded clothing or household goods to op shops or centres like the Waka of Caring drop-in centre.

CGFH would like to express our appreciation to the libraries and community centres that provide a safe and welcoming place for homeless people and support them in a number of ways.

We include extracts from our 2 July written submission and our 17 July oral submission to government on the Summary Offences (Move-on Orders) Amendment Bill that we consider are relevant to Local Boards:

"Housing First needs more funding and visibility. It has a dedicated website and is mentioned on the websites of members of its collective, but in our experience, the programme is not well known in New Zealand. More landlords need to know that they can place their houses into the Housing First pool and the tenancy and property will be managed, with the rental payments guaranteed … We think the government and councils could help to publicise the programme more, such as in local board newsletters, on billboards and on buses.

"Members of CGFH have advocated since 2016 for the re-establishment in Auckland of a night shelter (ideally, a number of small to medium-sized night shelters), which most other cities in New Zealand have, and which existed in our city until 2012. For

people experiencing homelessness, a night shelter would provide a place to sleep and potentially somewhere to store their belongings.

“In addition to night shelters, we have advocated for (more) funding from both central and local government to provide activities for homeless people during the day, such as the programmes carried out at the Auckland City Mission, so that these people can be occupied, feel valued, gain confidence, contribute, and learn a skill. We acknowledge Heart of the City’s successful Street Guardians[1] initiative, which we understand is still operating, as “a positive approach to addressing begging in the city centre. It gives people who would otherwise be begging the opportunity to spend a day undertaking activities with community organisations, such as restoring wetlands to planting trees and cleaning beaches.

“We have also advocated to Auckland Council that lockers for homeless people (and others, such as travellers) be provided, in Auckland, perhaps at the central railway stations. This should mean that fewer items are left on the street and thus would facilitate people to become more actively involved in the community, to travel on public transport, and to seek work. It should also mean that people are more able to retain their important documents, essentials medications and personal belongings … The new railway stations could be good places for lockers.

“We also think lockers for homeless people to store their gear would go some way to solving the problem of people leaving bedding and other items on the street. The new railway stations could be good places for lockers.”

Having read the Local Board draft plans, we would like to share the Waiheke Local Board’s advocacy (pg 22) with regard to underused Council buildings, that “Any available council property being considered for health facilities or affordable housing.” We would extend this to suggest that unused or underused Council buildings could be considered as night shelters for people experiencing homelessness.

We endorse the support and/or recognition of these local boards for those experiencing homelessness or at risk of becoming homeless, and/or advocating for kai sovereignty, as expressed in their draft plans, as follows.

Albert- Eden

Work with organisations, such as Auckland City Mission, Lifewise or Salvation Army, to provide support to people experiencing homelessness, including accommodation facilities, wrap-around services and kai (food) (pg 15).

More resources to address the growing need for mental health and emergency housing services in local areas (pg 16).

Aotea- Great Barrier

Support investigations and initiatives into local housing solutions for kaumātua, pensioners, papakāinga (settlement) and worker accommodation.

Devonport-Takapuna

Increased funding and resourcing for the council’s regional homelessness initiatives.

Howick

Develop a holistic approach to community resilience by integrating social wellbeing, economic resilience, disaster readiness, and sustainable food-growing initiatives.

Kaipātiki

Work with community organisations to support improved outcomes for our homeless.

Support community-led low carbon food initiatives that also promote kai (food) sovereignty (people and communities having control over their own food systems).

Māngere-Ōtāhuhu

Support community gardens, māra kai and other initiatives to improve food security at a local level.

A regional approach to solutions that address homelessness , rough sleeping and poor housing standards for the most vulnerable in our communities.

More resources to help build the resilience of our most vulnerable communities and better prepare them for emergencies and disasters.

Manurewa

Support initiatives that improve the health and wellbeing of our people in partnership with community organisations, including initiatives addressing homelessness.

Work with community partners who are working to reduce harm related to smoking, vaping, gambling, alcohol, drug use, solvent and inhalant abuse, and unhealthy diets.

Continue to fund a community broker role to deliver the Ngā Hapori Momoho Thriving Communities Strategy, connect the community with council departments and elected members and use external funding services.

Continue to support Auckland Teaching Gardens and fund other community food initiatives such as local food markets and community gardens.

Continue to fund locally led food sovereignty and initiate ways to strengthen community-led food systems in Manurewa.

Maungakiekie-Tāmaki

Investigate opportunities for community -led initiatives such as projects that help residents to grow their own food.

Otara-Papatoetoe

We need to work with government agencies, community groups, and social services to address the underlying causes of homelessness. Together we can make sure our policies and programmes focus on long-term community resilience and compassion for our communities of greatest need, including people experiencing homelessness.

Work with experts and community leaders on how to best help people experiencing homelessness.

Advocate for a meaningful, collaborative approach between Auckland Council and central government to address the underlying causes of homelessness, noting that policies like ‘move-on orders’ do not solve the problem.

Support māra kai and community garden initiatives – including through the Ōtara Kai Village, to continue to provide our communities with education and healthy options.

Papakura

Support placemaking, community-led activations, māra kai and food security initiatives that build resilience and local identity.

Upper Harbour

Advocate for shared agency solutions for issues such as community safety, homelessness and protecting our natural corridors that keep our public spaces safe and easy to access for the whole community.

Waiheke

Partner with health organisations to ensure mental health and disability support for tangata whaiora (a person seeking wellness) is accessible for all members of our community.

Any available council property being considered for health facilities or affordable housing.

Advocate for and use national policy changes (like National Environmental Standards for Detached Minor Residential Units) to lower the permitted standards for minor dwellings, making sure these are prioritised for long-term residential housing.

Support the vision of the Waiheke Food Charter, to work toward a sustainable local food system.

Waitākere Ranges

Investigate opportunities to promote kai sovereignty.

Waitematā

Waitematā … works with communities and partners to support people experiencing homelessness.

As a local board, we recognise and respond to complex challenges such as homelessness, public safety perceptions, ageing infrastructure and pressure on limited open space.

Homelessness continues to be a complex and visible issue in parts of Waitematā and requires coordinated responses beyond the local board’s direct control.

Support local and regional initiatives and organisations that address homelessness, particularly youth homelessness.

Support and strengthen our network of community gardens and food resilience initiatives that enable communities to grow, share, and access healthy, culturally appropriate kai, while building local capability and connected, sustainable neighbourhoods.

The delivery of affordable, public, and community housing in the city centre and inner suburbs that helps addresses homelessness, supports quality urban living, enables people to live close to jobs and services, and sustains long-term community wellbeing.

Improved access for people experiencing mental health, addiction, and social challenges through coordinated, place-based service delivery that enhances safety, inclusion, and wellbeing in the city centre.

Whau

Develop a low carbon, resilient, local food system that provides Whau residents access to fresh and healthy food.

Support our vulnerable people and rough sleepers through cross -agency partnerships and community programmes.

Increased Housing First placements in Auckland, with priority for high-need areas such as the Whau.

Have Your Say on the Draft Rodney Local Board Plan 2026

#352

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: Friends of Awa Matakanakana Catchment Inc

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

1. How well do these focus areas reflect what matters most to your community?

Community - Rodney has connected, resilient communities supported by parks, facilities, and spaces for all ages and abilities, that reflect local identity and help people to thrive.	**4**
Natural Environment - Rodney's natural environment is healthy, resilient and restored, providing clean waterways, thriving ecosystems and high-quality natural spaces that protect our future and improve everyday wellbeing.	4
Built Environment - Rodney grows well with resilient, high-quality public spaces and infrastructure that reflect local character and support healthy, well-designed communities.	3
Economic Development - Rodney has a strong, diverse local economy where businesses and town centres thrive and people can access local jobs, skills, and sustainable tourism opportunities.	3
Transport - Rodney has a safer, more reliable, and better-connected transport network that supports rural communities, town centres and access to key destinations.	3

2. Is there anything you think is missing from these focus areas?

3. Which improvements would you most like to see in Rodney?
(Select up to 3 options)

More environmental restoration,Improved parks and public spaces,Better walking/cycling connections

4. **Overall, how well does the draft Rodney Local Board Plan, as a whole, reflect the priorities of your community?**

   Very well

5. **Do you have any other feedback you would like to share about the draft local board plan?**

   Yes, see upload

FOAM Feedback on Rodney Local Board Plan 2026

Friends of Awa Matakanakana Catchment Inc (FOAM) note the strong and comprehensive environmental focus within the Board plan which we congratulate you on and strongly support. This is a good guide for the Board as it navigates the actual possibilities and needs for funding.
We make the following comments on the principles you have elaborated: -

- *Improving the Health and resilience of waterways, wetlands and catchments* needs to include other catchments beyond the Mahurangi, and the Kaipara such as the Awa Matakanakana and Puhoi.
- *Prioritising high risk areas for sediment runoff* should include the Awa Matakanakana catchment where FOAM's work has demonstrated very high sediment run-off particularly from erosion high in the catchment and our recent catchment planning has indicated that around 45% of the soils are erodible.
- *Partnering with Mana Whenua* is important at a Board level and also needs promotion at a community group level. Groups such as FOAM want to work in harmony with Mana Whenua, learning from kaitiakitanga-led restoration and participating in Iwi led environmental action.
- *Freshwater* availability from rivers and groundwater water-tables, and resilience of freshwater sources in the face of droughts and increased fire risk.
- *Enable and connect local freshwater groups.* We see the need to support collaboration amongst environmental groups with the recognition that the groups themselves are often in the best position to determine how collaboration would work most effectively for their area.
- *Empowerment of catchment planning* is a welcome principle, to which we would add provision for resourcing for the implementation of agreed catchment plans is also needed.
- *Growing the visitor economy…* Rodney is an historic area, with early development taking place around the coastline. At present signage for important historic features is poor and most visitors would have no idea of the importance of where they are standing and what took place in the past. This expands on the principle of *Strengthening Place Identity.* A renewed emphasis on this would enhance the visitor experience and the respect they give to our historic and natural environment and potentially attract more tourism to the area.
- *Increased population and growth-related construction* places increased pressure on the environment. Ensuring compliance to prevent increased waterway contamination and sedimentation must occur. New projects should be required to work within environmental constraints rather than destroy our native bush as was done so often in the past. In this regard retaining development offset within the same catchment is considered essential.

[redacted]

Have Your Say on the Draft Rodney Local Board Plan 2026

#364

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: Gardens4Health

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback:

1. How well do these focus areas reflect what matters most to your community?

Community - Rodney has connected, resilient communities supported by parks, facilities, and spaces for all ages and abilities, that reflect local identity and help people to thrive.	**2**
Natural Environment - Rodney's natural environment is healthy, resilient and restored, providing clean waterways, thriving ecosystems and high-quality natural spaces that protect our future and improve everyday wellbeing.	4
Built Environment - Rodney grows well with resilient, high-quality public spaces and infrastructure that reflect local character and support healthy, well-designed communities.	3
Economic Development - Rodney has a strong, diverse local economy where businesses and town centres thrive and people can access local jobs, skills, and sustainable tourism opportunities.	4
Transport - Rodney has a safer, more reliable, and better-connected transport network that supports rural communities, town centres and access to key destinations.	4

2. Is there anything you think is missing from these focus areas?

3. Which improvements would you most like to see in Rodney?
(Select up to 3 options)

More local activities and events,More environmental restoration,Improved parks and public spaces

4. **Overall, how well does the draft Rodney Local Board Plan, as a whole, reflect the priorities of your community?**

   Quite well

5. **Do you have any other feedback you would like to share about the draft local board plan?**

Submission on 3 year local board plan for Rodney.

Tēna koe,

I am writing on behalf of Gardens4Health: a network that is connected to over 130 community food gardens across the Auckland isthmus. Our team works every day with communities dedicated to improving access to fresh, healthy kai in their neighborhoods, most of whom do so without receiving any payment. We have seen first hand the impact of negligent kai infrastructure in our communities and how this impacts everyone. We want our leaders to have a robust plan for food resilience that is grounded in the existing work of communities, and our Council to be active in addressing the rapid increase of food inequity that is impacting everyone. This work cannot be done by volunteers alone.

A strong local food system is about much more than food. It supports healthier people, strengthens community connections, builds resilience to economic and climate challenges, encourages local enterprise, and contributes to thriving neighbourhoods. Investing in local food initiatives can help deliver many of the outcomes the Local Board is already seeking to achieve, including improved health and wellbeing, stronger communities, environmental sustainability and greater local resilience.

Across Rodney, community organisations, schools, mana whenua, growers, volunteers and local businesses are already making an important contribution to improving access to healthy food. However, increasing pressures on household budgets, climate uncertainty, population growth and rising demand for food support demonstrate the need for stronger local coordination and continued investment.

I believe the Rodney Local Board has an important opportunity to strengthen its existing commitments by recognising food as a strategic priority and working alongside communities to build a healthier, more resilient and more equitable local food system.
The actions below are practical, evidence-informed steps that can be implemented over the next one to three years to improve access to healthy food, strengthen community resilience, and support the long-term wellbeing of everyone who lives, works and learns in Rodney.

How these actions support your existing commitments

These recommendations align closely with the outcomes and aspirations of both the Local Board Plan and the Auckland Plan 2050. Together, they would contribute to healthier communities, stronger neighbourhoods, environmental sustainability, climate resilience, local economic participation and greater social connectedness.
By strengthening the local food system, the Local Board can help create lasting benefits that extend well beyond food itself, improving quality of life while supporting communities to become more resilient, self-reliant and better prepared for future challenges.

Recommended Actions

1. Understand the local food system

➜ Commit to a local food system wānanga involving Local Board members, mana whenua, community organisations and other key stakeholders.

➜ Map existing food-related services, programmes, community assets, growing spaces, food providers and local champions across the Local Board area. Identify existing strengths, gaps and opportunities, and explore how current resources and investment could be better aligned to maximise impact, collaboration and equity.

➜ Develop a shared understanding of the local food system will help inform future investment and strengthen collaboration across the community.

2. Strengthen community partnerships

➜ Actively engage with the organisations, volunteers and community leaders already working to improve local food access and wellbeing.

➜ Visit community gardens, food hubs, māra kai, food rescue organisations, cooking and nutrition programmes, schools and local initiatives. Listen to the experiences of those working on the ground and build ongoing relationships that support genuine collaboration and shared decision-making.

➜ Promote existing initiatives through Local Board communication channels to increase community awareness, participation and support.

3. Invest in local food initiatives

➜ Increase support for proven community-led food initiatives through funding, programming and longer-term partnerships. This could include supporting community gardens and māra kai, strengthening local food hubs, providing dedicated funding for key coordination roles, improving access to small grants, streamlining Council processes, and providing greater certainty through longer-term lease arrangements where appropriate.

➜ Build the capability and sustainability of successful community initiatives, which represents a practical investment in the long-term resilience of the Local Board area.

4. Create healthier food environments

➜ Support initiatives that enable access to nourishing food and drink for everyone. This may include expanding access to drinking water, supporting culturally appropriate food initiatives, encouraging healthier food options at community events and Council facilities, celebrating businesses that provide healthy choices, and supporting community organisations to offer nutritious food through their programmes.

➜ Although Local Boards have limited influence over commercial food marketing, they can play an important leadership role by creating environments that encourage healthier choices and promote community wellbeing.

5. Celebrate and grow local food leadership

➜ Champion the stories, people and initiatives that are already strengthening the local food system.

➜ Share local successes through community events, digital communications and neighbourhood networks. Increase public awareness of local food initiatives and encourage greater participation across the community.

➜ Work alongside community organisations, mana whenua, schools, growers, businesses and residents to develop a shared vision for a resilient local food system that is better prepared for future economic, environmental and social challenges.

I believe the Rodney Local Board has an opportunity to become a leader in creating a healthier, more resilient and more connected community through practical investment in its local food system.

Supporting better access to good, nutritious and affordable food is not simply a response to current challenges. It is an investment in healthier people, stronger communities, greater resilience, local economic development and a more sustainable future.

By working alongside local communities and building on the strengths that already exist, the Local Board can help create lasting benefits for current and future generations while delivering on its vision for a thriving Rodney.

Thank you for your consideration and for your ongoing commitment to the wellbeing of the Rodney community.

[redacted]

Have Your Say on the Draft Rodney Local Board Plan 2026

#107

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: Gold Peacock Nails and Beauty

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

1. How well do these focus areas reflect what matters most to your community?

Community - Rodney has connected, resilient communities supported by parks, facilities, and spaces for all ages and abilities, that reflect local identity and help people to thrive.	**3**
Natural Environment - Rodney's natural environment is healthy, resilient and restored, providing clean waterways, thriving ecosystems and high-quality natural spaces that protect our future and improve everyday wellbeing.	4
Built Environment - Rodney grows well with resilient, high-quality public spaces and infrastructure that reflect local character and support healthy, well-designed communities.	3
Economic Development - Rodney has a strong, diverse local economy where businesses and town centres thrive and people can access local jobs, skills, and sustainable tourism opportunities.	4
Transport - Rodney has a safer, more reliable, and better-connected transport network that supports rural communities, town centres and access to key destinations.	4

2. Is there anything you think is missing from these focus areas?

3. Which improvements would you most like to see in Rodney?
(Select up to 3 options)

More environmental restoration,Support for local businesses,Other, please specify:Passenger Rail extended to Wellsford

4. **Overall, how well does the draft Rodney Local Board Plan, as a whole, reflect the priorities of your community?**

   Not very well

5. **Do you have any other feedback you would like to share about the draft local board plan?**

   The plan does not discuss how Wellsford will adjust to being bypassed by the motorway extension.

   The plan does not adequately address the problems associated with the proposed Dome tip.

Have Your Say on the Draft Rodney Local Board Plan 2026

#359

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: Green Road Park Supporters Incorporated aka Friends of Green Road

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

1. How well do these focus areas reflect what matters most to your community?

Community - Rodney has connected, resilient communities supported by parks, facilities, and spaces for all ages and abilities, that reflect local identity and help people to thrive.	**4**
Natural Environment - Rodney's natural environment is healthy, resilient and restored, providing clean waterways, thriving ecosystems and high-quality natural spaces that protect our future and improve everyday wellbeing.	4
Built Environment - Rodney grows well with resilient, high-quality public spaces and infrastructure that reflect local character and support healthy, well-designed communities.	4
Economic Development - Rodney has a strong, diverse local economy where businesses and town centres thrive and people can access local jobs, skills, and sustainable tourism opportunities.	2
Transport - Rodney has a safer, more reliable, and better-connected transport network that supports rural communities, town centres and access to key destinations.	4

2. Is there anything you think is missing from these focus areas?

3. Which improvements would you most like to see in Rodney?
(Select up to 3 options)

More environmental restoration,Improved parks and public spaces,Better walking/cycling connections

4. **Overall, how well does the draft Rodney Local Board Plan, as a whole, reflect the priorities of your community?**

Quite well

5. **Do you have any other feedback you would like to share about the draft local board plan?**

Friends of Green Road Park – Local Board Plan Submission

Green Road Park serves as the vital heart of the Dairy Flat community, providing a shared open space for equestrians, cyclists, runners, and dog walkers alike. We sincerely appreciate the Rodney Local Board's ongoing investment, particularly the allocation of the transport targeted rate. The new pathway networks and gravel carpark provide a safe environment for the community to use and are greatly appreciated. Our Friends of Green Road volunteer network comprises residents of all ages from across the subdivision, bringing together seasoned locals and first-time volunteers. Through the continued support of the Rodney Local Board, Green Road will be the Cornwall Park of the North Shore, treasured by generations to come, and as Dairy Flat is urbanised, will be an oasis amongst the houses. Please see our submission on the draft Rodney Local Board Plan below.

1. Green Road Park Masterplan & Infrastructure (Parks, Sport, and Recreation)

The Friends of Green Road Park support the local board's vision for great community spaces. We ask the board to please consider allocating funding to progress the Green Road Park Masterplan. With more people visiting the park, we would like to see plans for a larger, safer carpark to better accommodate the growing number of horse riders, families, volunteers, and visitors.

2. Sunnyside Road Entrance & Pathway Maintenance (Transport and Connectivity / Infrastructure)

We request that upgrades to the Sunnyside Road entrance be prioritised in the local board plan. The current temporary bridge becomes unsafe and difficult to use during winter due to flooding and seasonal wear. A permanent, all-weather bridge is needed to ensure reliable, year-round access. This project should include connected gravel pathways to link the entrance to the main park network.

To maintain the safety of pathways, please consider allocating more budget for more frequent gravel top-ups during the winter months. We also ask that the main paths include accessible routes for all users, including wheelchair users, mobility scooter users, and pram users, so everyone can enjoy the park.

3. Park Amenities: Signage, Picnic Areas, and Play Spaces (Parks, Sport, and Recreation)

To make the park more welcoming and user-friendly, please consider allocating funding for essential park amenities. Specifically, we ask for better signage at Green Road Park, making the main entrance on Green Road more inviting and clearly visible to visitors. Please also consider installing picnic tables for families, as well as dedicated zones for nature play and wheeled play, as this will ensure that our local kids have the same opportunities as other kids in Rodney. Additionally, we consider the installation of more mounting blocks along the pathways for our growing number of equestrian users at the park.

4. Three Oaks Drive Access Link (Transport and Connectivity)

We would like the local board to consider establishing park access via Three Oaks Drive in Dairy Flat, as identified on the master plan. Exploring connections between Green Road, Three Oaks Drive, and Sunnyside Road is an excellent opportunity to improve local walking routes, make the park more accessible from different neighbourhoods, and spread out park traffic.

5. Tree Planting & Shaded Pathways (Parks, Sport, and Recreation)

We believe that great parks are about great trees, and we ask the board to consider funding a planting plan for specimen trees. In particular, we would love to see an avenue of trees planted alongside the main pathways, similar to Cornwall Park. Our group is highly committed to this project, and we are currently fundraising for the first avenue of trees to help kickstart and support this initiative.

6. Environmental Care & Ongoing Volunteer Support (Environment and Climate)

Our group remains committed to helping care for the park's natural spaces. To keep this work going, please continue supporting volunteer efforts at Green Road Park. We are also in the process of seeking landowner approval for a community notice board at Green Road Park and ask that the board please consider allocating funding to this project

7. Community Activation: Funding for Park Events (Parks, Sport, and Recreation)

To bring the community together and fully utilise this fantastic asset, please consider dedicated council funding of events such as orienteering and fun runs through the park. Supporting these active recreation events will encourage healthy, active lifestyles and showcase Green Road Park's beautiful natural environment to the wider community.

8. Local Footpaths and Greenways Plan (Transport and Connectivity)

We welcome the board's focus on improving local transport choices. We request that the board please consider allocating funding for safe walking, cycling, and horse-riding connections to Green Road Park, as identified in the Rodney West Greenways Plan (2019).

9. Future Sports and Recreation needs

We see a need for proactive consideration of new sport and recreation facilities to cater for the rapidly increasing population, acknowledging how important our open space network of parks and sports facilities is for connecting communities, especially those in green field development areas who have to drive for access to all facilities and activities.

The Friends of Green Road Park committee sincerely thanks the Rodney Local Board for funding and delivering park projects to date.

The Friends of Green Road Park Committee

Friends of Green Road Park – Local Board Plan Submission

Green Road Park serves as the vital heart of the Dairy Flat community, providing a shared open space for equestrians, cyclists, runners, and dog walkers alike. We sincerely appreciate the Rodney Local Board's ongoing investment, particularly the allocation of the transport targeted rate. The new pathway networks and gravel carpark provide a safe environment for the community to use and are greatly appreciated. Our Friends of Green Road volunteer network comprises residents of all ages from across the subdivision, bringing together seasoned locals and first-time volunteers. Through the continued support of the Rodney Local Board, Green Road will be the Cornwall Park of the North Shore, treasured by generations to come, and as Dairy Flat is urbanised, will be an oasis amongst the houses. Please see our submission on the draft Rodney Local Board Plan below.

1. Green Road Park Masterplan & Infrastructure (Parks, Sport, and Recreation)
The Friends of Green Road Park support the local board's vision for great community spaces. We ask the board to please consider allocating funding to progress the **Green Road Park Masterplan**. With more people visiting the park, we would like to see plans for a **larger, safer carpark** to better accommodate the growing number of horse riders, families, volunteers, and visitors.

2. Sunnyside Road Entrance & Pathway Maintenance (Transport and Connectivity / Infrastructure)
We request that upgrades to the **Sunnyside Road entrance be prioritised** in the local board plan. The current temporary bridge becomes unsafe and difficult to use during winter due to flooding and seasonal wear. A permanent, all-weather bridge is needed to ensure reliable, year-round access. This project should include **connected gravel pathways** to link the entrance to the main park network.
To maintain the safety of pathways, please consider allocating more budget for **more frequent gravel top-ups during the winter months**. We also ask that the main paths include **accessible routes for all users**, including wheelchair users, mobility scooter users, and pram users, so everyone can enjoy the park.

3. Park Amenities: Signage, Picnic Areas, and Play Spaces (Parks, Sport, and Recreation)
To make the park more welcoming and user-friendly, please consider allocating funding for essential park amenities. Specifically, we ask for better signage at Green Road Park, making the main entrance on Green Road more inviting and clearly visible to visitors. Please also consider installing picnic tables for families, as well as dedicated zones for nature play and wheeled play, as this will ensure that our local kids have the same opportunities as other kids in Rodney. Additionally, we consider the installation of more mounting blocks along the pathways for our growing number of equestrian users at the park.

4. Three Oaks Drive Access Link (Transport and Connectivity)
We would like the local board to consider **establishing park access via Three Oaks Drive** in Dairy Flat, **as identified on the master plan**. Exploring connections between Green Road, Three Oaks Drive, and Sunnyside Road is an excellent opportunity to improve local walking routes, make the park more accessible from different neighbourhoods, and spread out park traffic.

5. Tree Planting & Shaded Pathways (Parks, Sport, and Recreation)
We believe that great parks are about great trees, and we ask the board to consider funding

a **planting plan for specimen trees**. In particular, we would love to see an avenue of trees planted alongside the main pathways, similar to Cornwall Park. Our group is highly committed to this project, and we are currently **fundraising for the first avenue of trees** to help kickstart and support this initiative.

6. Environmental Care & Ongoing Volunteer Support (Environment and Climate)

Our group remains committed to helping care for the park's natural spaces. To keep this work going, please **continue supporting volunteer efforts at Green Road Park**. We are also in the process of seeking landowner approval for a community notice board at Green Road Park and ask that the board please consider allocating funding to this project

7. Community Activation: Funding for Park Events (Parks, Sport, and Recreation)

To bring the community together and fully utilise this fantastic asset, please consider dedicated council **funding of events such as orienteering and fun runs through the park**. Supporting these active recreation events will encourage healthy, active lifestyles and showcase Green Road Park's beautiful natural environment to the wider community.

8. Local Footpaths and Greenways Plan (Transport and Connectivity)

We welcome the board's focus on improving local transport choices. We request that the board please consider allocating funding for safe walking, cycling, and horse-riding connections to Green Road Park, **as identified in the Rodney West Greenways Plan (2019).**

9. Future Sports and Recreation needs

We see a need for proactive consideration of new sport and recreation facilities to cater for the rapidly increasing population, acknowledging how important our open space network of parks and sports facilities is for connecting communities, especially those in green field development areas who have to drive for access to all facilities and activities.

The Friends of Green Road Park committee **sincerely thanks the Rodney Local Board for funding and delivering park projects to date**.

The Friends of Green Road Park Committee

Have Your Say on the Draft Rodney Local Board Plan 2026

#441

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: Harbour Sport

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback:

1. How well do these focus areas reflect what matters most to your community?

Community - Rodney has connected, resilient communities supported by parks, facilities, and spaces for all ages and abilities, that reflect local identity and help people to thrive.	
Natural Environment - Rodney's natural environment is healthy, resilient and restored, providing clean waterways, thriving ecosystems and high-quality natural spaces that protect our future and improve everyday wellbeing.	
Built Environment - Rodney grows well with resilient, high-quality public spaces and infrastructure that reflect local character and support healthy, well-designed communities.	
Economic Development - Rodney has a strong, diverse local economy where businesses and town centres thrive and people can access local jobs, skills, and sustainable tourism opportunities.	
Transport - Rodney has a safer, more reliable, and better-connected transport network that supports rural communities, town centres and access to key destinations.	

2. Is there anything you think is missing from these focus areas?

3. Which improvements would you most like to see in Rodney?
(Select up to 3 options)

4. **Overall, how well does the draft Rodney Local Board Plan, as a whole, reflect the priorities of your community?**

5. **Do you have any other feedback you would like to share about the draft local board plan?**

Refer attached submission for recommendations and supporting information

HARBOUR SPORT

Final Submission on the Draft Rodney Local Board Plan 2026

Supporting the plan's direction and strengthening local implementation for sport, play, active recreation and community wellbeing

Submitted by	Harbour Sport Trust
Date	17 July 2026
[redacted]	
Organisation	He Toa Taua – Stronger Together

Overall position

Harbour Sport strongly supports the direction of the Draft Rodney Local Board Plan 2026. The plan has a clear and practical emphasis on parks, play, informal recreation, adaptable community facilities, Māori-led activity, climate resilience, community leadership and safer walking and cycling. Our recommendations focus on ensuring that Rodney's Sport and Recreation Facilities Plan remains explicit, growth is matched by infrastructure, and dispersed rural communities can access sustainable local, mobile and health-supported opportunities.

1. Executive summary

Harbour Sport welcomes the opportunity to respond to the Draft Rodney Local Board Plan 2026. We strongly support its recognition that parks, recreation facilities, local hubs and community-led initiatives are central to participation, identity, resilience and wellbeing across Rodney's towns, villages, coastal communities and rural settlements.

The plan provides one of the clearest local-board frameworks for play and informal recreation. We support the proposed three-year play programme, multi-use and adaptable facilities, park improvements, community champions, Māori-led programmes, climate-resilient public spaces and safer walking and cycling connections.

Harbour Sport supports the regional positions advanced by Aktive, including continued investment in the Sport and Recreation Facilities Investment Fund and Regional Facilities Operating Grant. We also agree that the Rodney Sport and Recreation Facilities Plan should be explicitly referenced in the final Local Board Plan so that its priorities remain visible through annual planning and investment.

Our principal recommendations

- Explicitly reference and implement the Rodney Sport and Recreation Facilities Plan alongside the three-year play programme.
- Apply a rural equity lens so that residents can access local, mobile and hub-based physical activity without unreasonable travel distance or cost.
- Ensure new housing and population growth in Warkworth, Milldale, Kumeū-Huapai and other growth areas are matched by parks, schools, indoor and outdoor recreation facilities and safe connections.
- Strengthen access to indoor, all-weather and school-based facilities through formal shared-use agreements and coordinated booking.
- Recognise physical activity as a preventative-health and social-wellbeing investment, including Green Prescription, Community Strength and Balance, Active Families and Active Teens.
- Support older adults, falls prevention, safe walking, low-impact recreation and social connection across dispersed communities.
- Invest in local volunteers, coaches, community champions and organisational capability so community-led delivery remains sustainable.
- Use sub-area data and measurable annual outcomes to track access, participation, equity, facility capacity and community impact.

Submission framing

Harbour Sport is not seeking to alter the plan's overall direction. We are asking that the final plan and subsequent annual work programmes translate its strong strategic intent into practical, measurable and sustainable local outcomes.

2. About Harbour Sport and our evidence base

Harbour Sport is the Regional Sports Trust serving the North Harbour region. We work across play, active recreation, sport, health and community wellbeing. Our role includes direct programme delivery, community development, sector capability, investment and fund administration, school and club support, facility advocacy, events, insights and partnership brokering.

Our work in and around Rodney includes:

- Tū Manawa investment and support for play, active recreation and sport across Rodney and Kaipara communities;
- the Rodney Active Play Project in Mahurangi East and Wellsford;

- school-based physical activity and engagement, including Kaipara College;
- active recreation initiatives such as local surfing and Pacific youth activity;
- Healthy Active Learning, youth sport, coach and community-provider support;
- Green Prescription, Active Families and Active Teens across the Waitematā health area;
- Community Strength and Balance and falls referral pathways;
- Play, facility and participation advocacy through the North Harbour Sports Council;
- Support for local clubs, volunteers, governance, funding and partnership development.

North Harbour State of Play evidence

Harbour Sport's 2026 North Harbour State of Play report drew on feedback from 48 clubs, 16 regional sports organisations and two community groups, representing 72,721 playing members. It provides a system-level view of the conditions affecting community sport and recreation across the five northern local boards.

Evidence	Implication for the Local Board Plan
Only 52.5% of surveyed organisations reported sufficient capacity to meet current demand.	Growing interest will not translate into participation unless facility, workforce and operating constraints are addressed.
More than 69% reported insufficient future facility capacity.	Long-term planning must respond to current unmet demand, future growth and changes in participation preferences.
Indoor sport remains heavily reliant on school gyms with limited community availability.	School access should be formal, reliable, affordable and counted as capacity only where it is sustainable.
Volunteer burnout, coaching shortages and succession risks are system-wide pressures.	Community-led delivery requires capability and operating support, not only capital assets.
Approximately 19.5% of organisations identified themselves as financially at risk.	Rising costs and pay-to-play responses may reduce equitable community access.
Cost, transport, language, culture and disability continue to affect participation.	Equity must be built into facilities, programmes, communications, partnerships and measurement.

Local evidence and context for Rodney

- Rodney's population increased by approximately 17.4% between 2018 and 2023 and is forecast to remain the fastest-growing of the northern local board areas over the longer term.
- Rodney Active Play delivered 23 free play activations reaching 1,050 people across Mahurangi East and Wellsford. The project was co-designed with tamariki and adapted when environmental and construction constraints prevented the original nature-play trail from proceeding.
- Harbour Sport reporting also identifies school-based physical activity engagement at Kaipara College, with 100 participants across 80 sessions and a reported increase in sport participation, together with a Muriwai surfing programme that supported ocean confidence and safety.
- Rodney's dispersed geography, limited public transport and long travel distances mean that a facility or programme may technically exist but remain practically inaccessible to many residents.
- Rodney and Hibiscus and Bays have older median-age profiles than Upper Harbour and Kaipātiki. This increases the importance of age-friendly recreation, Community Strength and Balance, safe walking and local social activity.

3. Areas of the draft plan strongly supported by Harbour Sport

3.1 Parks, open spaces and wellbeing

Harbour Sport strongly supports the objective of providing parks and open spaces for people of all ages, abilities, interests and cultural backgrounds. Seating, shade, drinking water, accessible paths, lighting and flexible design are participation infrastructure, not secondary amenities.

The recognition of walking, family cycling, horse riding, nature play and informal recreation is particularly appropriate for Rodney's geography and community preferences.

3.2 Three-year play programme and adaptable facilities

The commitment to a three-year play programme guided by the Rodney Gap Analysis, Play Provision Guidelines and Rodney Play Plan is strongly supported. It provides an opportunity to target investment to areas of greatest need and growth rather than relying on uniform provision.

We also support repurposing under-used assets, coordinating bookings, using movable equipment and offering a wider mix of activities across halls, libraries and recreation spaces.

3.3 Community leadership and local hubs

Rodney's community groups, volunteers, marae, schools and local leaders are significant strengths. The proposed community living rooms, champions, mentoring and training align with Harbour Sport's approach of enabling local organisations rather than relying solely on central delivery.

This model is especially important across a geographically large area where trusted local people and multipurpose facilities can reduce distance and access barriers.

3.4 Growth, climate resilience and outdoor recreation

Harbour Sport supports the requirement that growth is accompanied by parks, paths, public spaces and facilities, including new provision in Milldale and Warkworth. Climate-resilient surfaces, shade, flood adaptation and coastal planning will help protect continuity of recreation as extreme weather increases.

We also support safe and appropriate access to natural environments and water-based recreation, provided environmental and cultural values are protected.

3.5 Walking, cycling and regional investment

The focus on closing gaps around schools, town centres and key destinations is strongly supported. Active travel in Rodney must be considered alongside road safety, rural distance and public-transport access.

We support advocacy to retain or increase the regional capital and operating funds for sport and recreation and to ensure growth infrastructure is delivered before or alongside development.

4. Areas of significance to strengthen

4.1 Explicitly reference the Rodney Facilities Plan

The final plan should name the Rodney Sport and Recreation Facilities Plan and commit to implementing its priorities through annual work programmes.

This will connect the plan's strong general commitments to a clear evidence base, project pipeline and investment framework.

4.2 Apply a rural and geographic equity lens

Access in Rodney is shaped by distance, transport availability, programme frequency and the distribution of towns and settlements.

Investment decisions should assess travel time and practical access for Wellsford, Warkworth, Mahurangi, Matakana, Helensville, Kumeū-Huapai, Muriwai, rural communities and coastal settlements rather than relying on district-wide averages.

4.3 Develop hub-and-spoke and mobile delivery

Not every community can support a dedicated recreation centre. Schools, halls, libraries, marae, parks and mobile resources can operate as a connected network.

The success of free activations in Mahurangi East and Wellsford illustrates the value of taking activity to communities and adapting delivery to local circumstances.

4.4 Increase indoor, all-weather and school-based access

Rodney's outdoor strengths do not remove the need for indoor and weather-resilient spaces, particularly for winter sport, youth activity, older adults and community health programmes.

Formal shared-use agreements should secure community access to school gyms, fields and other third-party facilities, including evenings, weekends and school holidays.

4.5 Match growth with participation infrastructure

Housing growth should not proceed without adequate parks, play, indoor and outdoor sport facilities, schools, safe routes and supporting infrastructure.

Facility planning should occur early enough to secure land and funding before costs and access constraints become entrenched.

4.6 Recognise preventative health and healthy ageing

Green Prescription, Community Strength and Balance, Active Families and Active Teens provide supported entry points for residents who may not use organised sport.

Local venues, transport, referral links and culturally relevant delivery are especially important for older adults, people with health conditions and families facing travel or cost barriers.

Requested strengthening

Use community venues and mobile delivery to provide activity close to where people live, while ensuring larger regional facilities remain accessible through transport and coordinated scheduling.

4.7 Support volunteers, coaches and local organisations

Community-led delivery depends on volunteer sustainability, governance, coaching, safeguarding, funding capability and succession planning.

The Local Board's proposed community champions should be supported by practical training, mentoring, connections and operating resources.

4.8 Use effective capacity and resilient design

Facilities should be assessed by availability, affordability, quality, lighting, drainage, all-weather reliability, accessibility and continuity, not by asset count alone.

Climate adaptation should protect recreation continuity and avoid repeated investment in locations or designs that cannot remain safely usable.

4.9 Measure outcomes by sub-area and population

Rodney requires data that shows who is participating, where, at what cost and with what barriers.

Annual reporting should include sub-area reach, repeat engagement, waiting lists, health referrals, volunteer capacity, disability and cultural inclusion and school-to-community transitions.

Whole-of-life physical activity pathway

Local implementation should connect opportunities across all ages and life stages rather than treating formal sport, informal activity and health-supported participation as separate systems.

Play	Active recreation	Social and organised sport	Health-supported activity	Healthy ageing

5. Harbour Sport's recommendations

Harbour Sport recommends that the Rodney Local Board retain the draft plan's positive direction and strengthen its implementation through the following actions.

Priority	Recommended action	Why it matters	Suggested delivery mechanism
1	Reference and implement the Rodney Sport and Recreation Facilities Plan.	The plan requires a visible evidence base and project pipeline.	Name it in the final plan and include priorities in annual work programmes.
2	Apply a rural equity and travel-time lens.	District-wide provision can conceal major access gaps between settlements.	Assess practical access by town, village and rural catchment.
3	Use hub-and-spoke and mobile delivery models.	Dedicated facilities are not viable in every community.	Activate schools, halls, libraries, marae, parks and mobile resources.
4	Increase indoor, all-weather and school access.	Outdoor activity is vulnerable to weather and long travel.	Develop formal shared-use agreements and a coordinated indoor network.
5	Match growth with recreation infrastructure.	Delayed provision creates permanent shortages and higher future costs.	Secure land, funding and delivery alongside housing and schools.
6	Recognise preventative-health and healthy-ageing pathways.	Older adults, families and people with health needs require supported local options.	Enable GRx, CSB, Active Families and Active Teens through venues and partnerships.
7	Invest in volunteers, coaches and community champions.	Rodney relies heavily on local leadership and volunteer delivery.	Provide training, mentoring, governance, funding and succession support.
8	Embed effective capacity and climate resilience.	An asset is not useful if it is inaccessible, unaffordable or repeatedly unavailable.	Use practical access, quality and resilience criteria in investment decisions.
9	Strengthen walking, cycling and access to destinations.	Safe local journeys support participation and reduce transport barriers.	Prioritise links around schools, hubs, parks and public transport.

Priority	Recommended action	Why it matters	Suggested delivery mechanism
10	Measure outcomes by sub-area and priority population.	Rodney's scale and diversity require granular evidence.	Agree a local indicator set and report annually.

6. Harbour Sport's role in implementation

Harbour Sport is willing to support the Local Board and Auckland Council as a strategic and delivery partner. Our contribution can include:

- providing local and regional participation, facility and community insights;
- connecting the Local Board with schools, clubs, regional sports organisations, health providers and community organisations;
- supporting effective-capacity analysis and community access discussions;
- facilitating youth, tamariki, whānau and sector engagement;
- supporting play, active recreation and school-to-community pathways;
- supporting community providers with governance, funding, volunteers, coaching, inclusion and programme development;
- helping establish practical measures and impact reporting;
- contributing to cross-local-board and North Harbour network planning.

This reflects Harbour Sport's He Toa Taua - Stronger Together approach: local outcomes are strongest when community knowledge, public investment, sector expertise and trusted relationships are combined.

7. Conclusion

Harbour Sport strongly supports the Draft Rodney Local Board Plan 2026. Its focus on parks, play, flexible facilities, community leadership, Māori outcomes, climate resilience and active travel is highly aligned with the way physical activity can support Rodney's connected and distinctive communities.

The main opportunity is to make the Rodney Sport and Recreation Facilities Plan explicit and to ensure the plan's implementation responds to rural distance, uneven access, ageing communities, volunteer sustainability and the need for indoor and all-weather provision.

Harbour Sport looks forward to working with the Rodney Local Board, Auckland Council, Aktive, mana whenua, marae, schools, community organisations, health partners and local sport and recreation providers to support sustainable and equitable activity across Rodney.

Final position

Support the direction. Strengthen local implementation. Invest in people as well as places. Measure whether communities are becoming more active, connected and well.

Appendix 1: Suggested wording for inclusion or annual work programme development

Area	Suggested wording
Facilities Plan	Implement the Rodney Sport and Recreation Facilities Plan through a prioritised and funded annual work programme.
Rural access	Use travel time, transport, local venue availability and programme frequency when assessing equitable access across Rodney.
Local delivery	Support hub-and-spoke and mobile physical activity through schools, halls, libraries, marae, parks and community providers.
Preventative health	Enable Green Prescription, Community Strength and Balance, Active Families and Active Teens through accessible local venues and referral partnerships.
Measurement	Report participation, effective facility capacity, repeat engagement, sub-area equity, volunteer capability and participant wellbeing.

Have Your Say on the Draft Rodney Local Board Plan 2026

#130

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: Harikoa Foundation Trust Board

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback:

1. How well do these focus areas reflect what matters most to your community?

Community - Rodney has connected, resilient communities supported by parks, facilities, and spaces for all ages and abilities, that reflect local identity and help people to thrive.	**4**
Natural Environment - Rodney's natural environment is healthy, resilient and restored, providing clean waterways, thriving ecosystems and high-quality natural spaces that protect our future and improve everyday wellbeing.	2
Built Environment - Rodney grows well with resilient, high-quality public spaces and infrastructure that reflect local character and support healthy, well-designed communities.	3
Economic Development - Rodney has a strong, diverse local economy where businesses and town centres thrive and people can access local jobs, skills, and sustainable tourism opportunities.	4
Transport - Rodney has a safer, more reliable, and better-connected transport network that supports rural communities, town centres and access to key destinations.	1

2. Is there anything you think is missing from these focus areas?

No

3. Which improvements would you most like to see in Rodney?
(Select up to 3 options)

Better community facilities,More local activities and events,Support for local businesses

4. **Overall, how well does the draft Rodney Local Board Plan, as a whole, reflect the priorities of your community?**

   Quite well

5. **Do you have any other feedback you would like to share about the draft local board plan?**

   No

HARIKOA

LAURA FERGUSSON TRUST

Live your best life

Working with the Rodney Local Board to deliver Plan 2026

A collaborative initiative



July 2026

Research Partnership

FOUNDATION NORTH
Pūtea Hāpai Oranga
Funding to Enhance Lives

Proprietary Information

Working with the Rodney Board

- **Harikoa Foundation** is a special purpose vehicle to research and implement a long-term, national solution that **offers peace of mind**;

  "What happens with loved ones with disability when parents and families are no longer around?"

- **Laura Fergusson Trust** focuses on **providing housing for people with physical disability**, to ensure a better life;

  It is also a CHP housing provider with a roughly $140 million housing pipeline, focusing on the whole of Auckland

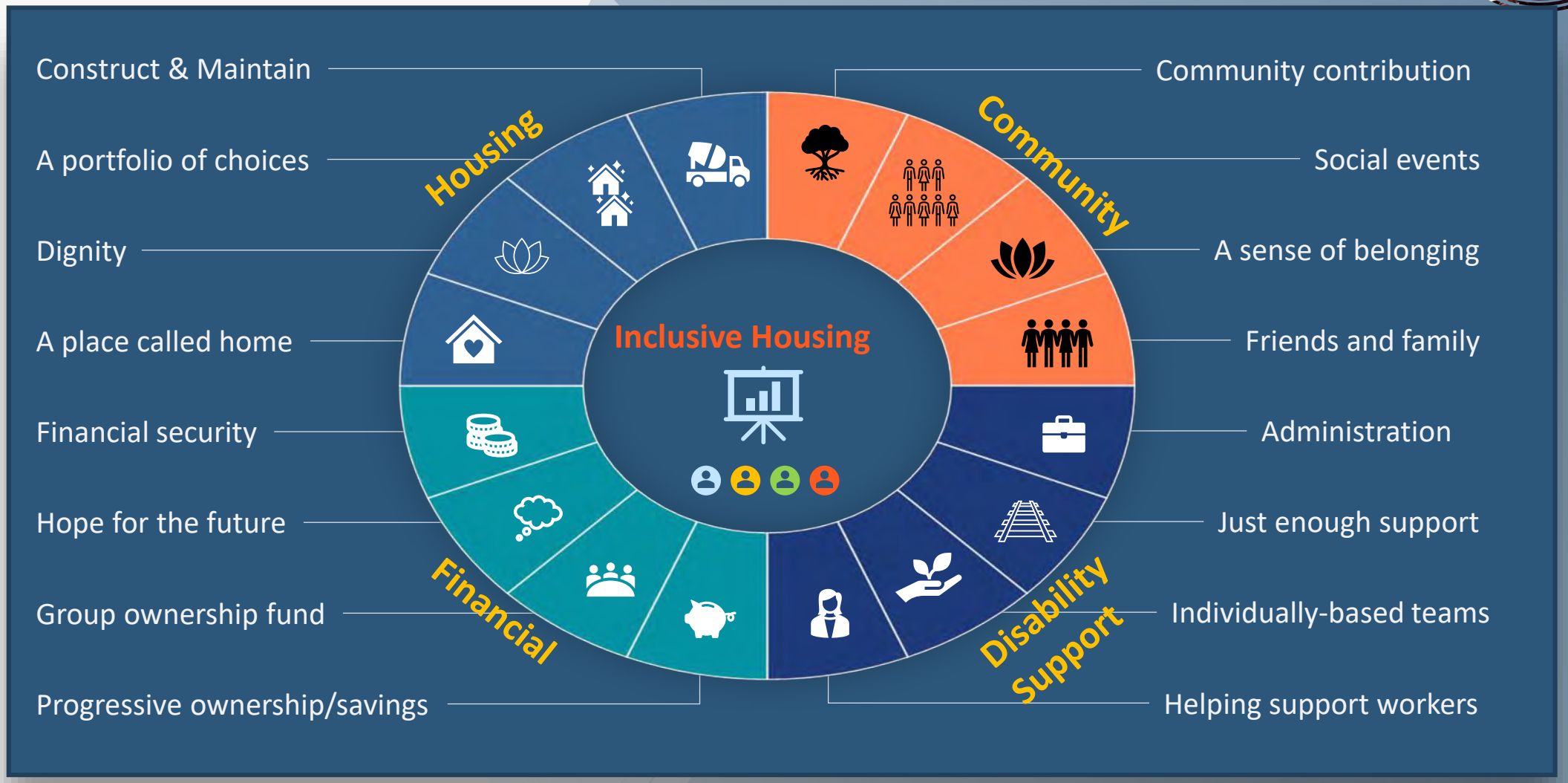
- Working as a network of like-minded organisations, our goal is to significantly improve the **Quality of Life for people with disability, their whanau and communities**; in line with the aim to create connected and vibrant communities of Plan 2026

- *We are now launching the initiative in Rodney, due to the heart of this community*

Proprietary Information

Four key focus areas to provide quality of life





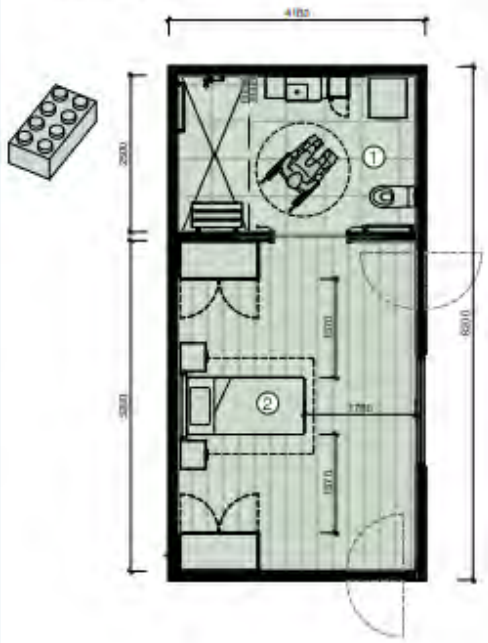
Proprietary Information

Example

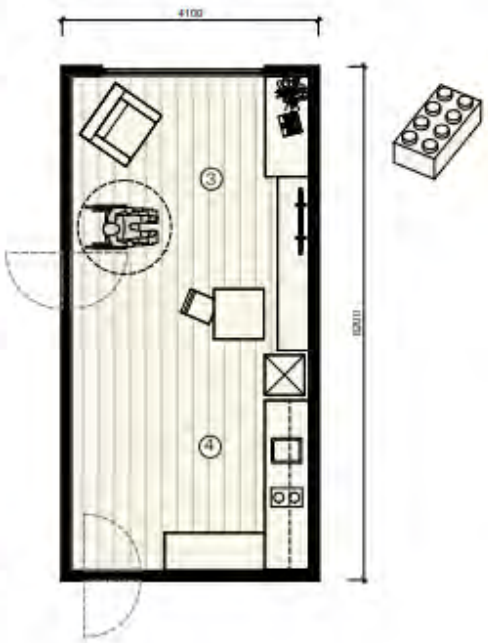
Laura Fergusson Trust: Four-Leaf Clover Design

5.1 Typology Module Sizing - 1:50

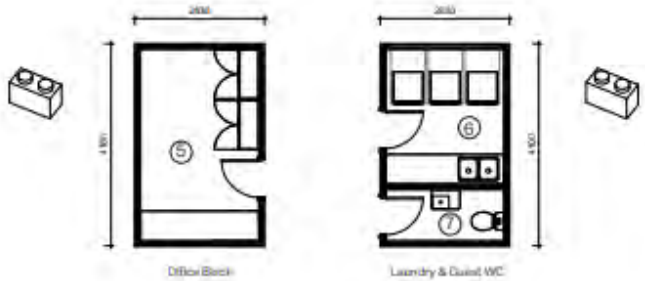
Bedroom & Bathroom module



Living & Kitchen module



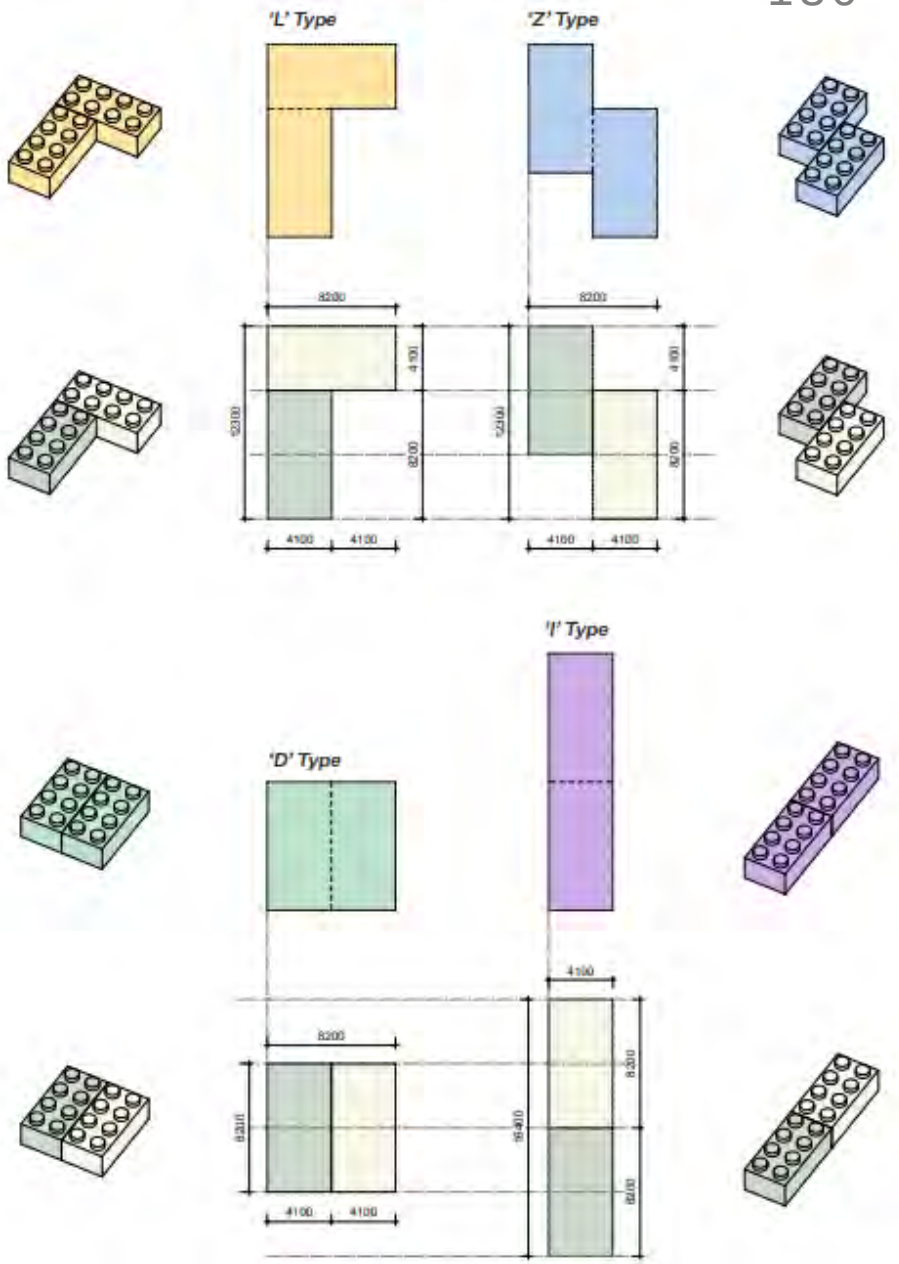
Care Support Unit



Plan Key

1. Bathroom
2. Bedroom
3. Living room
4. Kitchen
5. Support office and storage
6. Laundry
7. Guest WC

5.2 Typology Module Formatting Diagrams



Intellectual property of Laura Fergusson Trust





To deliver these homes in Rodney at scale, the HUD Flexible Fund needs to recognise disability need on a needs basis, not only on a place basis. We would value the Board's voice alongside ours on this.

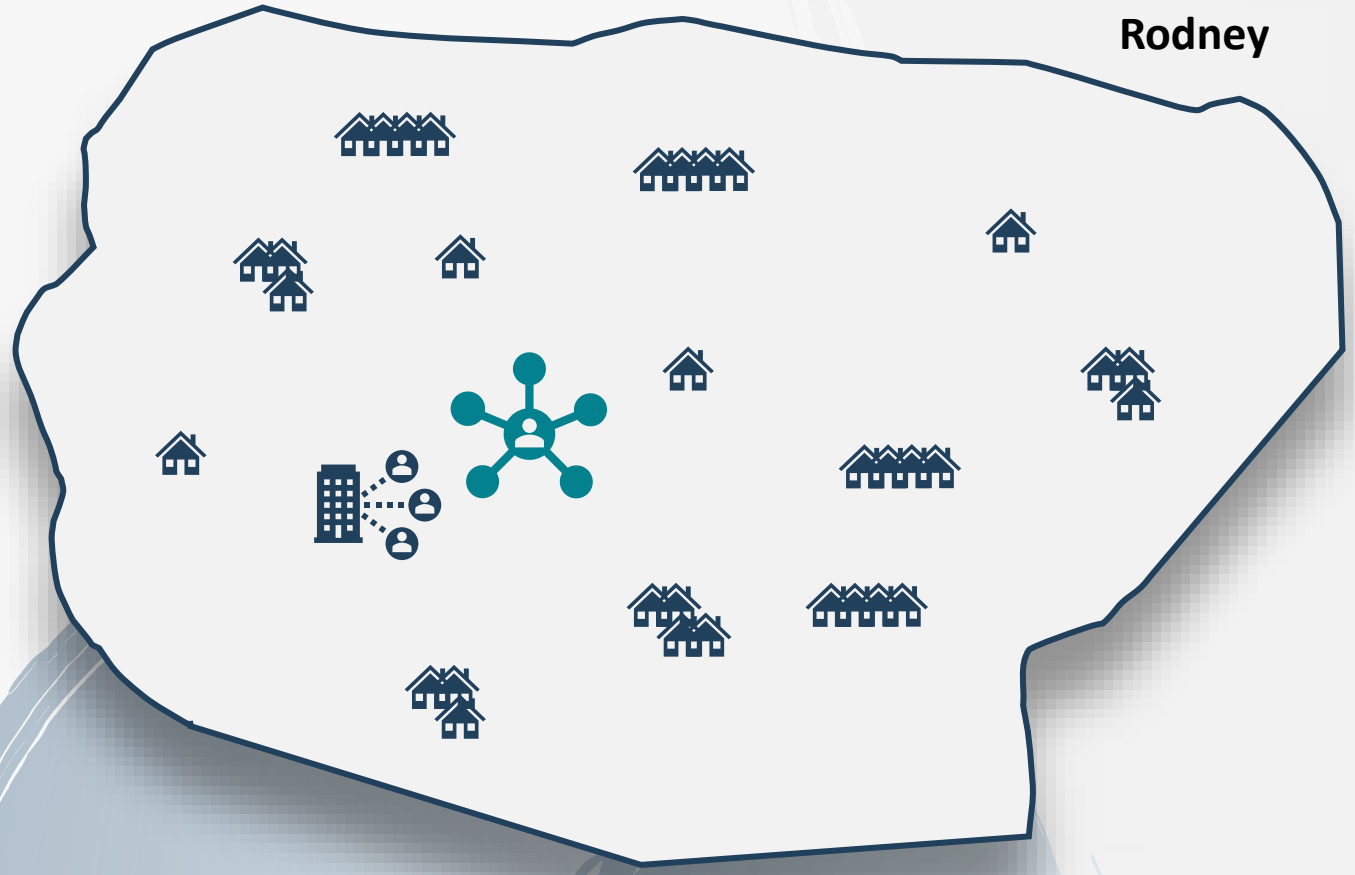
LAURA FERGUSSON TRUST

As developed by Laura Fergusson Trust

Proprietary Information

In Summary: Long-term Community view

Our primary focus group is for people wanting to live in a secure and connected environment.



Proprietary Information

The Rodney we are serving

- Around 850 Rodney residents under 65 live with disability significant enough to need ongoing support through Disability Support Services
- We aim to reach around 15 percent of this community. Assuming a typical family of four, this directly affects around 520 Rodney lives.
- With a broader financial and social value impact
  - Families re-enter the economy
  - Reduced pressure on social, health, and crisis services
  - Local jobs through construction and ongoing support roles
  - A more inclusive, connected, and vibrant community for everyone
  - Financial impact on the families and the taxpayer *

* Indicative figures suggest a financial benefits case to the Crown of $500,000 to $700,000 per family over 20 years, and materially more for the families themselves.

Proprietary Information

Putting our hearts and minds together in Rodney

HARIKOA

Our next steps

- Continuing with the family-level research
- Starting with job creation, connection and inclusive activities with RICI and others (2026)
- Site identification for a pilot home and community centre (Now)
- First four-leaf clover home in 2027
- Seeking both single home properties, as well as a larger inclusive apartment site, with community facilities on the ground floor.

Proprietary Information

LAURA FERGUSSON TRUST

Possible in-kind support from the Board

- Opening research doors with school leavers and older families
- Joint site identification, especially with unused or non-productive land
- Relationships with local philanthropic contributors
- Board advocacy to expand the HUD rental support to Rodney as well

With thanks to many of the people of Rodney that contributed to this to date, including RICI, multiple parents, Council Employees, Board Members, the business association, volunteers etc

Proprietary Information

Have Your Say on the Draft Rodney Local Board Plan 2026

#438

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: Healthy Auckland Together

Local Board: Regional Organisation

Your feedback:

1. How well do these focus areas reflect what matters most to your community?

Community - Rodney has connected, resilient communities supported by parks, facilities, and spaces for all ages and abilities, that reflect local identity and help people to thrive.	
Natural Environment - Rodney's natural environment is healthy, resilient and restored, providing clean waterways, thriving ecosystems and high-quality natural spaces that protect our future and improve everyday wellbeing.	
Built Environment - Rodney grows well with resilient, high-quality public spaces and infrastructure that reflect local character and support healthy, well-designed communities.	
Economic Development - Rodney has a strong, diverse local economy where businesses and town centres thrive and people can access local jobs, skills, and sustainable tourism opportunities.	
Transport - Rodney has a safer, more reliable, and better-connected transport network that supports rural communities, town centres and access to key destinations.	

2. Is there anything you think is missing from these focus areas?

Recommended additions and changes

Community

- Add an objective to “Adopt a healthy local food strategy planwith implementation embedded in workplans.” See appendix 2 of submission for more details.

Built Environment

- Obj 1 KI1 Strengthen - Suggest including wording on play: “Improve public spaces across Rodney’s town centres and local hubs so they are welcoming, playful, safe and support everyday community life for people of all ages.”

Transport

- Add an objective to “embed Māori identity, partnership and kaitiakitanga into Rodney’s transport network

- Obj1 KI4 Strengthen - Change wording to “Improve safety and travel times on rural highways, including through safe speeds, to ensure Rodney residents and visitors can travel safely and efficiently around or through Rodney.”

- Obj 2 KI1 Strengthen - Change wording to “Deliver ongoing improvements to walking and cycling routes around schools, town and village centres, and key destinations by filling in missing links, improving footpaths and crossings, safe speeds and making routes clearer, so people can get around locally more safely and easily.”

- Obj3 - Add a priority to “advocate for a time of use charging scheme that is equitable and raises funds that are used to improve public and active transport”

3. Which improvements would you most like to see in Rodney?
(Select up to 3 options)

4. Overall, how well does the draft Rodney Local Board Plan, as a whole, reflect the priorities of your community?

5. Do you have any other feedback you would like to share about the draft local board plan?

Support the following areas:

Community

- including actions on strengthening the opportunities for communities to celebrate inclusion, cultural heritage, events, sports and recreation in parks and town centres.

- Objective 1 “Provide parks and open spaces for all ages, abilities, interests and cultural backgrounds that encourage participation and improve wellbeing,” particularly the priorities linked to drinking water, community gardens and active modes.

- priorities which focus on supporting nature play, taonga tākaro, connections with nature and the implementing of the Rodney Play Plan.

Natural Environment

- including extensive actions to care for, protect and restore the natural environment in Rodney.

- all objectives under this focus area.

Built Environment

- objective to “Strengthen town centres and local hubs so they remain vibrant, attractive and reflect local character, supported by coordinated placemaking and high-quality public spaces,“ and its priority to improve paths, parks and transport connections for communities.

Transport

- all your objectives, as they address the safety, accessibility and promotion of active and public transport.

Healthy Auckland Together submission on the Rodney Draft Local Board Plan 2026

Thank you for the opportunity for Healthy Auckland Together (HAT) to provide a submission on the Rodney draft Local Board Plan 2026.

Ngā mihi,



About Healthy Auckland Together

Healthy Auckland Together is committed to improving Tāmaki Makaurau so that it is an environment where all people can live full and healthy lives. By working collaboratively, we want to make it easier for everyone to be active, eat better and live longer lives. Healthy Auckland Together is a coalition of more than 30 partners representing local government, mana whenua, health agencies, non-government organisations, academia and consumer interest groups.

Creating a healthy city

Aucklanders deserve to live in communities that support all ages and all abilities to have freedom and build connections within their neighbourhoods. How our cities and neighbourhoods are designed, built and managed has a significant impact on the health and wellbeing of the people who live, work and learn in these areas.

However, increasing cost pressures on households, petrol and diesel vehicles dominating our streets, inequitable access to quality green space, and urban intensification without community-friendly design have led to a city with high demand for food support, decreased rates of active travel amongst children and diminishing outdoor play. These changes demonstrate the need for stronger local coordination and continued investment to improve the wellbeing of our communities.

Rodney has a key role in the community and street spaces that enable good lives for all people. Enabling access to nourishing food, providing more opportunities to play and creating safe and healthy street environments will contribute to outcomes identified in the Auckland Plan 2050.

Mana Whenua

Engagement with Mana whenua is critical for improving outcomes for Māori. When iwi and Māori are involved in decision making around the built and natural environments, tamariki and whānau are supported to connect with local whenua, waterways, histories, mātauranga and cultural practices. Involvement in transport design and decisions, required under the Local Government (Auckland Council) Act 2009, supports Māori identity being reflected in the transport network.

Local Food Systems

A strong local food system is about more than food. It strengthens community connections, builds resilience to economic and climate challenges, encourages local enterprise, and contributes to thriving neighbourhoods. Working alongside communities and investing in healthy local food initiatives can help deliver many of the outcomes the Local Board is already seeking, including improved health and wellbeing, stronger communities, environmental sustainability and greater local resilience.

Outdoor Play

Engaging in outdoor play is a fundamental right of children in Aotearoa New Zealand and is an important contributor to physical, mental, social, emotional, and cultural wellbeing across the life course. When children engage in outdoor play they experience better physical health through increased strength, bone health, cardiovascular and metabolic health; better mental health through stress reduction, emotional resilience and improved confidence, creativity, curiosity, and problem-solving; and greater social wellbeing through connections with other, belonging and intergenerational relationships.

Healthy Transport

The transport system has a significant impact on the health and wellbeing of everyone, wherever they live. How we get about has positive impacts, adults and children who travel actively, whether

they scoot, cycle or walk are protected against cardiovascular diseases, breast cancer, colorectal cancer and diabetes; improve learning and social connectedness in children and supports overall mental wellbeing. In contrast, reliance on petrol and diesel vehicles has led to increasing air pollution from vehicle emissions, causing damage to our cardiovascular and immune systems, leading to asthma, hospitalisations and deaths in communities; and ever-increasing vehicle sizes pose greater safety risks to our most vulnerable road users.

Recommendations

Through cleaner air, safer streets, more opportunities for play and access to nourishing local food, Rodney can be a place where communities live longer, healthier lives. To support these outcomes for your communities, Healthy Auckland Together suggests the following recommendations.

Community

The Rodney plan is to be commended for including actions on strengthening the opportunities for communities to celebrate inclusion, cultural heritage, events, sports and recreation in parks and town centres.

We **support** Objective 1 "Provide parks and open spaces for all ages, abilities, interests and cultural backgrounds that encourage participation and improve wellbeing," particularly the priorities linked to drinking water, community gardens and active modes.

We also **support** the priorities which focus on supporting nature play, taonga tākaro, connections with nature and the implementing of the Rodney Play Plan.

The draft Local Board plan could be strengthened to enable opportunities to improve accessibility and increase access to nourishing food.

To improve outcomes for your communities, we **recommend** that

- An objective is added to "Adopt a healthy local food strategy plan with implementation embedded in workplans." More information about developing a local food strategy can be found in Appendix 2.

Natural Environment

The Rodney Local Board plan does well for including extensive actions to care for, protect and restore the natural environment in Rodney. The natural environment is interconnected with the health and wellbeing of communities. A strong natural environment supports mental wellbeing and mitigates the impact of air pollution and high temperatures on our most vulnerable.

We **support** all you objectives under this focus area.

Built Environment

Rodney's built environment are key places for people to learn, work and play, and good access to supportive and welcoming public spaces contributes to the health and wellbeing of communities.

Safe and well-designed town centres facilitate play and improve access for pedestrians. Sometimes, opportunities for active play can be unintentionally designed out or displaced by the way urban environments are planned.

We **support** your objective to "Strengthen town centres and local hubs so they remain vibrant, attractive and reflect local character, supported by coordinated placemaking and high-quality public spaces," and its priority to improve paths, parks and transport connections for communities.

To improve outcomes for your communities, we **recommend** that:

- The priority "Improve public spaces across Rodney's town centres and local hubs so they are welcoming, safe and support everyday community life for people of all ages." Includes language around play.

Transport

The overall implementation of the Rodney Local Board's new responsibilities in transport is positive approach to enabling good health through increased safety, active travel.

Improving equity in transport is crucial for a healthier community and requires addressing wider systematic issues including unsafe driving behaviour, congestion, personal safety issues and prioritising environments that support children's independent mobility. Understanding the social stigma experienced by youth while cycling and using public transport is also relevant to improving uptake of healthy behaviours. The involvement of Māori, Pacific and disabled communities when developing actions is integral to good equity outcomes.

We **support** all your objectives, as they address the safety, accessibility and promotion of active and public transport.

To improve outcomes for your communities, we **recommend** that:

- Wording is strengthened to improve safety in rural and urban areas through safe speeds.
- A priority is added to advocate for a time of use charging scheme that is equitable and raises funds that are used to improve public and active transport
- An objective is added to embed Māori identity, partnership and kaitiakitanga.

Conclusion

Thank you for you providing the opportunity to comment on the Rodney Draft Local Board Plan 2026.

Appendix 1 Tabled Recommendations

Community			
Objective	**Priority**	**Stance**	**Recommendation**
-	-	Addition	Add an objective to "Adopt a healthy local food strategy plan with implementation embedded in workplans." More information about developing a local food strategy can be found in Appendix 2.
Built Environment			
Objective	**Priority**	**Stance**	**Recommendation**
1	1	Strengthen	Suggest including wording on play: "Improve public spaces across Rodney's town centres and local hubs so they are welcoming, playful, safe and support everyday community life for people of all ages."
Transport			
Objective	**Priority**	**Stance**	**Recommendation**
1	4	Strengthen	Change wording to "Improve safety and travel times on rural highways, including through safe speeds, to ensure Rodney residents and visitors can travel safely and efficiently around or through Rodney."
2	1	Strengthen	Change wording to "Deliver ongoing improvements to walking and cycling routes around schools, town and village centres, and key destinations by filling in missing links, improving footpaths and crossings, safe speeds and making routes clearer, so people can get around locally more safely and easily."
3	-	Addition	Add a priority to "advocate for a time of use charging scheme that is equitable and raises funds that are used to improve public and active transport"
-	-	Addition	Add an objective to "embed Māori identity, partnership and kaitiakitanga into Rodney's transport network"

Appendix 2 Developing a healthy local food strategy

1. Understand the local food system

Commit to a local food system wānanga involving Local Board members, mana whenua, community organisations and other key stakeholders.

Map existing food-related services, programmes, community assets, growing spaces, food providers and local champions across the Local Board area. Identify existing strengths, gaps and opportunities, and explore how current resources and investment could be better aligned to maximise impact, collaboration and equity.

Developing a shared understanding of the local food system will help inform future investment and strengthen collaboration across the community.

2. Strengthen community partnerships

Actively engage with the organisations, volunteers and community leaders already working to improve local food access and wellbeing.

Visit community gardens, food hubs, māra kai, food rescue organisations, cooking and nutrition programmes, schools and local initiatives. Listen to the experiences of those working on the ground and build ongoing relationships that support genuine collaboration and shared decision-making.

Promote existing initiatives through Local Board communication channels to increase community awareness, participation and support.

3. Invest in local food initiatives

Increase support for proven community-led food initiatives through funding, programming and longer-term partnerships.

This could include supporting community gardens and māra kai, strengthening local food hubs, providing dedicated funding for key coordination roles, improving access to small grants, streamlining Council processes, and providing greater certainty through longer-term lease arrangements where appropriate.

Building the capability and sustainability of successful community initiatives represents a practical investment in the long-term resilience of the Local Board area.

4. Create healthier food environments

Support initiatives that enable access to nourishing food and drink for everyone.

This may include expanding access to drinking water, supporting culturally appropriate food initiatives, encouraging healthier food options at community events and Council facilities, celebrating businesses that provide healthy choices, and supporting community organisations to offer nutritious food through their programmes.

Although Local Boards have limited influence over commercial food marketing, they can play an important leadership role by creating environments that encourage healthier choices and promote community wellbeing.

5. Celebrate and grow local food leadership

Champion the stories, people and initiatives that are already strengthening the local food system.

Share local successes through community events, digital communications and neighbourhood networks. Increase public awareness of local food initiatives and encourage greater participation across the community.

Work alongside community organisations, mana whenua, schools, growers, businesses and residents to develop a shared vision for a resilient local food system that is better prepared for future economic, environmental and social challenges.

Have Your Say on the Draft Rodney Local Board Plan 2026

#416

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: Kawau Island Residents and Ratepayers Association (KIRRA)

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

1. How well do these focus areas reflect what matters most to your community?

Community - Rodney has connected, resilient communities supported by parks, facilities, and spaces for all ages and abilities, that reflect local identity and help people to thrive.	**3**
Natural Environment - Rodney's natural environment is healthy, resilient and restored, providing clean waterways, thriving ecosystems and high-quality natural spaces that protect our future and improve everyday wellbeing.	2
Built Environment - Rodney grows well with resilient, high-quality public spaces and infrastructure that reflect local character and support healthy, well-designed communities.	3
Economic Development - Rodney has a strong, diverse local economy where businesses and town centres thrive and people can access local jobs, skills, and sustainable tourism opportunities.	2
Transport - Rodney has a safer, more reliable, and better-connected transport network that supports rural communities, town centres and access to key destinations.	2

2. Is there anything you think is missing from these focus areas?

3. Which improvements would you most like to see in Rodney?
(Select up to 3 options)

More environmental restoration,Improved parks and public spaces,Support for local businesses

4. **Overall, how well does the draft Rodney Local Board Plan, as a whole, reflect the priorities of your community?**

   Quite well

5. **Do you have any other feedback you would like to share about the draft local board plan?**

   Safe access to the ocean for all people must be maintained and enhanced.

KAWAU ISLAND RESIDENTS & RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION INC.
PO Box 581, Warkworth 0941, Kawau Island, Auckland, NZ

Submission on the Rodney Draft Local Board Plan 2026 (three-year plan) and 2026 key projects

Submitted by: Kawau Island Residents and Ratepayers Association (KIRRA)

On: 23 July 2026

Introduction

The Kawau Island Residents and Ratepayers Association (KIRRA) appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback on the Draft Rodney Local Board Plan 2026 (three year plan) and the key projects identified under the Annual Plan for 2026 / 2027.

We support the Board's vision for connected and resilient communities, environmental protection, quality infrastructure, and improved transport connections across Rodney. We note that the draft plan identifies key priorities including maintaining and renewing community assets, supporting environmental restoration, improving resilience, and strengthening transport connections.

We ask that priority be given to:

1. Maintaining and improving the wharf, resident parking and waste facilities at Sandspit, and the roads and public tracks at South Cove and Schoolhouse Bay.
2. Protecting the water quality and environmental health of Kawau Island's harbours and coves through regular water testing and compliance monitoring to prevent wastewater pollution.
3. Providing financial support, native plants and resources for biodiversity restoration and climate resilience projects.
4. Delivering education and support for catchment management, stream restoration and water quality improvement.

Community

As an island community, Kawau Island faces unique challenges that differ considerably from mainland Rodney communities.

Our submission requests that the final Rodney Local Board Plan explicitly recognise the needs of our island community and includes specific commitments to support the resilience, accessibility, environmental sustainability and wellbeing of Kawau Island residents and ratepayers.

We do not have any community facilities, libraries, play spaces or leisure centres on Kawau Island. Our key community facilities centre around Sandspit Wharf and the ferry services based

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there, the Sandspit carpark and the recycling and refuse facility at Sandspit between the carpark and wharf, the Schoolhouse Bay and South Cove wharves and roading.

These are discussed under the relevant headings per the local board plan below.

Built Environment and Transport

Maintaining and Renewing Key Community Assets

For Kawau Island residents, several assets are critical to everyday life and should be specifically recognised in local board work programmes, including maintenance and renewal of community assets, such as public wharves, local walking tracks, buildings and car parks as a priority.

Sandspit Wharf and Mainland Access Facilities

For most Rodney residents, household access begins at their street frontage. For Kawau residents, it begins at Sandspit Wharf.

We request that the Local Board advocate and provide support for:

Secure Resident Car Parking at Sandspit

- Reinstatement of secure paid parking specifically for Kawau Island residents.
- Improved access to long-term parking facilities for permanent residents.
- Increased security measures, including surveillance and lighting, to reduce vehicle theft, break-ins and vandalism which have increased recently.
- Removal of abandoned vehicles that have accumulated due to inadequate parking security arrangements and the parking area being accessible to all without charge.
- Review of parking management arrangements to ensure parking resources near the wharf prioritise the needs of ferry users and island residents.

Revenue from the paid parking, which Kawau Island residents and ratepayers will contribute significantly to, should be reinvested into maintaining a safe, clean and functional gateway to the island.

Flood Resilience

The Sandspit parking area is increasingly vulnerable to flooding during severe weather events.

We request:

- Resealing the Sandspit car park which would raise its level.
- Stormwater improvements to reduce flooding.

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Sandspit Wharf Infrastructure

The wharf is essential transport infrastructure for Kawau Island residents.

We request ongoing investment in:

- Wharf maintenance and renewal.
- Safe passenger access and maintenance of the undercover waiting area for ferry users.
- Lighting improvements.
- Future-proofing wharf and carpark infrastructure to accommodate sea-level rise and climate change.
- Long-term planning to ensure resilience and reliability of the wharf facility.

Waste and Recycling Facilities

The rubbish and recycling facilities at Sandspit Wharf effectively serve as the equivalent of kerbside collection for Kawau Island residents.

We request:

- Retention and ongoing provision and protection of rubbish and recycling facilities serving Kawau Island residents and ratepayers.
- Installation of secure caged fencing and a controlled access system to ensure these facilities are restricted and only available for Kawau residents and ratepayers.
- Improved monitoring and enforcement against illegal dumping by non-island users.
- Increased education and signage around responsible waste disposal for boaties, Sandspit residents and Sandspit businesses that we have seen also using these facilities.
- Recognition and a long term commitment within council planning that these facilities provide an essential service to the Kawau Island community.

South Cove and Schoolhouse Bay Roading

Roads within South Cove and Schoolhouse Bay provide the only land access between wharves and residents' homes in these communities.

We request:

- The Local Board advocates for the roads at South Cove and Schoolhouse Bay to be included in the ‘unsealed road improvement programme’ to ensure much needed ongoing maintenance of these unsealed roads.
- Recognition that these roads are essential access routes for residents, contractors, emergency services and visitors.
- Surface drainage improvements.

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- Assistance with clearing and maintenance of roadside drains to ensure stormwater can escape during heavy rainfall.
- Investment in climate resilience and slip prevention measures.

Public Tracks

Public walking tracks in Schoolhouse Bay and South Cove are important transport and recreation assets for island residents and visitors.

We request support for volunteer groups that undertake track maintenance and vegetation management.

Natural Environment

Water Quality and Harbour Protection

KIRRA supports the Rodney Local Board's commitment to protecting waterways, coastal ecosystems and environmental health. We are concerned about water quality within Kawau Island's sheltered harbours, particularly Bon Accord Harbour, South Cove and North Cove, where residents live, children swim and school camps regularly operate.

We request increased water quality monitoring and stronger Harbourmaster compliance activity to address concerns regarding wastewater discharges and the growing number of live-aboard and visiting vessels.

Protecting water quality in Kawau Island's harbours is essential for safeguarding marine ecosystems, public health, recreation, tourism and the long-term wellbeing of residents and visitors.

Support for Native Planting, Biodiversity and Climate Resilience

The draft plan recognises the importance of biodiversity restoration, native planting and environmental stewardship.

Kawau Island residents actively contribute significant time and resources toward ecological restoration.

We request that the Local Board:

a. Native Plant and Tree Support

Provide:

- Native trees and plants for community planting projects.
- Financial grants to residents' groups undertaking restoration initiatives.
- Assistance with community nursery development and propagation programmes.

b. Biodiversity Enhancement

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Support Kawau Island community projects that:

- Restore indigenous forest ecosystems.
- Increase habitat for native birds.
- Improve conditions for native insects and pollinators.
- Enhance ecological corridors across the island.

c. Climate Resilience and Slip Prevention

Provide funding or plant supply programmes to support planting on erosion-prone areas because:

- Native vegetation strengthens slopes.
- Planting reduces erosion and sediment runoff.
- Increased vegetation improves resilience during severe weather events.
- Healthy vegetation contributes to improved water quality and ecosystem health.

Kawau Island's steep topography makes proactive vegetation management particularly important for climate adaptation and resilience.

d. Education and Support for Catchment and Waterway Restoration

The draft plan includes support for community-led catchment restoration and freshwater education programmes.

KIRRA strongly supports this objective and requests that Kawau Island be included in any future programme delivery.

We request Local Board-supported education programmes focused on:

- Stream restoration.
- Erosion control.
- Riparian management.
- Sediment reduction.
- Sustainable land management.
- Water quality monitoring.

Catchment Management Planning

Support for community-led catchment planning to:

- Identify sediment sources.
- Improve freshwater quality.

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- Reduce contamination entering the marine environment.
- Protect sensitive coastal habitats and swimming areas.

Marine Environment Protection

Given the island's reliance on the surrounding marine environment, programmes should explicitly recognise the connection between:

- Land management practices.
- Freshwater quality.
- Coastal ecosystem health.
- Recreational and customary use of surrounding waters.

Conclusion

KIRRA supports the overall direction of the Draft Rodney Local Board Plan 2026 and its focus on community resilience, environmental restoration, infrastructure maintenance and improved connectivity.

However, we respectfully request that the final plan more clearly recognise the unique needs of Kawau Island as Rodney's island community. Specifically, we ask that priority be given to:

- Maintaining and improving the wharf, resident parking and waste facilities at Sandspit, and the roads and public tracks at South Cove and Schoolhouse Bay.
- Protecting Kawau Island's marine environment through regular water quality testing, ongoing monitoring and stronger Harbourmaster compliance to prevent pollution from vessels.
- Providing financial support, native plants and resources for biodiversity restoration and climate resilience projects.
- Delivering education and support for catchment management, stream restoration and water quality improvement.

By investing in these priorities, the Rodney Local Board can help ensure Kawau Island remains a resilient, environmentally rich and thriving community for current and future generations.

[redacted]

Have Your Say on the Draft Rodney Local Board Plan 2026

#459

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: Kiribati Rodney Community Trust

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

1. How well do these focus areas reflect what matters most to your community?

Community - Rodney has connected, resilient communities supported by parks, facilities, and spaces for all ages and abilities, that reflect local identity and help people to thrive.	**3**
Natural Environment - Rodney's natural environment is healthy, resilient and restored, providing clean waterways, thriving ecosystems and high-quality natural spaces that protect our future and improve everyday wellbeing.	2
Built Environment - Rodney grows well with resilient, high-quality public spaces and infrastructure that reflect local character and support healthy, well-designed communities.	2
Economic Development - Rodney has a strong, diverse local economy where businesses and town centres thrive and people can access local jobs, skills, and sustainable tourism opportunities.	3
Transport - Rodney has a safer, more reliable, and better-connected transport network that supports rural communities, town centres and access to key destinations.	3

2. Is there anything you think is missing from these focus areas?

3. Which improvements would you most like to see in Rodney?
(Select up to 3 options)

Better community facilities,More environmental restoration,Improved parks and public spaces

4. **Overall, how well does the draft Rodney Local Board Plan, as a whole, reflect the priorities of your community?**

   Quite well

5. **Do you have any other feedback you would like to share about the draft local board plan?**

   The Kiribati Rodney Community Trust has future plans to establish a Kiribati traditional village where the Kiribati community in Rodney or Auckland can showcase their traditional culture and way of life. We hope that the Rodney Local Board can help us work towards this aspiration

Have Your Say on the Draft Rodney Local Board Plan 2026

#462

Note: This simplified version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed, and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.

Submitter details:

Organisation: Mahurangi Community Planning Group Inc

Local Board: Rodney

Your feedback:

1. How well do these focus areas reflect what matters most to your community?

Community - Rodney has connected, resilient communities supported by parks, facilities, and spaces for all ages and abilities, that reflect local identity and help people to thrive.	**3**
Natural Environment - Rodney's natural environment is healthy, resilient and restored, providing clean waterways, thriving ecosystems and high-quality natural spaces that protect our future and improve everyday wellbeing.	3
Built Environment - Rodney grows well with resilient, high-quality public spaces and infrastructure that reflect local character and support healthy, well-designed communities.	4
Economic Development - Rodney has a strong, diverse local economy where businesses and town centres thrive and people can access local jobs, skills, and sustainable tourism opportunities.	4
Transport - Rodney has a safer, more reliable, and better-connected transport network that supports rural communities, town centres and access to key destinations.	4

2. Is there anything you think is missing from these focus areas?

See attached submission

3. Which improvements would you most like to see in Rodney?
(Select up to 3 options)

Better community facilities,More environmental restoration,Improved parks and public spaces

4. **Overall, how well does the draft Rodney Local Board Plan, as a whole, reflect the priorities of your community?**

   Not very well

5. **Do you have any other feedback you would like to share about the draft local board plan?**

   See attached submission

SUBMISSION ON DRAFT RODNEY LOCAL BOARD PLAN 2026-2029

BY MAHURANGI COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP INC. (MCPG)

Introduction

- The Board knows well now what MCPG is and what its aims are. MCPG's main concern is the lack of coordinated planned and well managed growth under the direction of the Council. There is substantial pressure from the government to build more housing in and around Auckland city. This has been reflected in the decisions made by Council for intensification. Council has determined that Warkworth is a strategic satellite town. However, MCPG considers it is a rural township; the character of which the community wish to retain.

- Developers have taken up this challenge in creating more housing developments around the town without the necessary infrastructure being in place. Further developments will be progressed through other approved Fast Track applications, increasing the pressure on infrastructure, public facilities and roading.

- Should all these developments proceed over the next 3-5 years, there will be difficulties in providing not only the basic infrastructure and roading but also the essential public services and facilities. There are huge cost implications for Council, other agencies and the ratepayers resulting from this situation.

- Developers do not pay enough from their development contributions to fund necessary community assets and services – currently a mere $20K per house site. Council is now looking at increasing that in Franklin to $90K. Even that is not enough.

- MCPG's economist/statistician has estimated it needs to be $200K to upgrade services and assets, such as reserves, playfields, community centres, libraries that Council supplies. Even Mayor Wayne Brown has recognised this dilemma. There is also limited

funding available for schools, health facilities, and emergency stations that are provided by other agencies.

- Council's Unitary Plan, Structure Plans and Plan Changes in themselves do not address the real planning issues facing this community with uncoordinated development growth.

- Council's planning team responsible for managing this growth has clearly indicated that there is no intention to change the Unitary Plan and the Warkworth Structure Plan, which are designed to guide the pattern of development. There is thus no guidance as to how Warkworth town centre and surrounding development areas will grow in a managed fashion.

- These Zoning Plans do not show how and where the necessary infrastructure, roading and community assets will be to accommodate the growth in development. Even the Structure Plan does not contain sufficient detail to indicate the type and form of such housing, commercial development, future reserves, sports and community facilities, schools or health facilities.

- MCPG's goal is to create a Spatial Development Plan that is developed from the combined demands of the communities throughout the Warkworth-Mahurangi District. It is essential that Council and the Board listen to our communities. There has been limited recognition of local voices in the past. This must change. The Mayor himself has frequently said: *locals know local.* The Board (and Council) must take into account what our locals want. Advocacy on its own is not enough unless there are positive results.

- MCPG is currently undertaking a comprehensive survey questionnaire for each of the distinct community areas including Puhoi, Mahurangi East, Matakana/Omaha, Leigh and Cape, Mahurangi South and the Warkworth urban area. These will identify the issues and requirements within those areas. The combined views will be presented to the Community and the Board.

- MCPG wants the Board to support us in persuading the Governing Body that the current planning system does not provide Rodney's rural towns (not only Warkworth, but also Wellsford and Kumeu too) with a coordinated detailed Spatial Plan that clearly accommodates

all the growth requirements. It must take a more proactive stand on this issue.

- MCPG wants the Board to act on this, reflecting on what its role is - designed to be the voice of the community at all times. This is being constantly stated in the opening statements of the Draft Local Board Plan 2026-9.

- MCPG has provided modifications to the wording in the Plan, as identified below.

Comments on the Draft Local Board Plan

Introduction

MCPG has undertaken a comprehensive critique of the objectives and proposed plans of action.

Aims and Objectives

The objectives in the start of the Draft Local Board Plan need to be more specific, so the community knows how these will be implemented. It is essential that all plans should address issues and concerns raised by the community. This will become clear with a more appropriate, detailed consultation process.

These are initially outlined in the Chairperson's opening statement, setting the direction that the Board will take. They are worthy aims and bold promises. The question is how will they be achieved? That is not readily apparent from the Action Plan sections or funding allocations.

We know Rodney is growing, and with that growth comes both opportunity and pressure. We are seeing increasing demand on parks, facilities, roads and community spaces, alongside real challenges in maintaining the character that makes Rodney unique.

We will advocate strongly for the infrastructure our communities need, whether that is safer rural roads, better public transport connections or ensuring growth is matched with the services that help communities thrive.

Importantly, we recognise that we cannot do this alone. The strength of Rodney lies in its people, in volunteers, community groups, mana whenua and local

leaders who already contribute so much. Our role is to enable, support and partner, so that together we can achieve more than any one organisation could on its own.

This is exactly what MCPG is promoting. The Board needs to recognise the serious nature of the lack of coordinated planning and make full use of the incredible expertise and experience within MCPG. Unfortunately, it has already approved the previous Annual's Plans programme of works. These works will not solve the severe problems facing the Warkworth area and town centre.

The Board must be more pro-active in demanding that the Governing Body (Council) give it more funding and the authority to fund those projects and activities. These need to focus on providing the more appropriate form of development, and the necessary services and facilities for the local community.

It is the locals (Board and community) that know what is best for the district and what is really needed to have an attractive and sustainable town centre and district.

It is impossible to work towards these objectives without having a clear vision and detailed coordinated Plan (of Action) such as is the essence of an Overall Spatial Development Plan/Strategy that MCPG is promoting.

The Board should do the spatial planning and not MCPG (with approval from the Board). It can only be the "gatekeeper" as it does not have the ability or resources to do good planning or to direct work through tenders etc. MCPG recognises this; this is why it is promoting so hard to get this process changed.

Amendment required
The Plan Introduction should specify that the Board will provide the means for an overall Development Strategy to be implemented that reflects the community's demands and values.

The Plan at a Glance (p5)

Community

Rodney has connected, resilient communities supported by parks, facilities, and spaces for all ages and abilities, that reflect local identity and help people to thrive.

Built environment

Rodney grows well with resilient, high-quality public spaces and infrastructure that reflect local character and support healthy, well-designed communities.

Economic development

Rodney has a strong, diverse local economy where businesses and town centres thrive, and people can access local jobs, skills and sustainable tourism opportunities.

Transport

Rodney has a safer, more reliable and better-connected transport network that supports rural communities, town centres and access to key destinations.

Again, this highlights the need for specific actions to be identified to ensure these aims are achieved. Such general statements are meaningless otherwise.

Action required

MCPG requests that the Board urgently prepare a Spatial Development Plan for the broader Warkworth-Mahurangi District (as defined in the MCPG map attached), with its first (pilot) project being the Warkworth Town Centre Plan (as being promoted by MCPG).

The Board to allocate funds for such planning work from funds allocated from a new fund created for development projects.

How the Plan will be used (p6)

The plan provides direction for the next three years and influences council's wider decision making. To deliver on it we will:

- *prioritise budgets and resources to focus on the initiatives in this plan*
- *work with our partners to deliver on the objectives in this plan.*

How will those priorities be established and how closely will the Board (and ultimately the Governing Body/Council) listen to the community, so that what the community wants and needs is delivered? This can only be achieved if there is a detailed strategic

coordinated Plan in place that will manage development growth effectively.

Action Required
The Board must demand that Council provide sufficient funds and more importantly authorise it to spend those funds on the development of the Development Plan itself, and on the various projects identified in an Action Plan. The Board must identify what their priorities are and how they have been determined.

MCPG Focus

Our focus is on the following parts of the Plan to ensure that the objectives in the **Our Plan** section will be met. To attain many of these objectives is outside of the Board's authority, as it will require resources and funds that the Board may not have direct control over. Whilst the Board has already acknowledged this, it must take a more proactive role to ensure that those objectives will be met.

MCPG wants the Board to demand that the Plans and Projects designed to achieve the desired outcome will be delivered. This can only occur if there is a fully coordinated district-wide Spatial Plan that provides the detailed form of development, along with fully integrated infrastructure and facilities.

The Board cannot rely any longer on the current Unitary Plan and Structure Plan to manage the growth of development in a sustainable and cost-effective manner. MCPG's emphasis is that the following statements can only be achieved with such a coordinated Plan.

Built Environment

Opportunities (p20)
Planning and consenting processes provide opportunities to shape the design, quality and character of new housing and employment areas.
Warkworth's role as a rural growth hub provides opportunities to focus investment and design quality to create a well-serviced centre that supports surrounding rural and coastal communities.

Warkworth is a rural growth hub, not a satellite town for Auckland's urban style intensification. The draft Board Plan needs to indicate that it is a Rural Service Centre and not the Satellite Centre that Council's Plans and Strategies have identified.

Despite Council's Planning team's reluctance to enable this to be undertaken, the Board must allocate the appropriate funds for the development of the Warkworth Town Centre Development Plan to ensure the success of the centre for the district. This will include the development of the riverside area and redevelopment of the Council buildings and land.

This is a key critical opportunity to create an attractive area for locals and visitors. New and enhanced buildings for the library and community centre should be developed here. Funding for investigation and design should be allocated within this 3year Plan.

Advocacy (p21)

Ensure Rodney's community priorities and local character are clearly understood and considered in decisions around planning and growth.
Advocate to make sure new development does not go ahead before essential infrastructure is in place — including for water, wastewater, and roads, and other community facilities like infrastructure for schools and healthcare provided by central government.
Advocate for investment and planning that provides equitable access to quality education, hospital services and essential care facilities across Rodney, addressing the unique challenges of a geographically large and mostly rural local board area.
Advocate for funding and other measures to ensure enough infrastructure is built alongside new housing in Rodney, so growth pays for itself and is well planned.

Action Required

Advocacy per se is meaningless unless the Board sends a strong message to the Governing Body that the current Plans and Strategies need to be modified and enhanced.

It is essential that our communities' priorities are met with fully coordinated planning, and with substantially more funding for actual development and building projects. This will ensure the successful management of the growth of the town centre and the surrounding

districts. The wording of, and the funding allocation in, the Board's Plan has to reflect this and put in strong terms.

It is essential that additional funding from increased development contributions is required so that "growth will pay for growth". Such a statement is meaningless unless this occurs. The Board should push the Governing Body to press Government to provide the legislative power to achieve this.

The Plan therefore must include such strong statements.

Economic Development (p23)

Our economic development goals focus on supporting business resilience, growing sustainable tourism, strengthening local skills pathways and making sure that as Rodney grows, economic opportunities are accessible, vibrant and reflect the strengths of our communities and natural landscapes.

Objectives of looking at opportunities to support and growing the economy for businesses and tourism will require more than just advocacy. MCPG has stated that just advocacy per se is not enough, but nevertheless any such advocacy has to be very strongly worded.

In Advocacy, it recognises *Some local priorities that matter to our community are not part of our direct decision-making role. 'Advocacy' is how we influence other governance decision-makers to prioritise the things our community cares about.*

The Board will advocate *to ensure growth includes enough land for businesses and employment, enabling local jobs, reducing commuting and keeping economic spend local. This will be to the Governing Body*

Transport (p26)

Rodney's size, rural geography and limited public transport options mean transport is one of our biggest challenges. Safety concerns on rural roads, a lack of walking and cycling networks and limited access to public transport all affect daily life. Major upgrades offer new opportunities to better connect areas and improve resilience.

Our Priorities (p27-28)

Due to this uncertainty (of legislative changes), the Local Board's transport priorities are set out in a single category in this draft plan. There are significant challenges to achieve these objectives, with many priorities to resolve.

Create safer, more connected walking and cycling routes to key local destinations.
Expand and improve the ways people can reach public transport from rural communities and growth areas, such as park 'n ride and interchange locations.

Many of these will require significant advocacy to agencies such as NZTA and Council. The Board should work through its priorities with the Transport Forum, which includes the appropriate agencies.

Decisions on most transport issues must be made in the context of that coordinated Development Plan that MCPG is promoting.

Critical roading projects are the Hill Street intersection modifications to account for increases in traffic flows; some NOR's; Mansell Drive widening and intersections; town centre traffic flows (maybe one-way section); bus routes in and around the town centre.

The town centre needs new parking areas and extensions of parking buildings to compensate for the removal of car parks by riverside to enable a more attractive open space area. In the interim, make all parks to be P120 to encourage longer stays.

Funding (p29)
The critical aspect of proper management of growth is having the most appropriate form of funding to ensure that projects will be implemented in a coordinated manner.

The level of funding has been set in the past by the Long Term Plan and Annual Plan. The control of authority and funding to the Board has been set by the Governing Body in the Long Term Plan (2024-34).

Whilst the Board has many valid objectives, some of these cannot be achieved as the funding has not been readily available. That funding as allocated (see below) is not specific enough to ensure that these 3 year objectives might be met.

Levels of service (p30-31)
In identifying the activities - *local community services; local planning and development; local environmental management; and local governance* the Board states its support for

strong, diverse, and vibrant communities through libraries and literacy, arts and culture, parks, sport and recreation;
local town centres and communities to thrive by developing town centre plans and development, supporting Business Improvement Districts (BIDs), heritage plans and initiatives;
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;

All this will require working more closely with MCPG and community organisations – again within the context of the community-led Development Plan. It cannot make decisions in isolation without that overall framework.

In determining its priorities, it will have to *take into account rising costs, limited resources and changing community needs.*
It has set itself a difficult task as follows:
When making financial decisions, the local board will:
• *prioritise actions that most strongly contribute to achieving the intended outcomes and goals of this local board plan*
• *consider value for money when making decisions about local services and assets within its decision-making responsibilities*
• *consider advice on ways to increase funding for services, activities and facilities from sources other than rates where appropriate,*
• *consider advice on opportunities to work with other local boards and external partners, where this supports shared goals*
• *consider advice on the ongoing suitability, performance and community value of local assets.*

Financial Overview (p32)

The allocation of around $26m each year for each of the next 3 years is very significant. Whilst the introduction states that *these estimates are indicative and subject to change. They are not to be relied as final as they will be subject to review and updates.*
This does not assist the community to understand what actual projects are going to be defined and implemented. That is because there is no detailed programme of works/projects established.

Operating expenditure for libraries shows a slight increase each year but it is not defined as to what that includes.

In capital expenditure for community services there is a slight fluctuation each year around the $10-$11m mark. What does this include – renovations of the current library in Warkworth or a completely new building, or a new community/information centre?

MCPG strongly recommends that the current library/service and information centre by the riverside should be redeveloped and expanded along with enhancement of the riverside reserve. Some funds should be allocated for investigations and design work.

Conclusion – What MCPG is asking for!

- **Understanding of need for a more detailed Spatial Plan that sets the planning and implementation context for the Draft Local Board Plan**
- **Clarification of proposed Projects as to priorities**
- **Rationalisation of Funding Allocation to the projects included in the Development Plan concept**
- **Seek that Council develop a larger development contribution from new developments towards the provision of essential community services and facilities**
- **Promote greater authority from Council for the Board to make decisions to support our local community (locals know local) and reflect on what it is that it wants**
- **Significant exercise of real consultation with community to understand their concerns and values, and to take on board the results of the comprehensive MCPG community survey**

- **Supporting with appropriate actions and funding for MCPG's community-led Pilot Planning Warkworth Town Centre Development Plan Project with urgency**

- **Recognition that the Town Centre Plan previously funded by the Board has serious deficiencies. The Council, Board and the community cannot accept it as a real Development Strategy. It does not accommodate demands for facilities required to meet future growth.**

