

Opononi-Omapere Community Development Plan 2010



Introduction

The area which could collectively be called Te Wahapu o Hokianga (including Waimamaku, Waiotemarama, Waiwhatawhata, Omapere, Opononi, Pakanae, Koutu and Whirinaki) is an area rich in environmental, spiritual and cultural attributes.

The community of this area wish to promote a pro-active approach to community development which is sensitive to these values, and appropriate for the area. The vision of this plan is to progress in key areas to ensure the community's safety and prosperity for the future.

The community plan will provide Council with an understanding of the aspirations of the community in the shaping of our environment, infrastructure, services and facilities – for ourselves and for future generations. We realise that all actions will have effect on other actions, and the discussions around the focus areas, goals, and key actions have considered that **a sustainable environment** is core to the success of the plan.

The community wishes to develop a partnership relationship with the council – one of trust and mutual respect, and while the goals in this plan are innovative they are realistic. We seek the endorsement of the community of this plan.

The Process

- November 2009 – FNDC advertises in Northern News and through networks that a CDP is to be facilitated for Opononi/Omapere/Pakanae area by FNDC
- Meetings held fortnightly since November 2009
- Numbers have increased throughout the process
- Draft CDP presented to community October 2010
- Community ratified plan presented to Community Board
- Community Board takes the plan to the Far North District Council
- Becomes part of the consideration into the long term council planning process ie LTCCP

Focus Area 1: Sustainable Environment

Our community will manage and develop the local environment in a sustainable manner.

Goal	Key Actions	Key Progress Partners	Timeframe
Value the Hokianga Harbour ecosystem as a sustainable resource.	<p>1.1 Identify and record current stream/river rehabilitation and erosion control groups to co-ordinate future remediation activity (e.g.riparian fencing and planting)</p> <p>1.2 Develop a coordinated and informed action strategy with these groups and Council to assist with funding and planning of activity</p> <p>1.3 Collect biodiversity data to assist with planning and prioritisation of conservation projects and funding of activity</p> <p>1.4 Explore options for marine reserves to assist the preservation of valuable representative marine ecosystems</p> <p>1.5 Improve local awareness on the effects of poaching kaimoana, by lobbying for increased monitoring and improved signage, plus the provision of restorative justice applied to offenders</p> <p>1.6 Develop a community-wide plan with regard to aquaculture licensing decisions within Hokianga Harbour</p> <p>1.7 Protect the beach environment by restricting vehicle access, providing signage and replanting the foreshore</p> <p>1.8 Collect data from sewage effluent and refuse dump monitoring to determine operating capacity thresholds</p> <p>1.9 Work with and support the SH Ginger group and other interested groups to eradicate noxious plants and noxious pests, including ginger, elephant grass</p>	<p>Wai Ora, Cycleway trust, Farmers, various hapu/marae, Nga Ngaru o Hokianga, FNDC, NRC, Forest & Bird, MAF Police, justice department</p> <p>South Hokianga Ginger Group</p> <p>Other communities on the harbour/ land care harbour care groups</p> <p>DoC</p> <p>Whirinaki Landcare group Wekaweka Landcare group</p> <p>Waimamaku Resource Centre</p>	
Conserve water	<p>1.10 Identify and reduce barriers to installing household rainwater systems for existing dwellings</p> <p>1.11 Develop a local strategy for fresh water management</p>	FNDC, Residents & Ratepayers	

Generate energy at a local level.	1.12 To explore options that will address local energy sustainability, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tidal energy• Wind turbines• Solar energy• Home-based micro-generation and grid-feed• Methanol/ethanol production from biomass	NRC, FNDC, TRAION Meridian electricity company	
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Sustainable and renewable energy generation

Focus Area 2: Infrastructure

Our community will provide a comfortable standard of amenities and support a way of life that is safe, enjoyable and satisfying

Goal	Key Actions	Key Progress Partners	Timeframe
An attractive community	2.1 Establish and implement a local historic/settler theme for commercial and public façades 2.2 Repaint and remodel exterior of the Opononi War Memorial Hall to match style of surrounding buildings 2.3 Commission local artists and children to paint murals on existing public toilets at Opononi Hall 2.4 Identify public areas for decorative planting	Hall committee, FNDC Facilities Manager, Res & Ratepayers Association, business owners in the area. Paint company/sponsor, FNDC Local artists Lions club	
A safe and comfortable community.	2.5 Install composting toilets at future public toilet sites (Pakia Hill, Arai te Uru, the sandhills and Cemetery Road). 2.6 Investigate feasibility of land based domestic sewage disposal. 2.7 Investigate requirements for a higher level of treatment of sewage in current system. 2.8 Erect an all-weather shelter and tap near the Opononi Wharf. Include a salt water tap for fish cleaning 2.9 Investigate the installation of a filtration system on waterline at Waimamaku. 2.10 Investigate the feasibility of installing a filtered and raw waterline for Koutu from Whirinaki or Pakanae. 2.11 Investigate alternate water sources and water storage for Opononi/Omapere	FNDC, DoC, FNDC, Wai Ora Hokianga, NRC	
An accessible community.	2.12 Explore an appropriate place to be allocated for a public cemetery 2.13 Identify future state highway development. 2.14 Lobby for improved highway & metal road maintenance.	Transit FNDC	

	<p>2.15 Obtain community's contribution to NRC public transport fund to support a local public transport strategy.</p> <p>2.16 Increase and enhance designated beach access-ways with signs and picnic areas.</p> <p>2.17 Research replacement of the Omapere boat ramp to reduce erosion.</p> <p>2.18 Investigate the feasibility of a reclaimed area by SH12 at Opononi for car park and boat ramp with breakwater</p> <p>2.19 Improve signage at the boat ramps to encourage safe use</p> <p>2.20 Develop a plan to extend footpaths and walkways around Opononi/Omapere</p> <p>2.21 Clear signage on all main routes into Opononi/Omapere</p>	<p>NRC FNDC</p>	
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Focus Area 3: Social, Sports, Youth

Our community will provide opportunities for people to enjoy a social structure that affords all age groups a sense of belonging and engagement with the community and its taonga.

Goal	Key Actions	Key Progress Partners	Timeframe
Safe and attractive social amenities.	<p>3.1 Create fully enclosed extensive playground in the whole area of Freese Park.</p> <p>3.2 Extend liquor ban to entire Opononi/Omapere area.</p> <p>3.3 Investigate demand and suitable sites for a BMX track and moto-cross or off-road site.</p> <p>3.4 Lobby for police base at Opononi/Omapere</p> <p>3.5 Carry out an inventory of all existing sporting and activity groups and facilities, and determine likely future requirements. Rationalise the utilisation of facilities for more effective use and improve the planning of sport and recreational activities in the community (this includes school facilities and activities).</p> <p>3.6 Encourage greater community participation in sport and recreational activity.</p>	<p>FNDC</p> <p>Police/FNDC</p> <p>Police</p> <p>Council, sporting organisations, schools</p> <p>SPARC</p>	



Whirinaki horse riders

Focus Area 4: Economy, Development, Tourism

Our community will develop a vibrant local economy that values sustainability and makes this a desirable place to live, work and visit.

Goal	Key Actions	Key Progress Partners	Timeframe
A visible community	<p>4.1 Develop a comprehensive, interactive internet presence / website etc.</p> <p>4.2 Develop a local marketing plan.</p>	<p>Local businesses</p> <p>iSite (FNDC)</p>	
A vibrant community	<p>4.3 Develop and promote existing and additional local events and activities</p> <p>4.4 Increase number of walking and cycling tracks to form an extensive local network</p> <p>4.5 Promote activities that involve storytelling, authentic food, environment and people</p> <p>4.6 Investigate the idea of the Transition Town concept</p> <p>4.7 Identify and develop land suitable for community vegetable gardens</p> <p>4.8 Establish and promote regular market days for growers</p> <p>4.9 Promote rates relief etc to encourage commercial development</p>	<p>FNDC, sports promoters</p> <p>FNDC, DOC, NRC, landowners</p>	
A Prosperous Local Economy	<p>4.10 Provide good support for existing local businesses which are supportive of the local community</p> <p>4.11 Promote local (cottage) industries and trades that supply and support essential community needs</p> <p>4.12 Promote the area as suitable for artisans, professionals and others capable of working outside of main centres as a</p>		

A Prosperous Local Economy

wonderful place to “work, live and play”

4.13 Promote local food production and “downstream” food processing opportunities including access to appropriate kitchen facilities

4.14 Foster events in keeping with the values of the community (eg Jazz Festival, Hokianga Country Music Festival, Wild Foods Festival)



Focus Area 5: Spirituality, Culture, Heritage, Arts

Our community can tell the story of where we come from and demonstrates its cultures in a vibrant way. Our community is understanding and respectful of others' cultural and spiritual values and encourages the sharing of these values.

Goal	Key Actions	Key Progress Partners	Timeframe
Opportunities for all cultures to thrive and share their histories and values	<p>5.1 Support Te Hua o Te Kawariki Trust with the Heritage Centre project.</p> <p>5.2 Support the Hokianga Historical Society Museum and Heritage Centre project</p> <p>5.3 Support local events that celebrate our local history and values.</p>	<p>FNDC, Lloyd Family Trust, trustees of Te Hua o Te Kawariki Trust</p> <p>Hokianga Historical Society</p>	
A community that actively engages in the arts	<p>5.4 Expand upon the 'Arts Trail' initiatives.</p> <p>5.5 Investigate re-starting the Summer Arts Festival</p> <p>5.6 Encourage more interaction between local artists, local musicians and schools.</p>		



Festival at Waiotemarama

Focus Area 6: Community, Education

Our community promotes learning as a cornerstone for progress and sustainability.

Goal	Key Actions	Key Progress Partners	Timeframe
An informed community.	<p>6.1 Survey the community educational needs and aspirations</p> <p>6.2 Develop and promote a wide range of community education and training initiatives</p> <p>6.3 Involve local people to share their knowledge, trades and skills</p>	<p>Local schools</p> <p>Northtec</p> <p>SHCET</p> <p>Film Festival</p> <p>RAD</p>	
An informative community.	<p>6.4 Improve and expand community notice-boards.</p> <p>6.5 Maintain an interactive website.</p>	FNDC	
An Inclusive Community	<p>6.6 Find ways that allow every community member to engage in community events and services at the level they need.</p> <p>6.7 Encouraging support networks so that community members receive appropriate care and consideration and have someone to turn to when in need.</p>		



Future proofing our community

The scenarios and solutions offered in this plan are based on a best case scenario for our community with regard to on-going cheap oil and consistent weather patterns. However, life as we know it, is almost certainly going to change . Have we asked ourselves the following?

Question: What will the future hold for the Hokianga when – not if, petrol hits \$3+/litre?

Question: What can we do to insulate our community from the effects of a climate that will bring more extreme weather events and more often?

These concepts are increasingly being thought about by communities all over New Zealand and has resulted in Transition Towns.

Transition Towns are about making communities more resilient by keeping money within the community as long as possible, alternative currencies (such as time banks) and planning for the end of cheap oil, so we have plans in place.

Transition Towns

Here is a practical example of a project that would increase the community resilience to outside "shocks".

Infrastructure: A goal based around a community owned vehicle (and trailer) powered by an alternative fuel. For example, a petrol motor vehicle/van/small bus powered by ethanol produced in a community owned still, or a diesel powered vehicle run on recycled vegetable oil refined in the community. A small trust could be established to carry out this project and maintain and hire out the vehicle

Here is another practical example of a project that would increase the community resilience to outside "shocks".

Economy: A goal based around a community currency and or time bank scheme. A small group of people could undertake this task(as in Kaitaia and Lyttleton) and "earn" credits in the community for their work.

Here is one more practical example of a project that would increase the community resilience to outside "shocks".

Community: A goal based around community gardens and a community cooperative to supply essential food items. People working in the gardens could supply their own needs and have the surplus sold through the co-op(which they own). The co-op could buy items in bulk from outside the community, sell at a small profit to co-op members and at normal retail to non co-op members.



Alternative Fuel



Community Currency



Farmers Markets