

# Waihi Beach

## Defining Our Future



*This Plan has been prepared by community representatives with the assistance of Council.*



On the  
following  
pages

...we present a Plan setting out a vision of how your community would like to see Waihi Beach, Island View, Pio's Beach, Bowentown and Athenree develop over the next 20 years, and a host of ideas on how to make it happen.

The Plan presented here is the result of community participation through community meetings, an internet forum and formal public consultation.

## Contents

Purpose of this Plan	3
Waihi Beach Ward Today	4
Potential Growth Areas	6
Culture, Heritage and Events	7
Economy	9
Social and Community	14
Recreation	20
Getting Around	23
Development	26
Environment, Beach and Harbour	32

## Thank you!

*The Waihi Beach Community Board and Western Bay of Plenty District Council sincerely thank those many members of the community who have helped put this Plan together.*

*Illustrations by Neil Coleman, Architectural Sketches and Perspectives.  
Translation of headings by Mauriora Kingi.*



# Purpose of this Plan

*THE Western Bay of Plenty District is growing quickly, and the Waihi Beach ward is feeling the effects. Projections of the ward's population see it growing from 2,946 in 2006 to 5,180 people by 2021 and 8,770 by 2051<sup>1</sup>.*

*Managing this growth and its associated pressures, has been considered at a sub-regional level, and addressed through SmartGrowth – the 50 year plan to manage growth in the Tauranga and Western Bay of Plenty sub-region. But to make sure the Waihi Beach ward develops the way its residents would like, it needs a community plan too – one that recognises the local relationships between its economy, people, environment, recreation, culture, and land use. It needs a plan that records what is important to the community and its way of life, what it wants to preserve, what it would like to improve, and how that should be done.*

*Council has already helped the communities of Katikati, Te Puke and Maketu develop such plans, and their value was quickly recognised. Now Waihi Beach joins the list of communities that has such a plan.*

*This Plan sets out the community's wishes, as a guide for the development of infrastructure, services and facilities that it will need over the next 20 years. It also records the community's vision for the "look and feel" of its neighbourhoods over this time.*

<sup>1</sup> Population projections from SmartGrowth.

## A little planning context...

*SMARTGROWTH is underpinned by a series of actions to sustainably manage growth across key population areas, of which Waihi Beach is one. Council supports SmartGrowth in a variety of ways. A key action was the Urban Growth Strategy / Structure Plan Review for Waihi Beach which was carried out in 1993. This initiative set the context for ongoing development in existing urban zones for Waihi Beach, Bowentown and Athenree to cater for the area's forecast population up to 2021.*

*In addition, future urban areas for Waihi Beach and Athenree have been identified as part of the SmartGrowth plan to accommodate population increases after 2021. A map of these zones is on page 6.*

## How this Plan was developed

*IN November 2006 the process to develop this community plan kicked off with a meeting of representatives from the community. These people agreed to act as a liaison group between Council staff and the community during the development of the Plan, and suggestions for a process to develop the Plan were discussed with them.*

*In January 2007, the process to develop this Plan was officially launched. A key part was the establishment of an internet forum, which was designed to enable the large group of non-resident ratepayers, who have a keen interest in Waihi Beach, to participate in the development of the Draft Plan by posting their visions for the future of their community. Over 140 people participated on the internet forum.*

*During February, the community was invited to attend a series of meetings. At the first community meeting in early March, the visions captured through the internet forum were brought together with ideas raised at the meeting, for discussion. Barriers that might prevent the community from achieving its vision were also identified and discussed.*

*Separate meetings were held with tangata whenua and youth from the area to capture their visions and their analysis of the issues. This input was then integrated into the rest of the process.*

*At the second community meeting, held late in March, the issues preventing the visions being achieved were identified and actions to*

*overcome these barriers developed. The actions were then discussed and agreed with a group of government agencies and community organisations that will play a key role in assisting the community to implement the Plan.*

*The last community meeting, held at the end of April, brought people from the community together for the last time to check that their input - the visions and actions that lie at the heart of this plan - was accurately recorded. Overall, over 130 people attended a community meeting. Council staff then prepared the Draft Plan for formal public consultation, which was held between 2 June - 2 July. Hearings on submissions were held late in July, and final decisions and adoption of the plan occurred in early August 2007.*

## Where to from here?

*NOW that the final plan has been adopted, we can all start to play our part in making its visions a reality.*

*Actions listed as the responsibility of community groups and organisations will be implemented when the groups are ready, or when individuals or groups express an interest in being involved in particular actions.*

*For Council, and most other government and non-government organisations, the implementation stage means taking the actions and building them into our own plans and other processes. This ensures that funding is budgeted and other resources, including staff time, are allocated.*

*For example, some actions refer to the process to develop the Built Environment Strategy and the District Plan Review; both are currently underway and will incorporate direction and actions from this Plan. Likewise with the Solid Waste Strategy Review in 2007/08. Actions referred to these Reviews will be included in the scope of each review.*

*Other actions will be built into Council's 10-year Plans (the LTCCP) and Annual Plans. These plans show Council's work programmes and Council's plans to fund particular actions. All resulting draft strategies and plans will be open for public consultation.*

*It is expected that the Plan will be reviewed within 5 years to assess how implementation has proceeded.*



# Waihi Beach ward today

*THE Waihi Beach ward, which includes the communities of Island View, Pio's Beach and Bowentown, and Athenree has a usually resident population of 2,946<sup>2</sup>.*

*This population swells to around 18,000 during the peak summer holiday season, as people from around New Zealand and the rest of the world come to Waihi Beach to enjoy its greatest asset – nearly nine kilometres of golden sandy beach.*

*The beach has shaped the character of the community and has created a laid-back atmosphere – it's a place where residents and visitors can truly relax.*

*To complement the beach, the area also offers varied recreational experiences, great hospitality and diverse shopping. Whether it's soothing the soul by taking in a walk through tranquil native bush, enjoying the area's cafes and boutique accommodation or buying unique local treasures in the town's shopping centre, Waihi Beach ward offers something for everyone.*

*The urban environment is bounded by a rich hinterland that produces a range of world class agricultural and horticultural products. These products, which include kiwifruit, avocado and a variety of dairy commodities, support the primary sector 'backbone' of the Western Bay of Plenty District.*

## Acknowledging the past

*THE interesting history of Waihi Beach ward helps explain the development of the thriving community that exists in the area today.*

*Land in the area literally rose from the sea. Waihi Beach's topography originated through the build up and compaction of sand, which led*

*to the area now known as Bowentown connecting to the mainland. Eventually covered with forest, the area provided rich bounty to its first inhabitants – kaimoana from the sea, estuary and harbour and an array of flora and fauna from the forests.*

*Maori have long ancestral links with the whenua that encompasses the Waihi Beach ward. The western boundary marker Nga Kuri a Wharei of the Tauranga Moana tribe Ngai Te Rangi is located within the ward. It also marks the boundary between the Tauranga and Hauraki tribes.*

*The tipuna whare and marae of the Ngai Te Rangi hapu, Te Whanau a Tauwhao ki Otawhiwhi, still stands proudly on shores of Otawhiwhi having been built there in 1880. Hauraki tribes who also claim ancestral links to the whenua within Waihi Beach ward include Ngati Tamatera, Ngati Maru, Ngati Paoa, Ngati Whanaunga, Ngati Hako and Ngati Taratokanui.*

*Permanent European settlement occurred after land was granted by the Crown in the early 1870s. More people were able to settle in the area as this land came to be sold and subdivided. Gold was discovered at Waihi Beach just a few years after this first settlement.*

*As the population increased, infrastructure and facilities were established between 1910 and 1930, to service the growing settlement's population. This included a school, post office, a general store in Athenree, telephone service and later, power supply. A bus service to Waihi began after the road opened.*

*Recreational and entertainment facilities were also established, including*

*surf, bowling and tennis clubs as well as cabaret. A RSA sub-branch was formed in 1946.*

*As more growth occurred, new infrastructure was brought to the area or extended in the 1950s, including a Fire Brigade and the extension of phone lines. Crown land at Island View was subdivided, spreading development over most of the Ward. After this time, the first licensed real estate agents started to operate in the area. The road to Bowentown was later sealed.*

*Churches also opened in the late 1950s and early 1960s. New clubs were formed and many club facilities were enhanced by rebuilding. Later, the Waihi Beach Community Centre was opened in 1993.*

*Social and economic changes through the 1980s and 1990s however led to the closing of facilities that had been in the community, including the Beach Post Office, picture theatre, and Trustbank.<sup>3</sup> There were also changes in the representation of the area. During the reorganisation of local government in 1989, the whole area of the Waihi Beach ward was determined to be within the jurisdiction of the Western Bay of Plenty District Council. Before the reorganisation, the area north of Three Mile Creek was part of the former Ohinemuri County Council and the area south was part of the former Tauranga County Council.*

*By 2001 the usually resident population of the area was 3036 and 13% of the population was Maori. There were 191 businesses in the area.*

*From humble beginnings Waihi Beach had grown into a thriving area and is one of New Zealand's top coastal destinations.*

<sup>2</sup> Usually resident population (2006 Census).

<sup>3</sup> Information gathered from Hanlen, H. (1999). *The Why, How, When and Where of the Waihi Beach Story: It's Politics, Places and People.* (The Author, Waihi), and Hanlen, H. (2001). *Bowentown, Athenree and More Beach Pot Pouri.* (The Author, Waihi).



## Looking to the future

"This is our paradise: we're committed to protecting and enhancing it."

*THE people of Waihi Beach ward know they live in a special place, and they recognise that others will want to come and share their beach lifestyle, both as new residents and visitors. Growth brings with it many opportunities, but it also places pressure on the area's environment and recreation facilities.*

*Businesses thrive during the summer period, but also have to trade through the difficult off-season. With many non-permanent residents and visitors, the nature of the community is fluid, which can make it a challenge to sustain community activities year-round. The changing face of the people in the community has also led to a changing face in our built environment.*

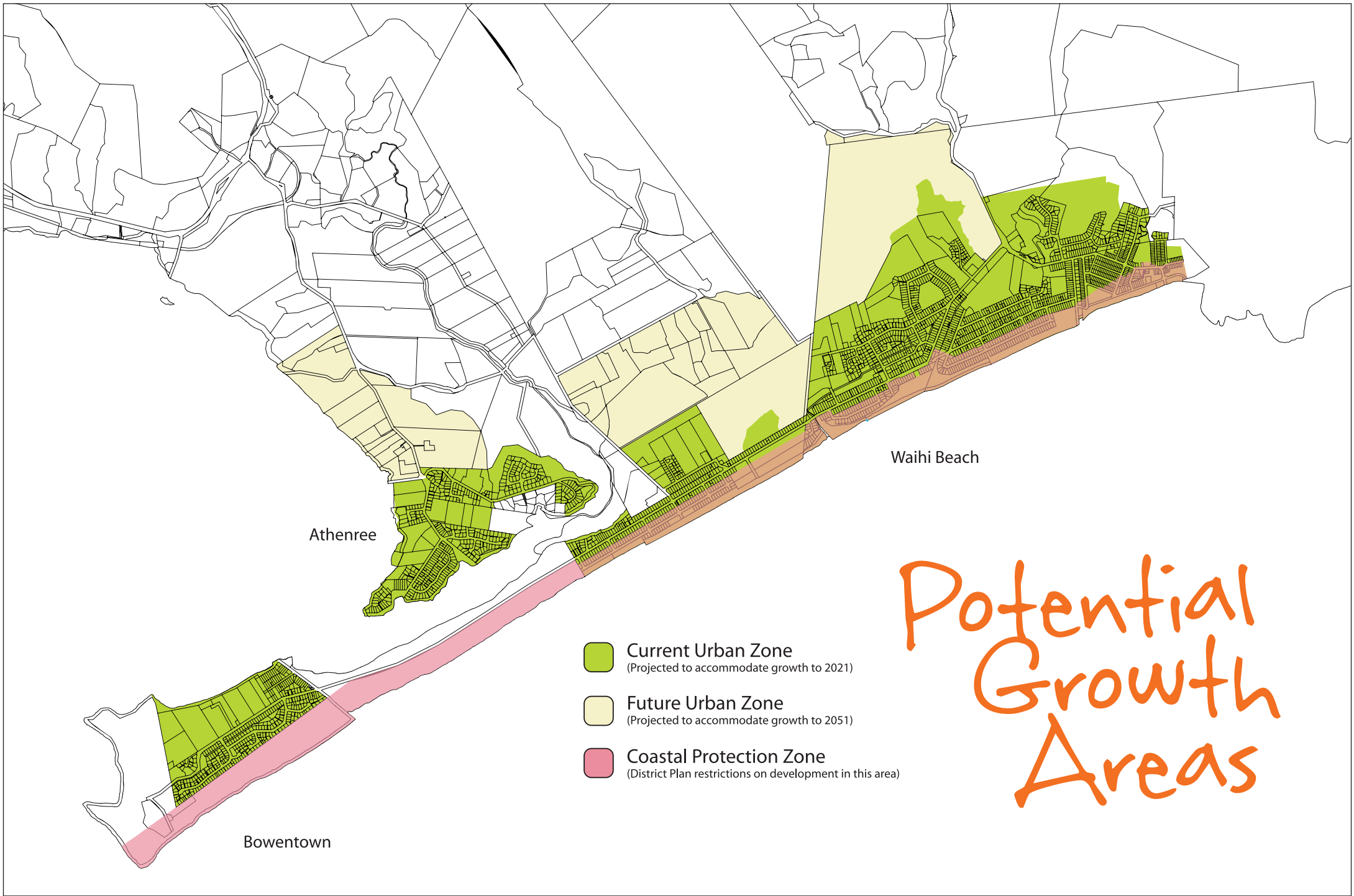
*These are some of the challenges this Plan aims to address. The Plan is the result of significant contributions from many people who took part in the community meetings, posted their views on the internet forum and worked behind the scenes with smaller groups to define and agree on what they would contribute to the visioning process for their community.*

*The Plan harnesses the ideas and aspirations of a diverse group of people with a common objective – to protect and enhance their piece of paradise.*

*This Plan will be a blueprint for the community to use – a valuable tool to inform people where the Waihi Beach ward community wants to go, and how it plans to get there.*

*Government and non-government agencies, organisations, developers, businesses and residents, all have a part to play. Not all issues can, or will be resolved immediately. Just writing them down won't make them happen either, but with the end clearly in sight, all those involved will have a better understanding of their role, and the community's vision can more effectively become reality.*







# Culture, Heritage and Events

“Our cultural heritage will be strong in 20 years' time if we can all recognise it and help to protect it. To do this we need to understand and respect it, through learning and sharing.”

**IMAGINE a series of events in Waihi Beach dominated by different cultural celebrations; from Christmas and New Year's Day, Waitangi Day, the Mardi Gras, Anzac Day, Matariki (Maori New Year), and vintage celebrations at Athenree Homestead.**

Each celebration would serve to recognise the rich cultural fabric of the Waihi Beach ward community and provide a focus for showcasing the many unique sites and places in the area – from tranquil coastal settings to venues set in rich native forest.

Now, imagine these events being complemented by more regular opportunities to learn the diverse cultural and social history of the area, by sharing our stories at face-to-face meetings, and through bilingual and interpretative signage.

During community meetings to develop the Plan, those participating in the culture, heritage and events group said they'd like to know more about the history and culture of the area, but they didn't know where to go to access and learn this information. From their perspective, this lack of

access to information hindered understanding of different cultures in the area and how they came together to form the Waihi Beach 'community'. An example of this was a perceived lack of cultural understanding by central and local government to particular concerns of Tangata Whenua.

While the community recognised there is much that individual cultures will want to hold dear to themselves, there was a desire that residents should work together to understand, preserve and share the Waihi Beach ward's culture and heritage.

The community also recognised that it was important to ensure this teaching and sharing is done by those who can legitimately do it in order to prevent false or inappropriate information being shared. Part of the community's challenge then becomes finding resources to support that teaching and sharing.

**“When the people and supporting resources are found, and we're all learning, the cultural fabric of our community will be so much stronger.”**

## Our visions for 2027

Learning it, teaching it and demonstrating it. Here's what we want for our culture, heritage and events in 2027.

- We recognise and protect our historic places and cultural heritage.
- Our waahi tapu are preserved, acknowledged and protected in partnership.
- Tangata Whenua connect with their lands in a strong way.
- Our history and culture is proudly displayed/celebrated in appropriate ways.
- Our cultural values and beliefs are respected.
- We know and teach our cultural history to those who want to learn.
- There are strong relationships and mutual respect between the different cultures in our community.







# Economy

"Having sustainable options that will enable us to live and work here - priceless!"



**PERHAPS the greatest economic enhancement to Waihi Beach ward would be developing opportunities to both live and work in the area.**

Of the residents who work in the area, 18.3% work in the retail sector, which has the largest number of employees living and working in the Waihi Beach ward. 17.9% are employed in property and business services, 13.2% in both construction, and accommodation and hospitality. 5.8% are employed in agriculture. At the same time, many residents have skills in other sectors, and have to work outside the area because the right kinds of economic opportunities are not available.

To create these 'live and work' opportunities, people at the community meetings wanted Council to identify suitable land to be zoned for commercial and industrial activity, and identified some specific locations to investigate. The community's knowledge will be important in determining whether the proposed sites are suitable.

Community knowledge and skills could also be used to make the most of tourism opportunities in the area. While most residents know there's so much that attracts people to the area, there is a view that offering more special options will enhance opportunities for residents and visitors.

While the community recognises that some economic activities may not be sustainable and suitable for the area, a balance is required. At the community meetings it was described as a 'real catch-22 situation' between keeping the status quo, which makes Waihi Beach such an attractive place to live, and encouraging new economic activities.

**"Putting the community's visions into practice will be a challenge as we look at new types of economic activity, and we find the necessary resources and infrastructure to support this activity. But, we agree that this is a challenge worth undertaking."**

## Our visions for 2027

We are committed to the following as we pursue our economic opportunities over the next 20 years - our visions for our economic opportunities in 2027.

- Our economy is driven by low-impact business, and reflects the character and identity of Waihi Beach.
- Our businesses meet the needs of our community and are supported by:
  - the residents in our community
  - the appropriate provision of commercial and industrial land
  - IT infrastructure
  - housing
  - labour.
- We make the most of economic opportunities without compromising the character of the beach.
- The people of the area have a choice of work options to allow financial security.
- Tangata Whenua are employed in sustainable economic development that is intrinsic to their values and aspirations.
- Economic development for Tangata Whenua is undertaken by them, for their benefit.



## Here's how we'll enable businesses to develop in the area and provide sustainable employment for our people.

Action No.	Key Action	How will it be done	Who will be involved	Key milestones/ timeframes
4.	Enable our people to seek employment at the beach by encouraging business opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Through the District Plan Review in 2008/09, investigate land and zoning for light industry and consider clustering industrial opportunities together to use that land.</li> <li>Facilitate industrial and commercial land zonings, and consequent development of the rezoned land in Waihi Beach. (Some areas the community has already identified for investigation include Emerton Road and Capamagian Drive).</li> <li>Facilitate infrastructure provision to commercially and industrially zoned land.</li> <li>Ensure that all industrial activity is consistent with the community's vision for economic development in the area, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creative work</li> <li>Professional and trade services</li> <li>Goods and services required on a beach holiday</li> <li>Businesses that cater for youth</li> </ul> </li> <li>Ensure that the productive rural land in the Ward is maintained for agricultural and horticultural use.</li> </ul>	<p>Council (regulator/provider) Community (advocate) Business developers and entrepreneurs (funder/provider)</p> <p>Council (facilitator)</p> <p>Department of Conservation (regulator/facilitator/advocate) Hauraki Enterprise Agency (facilitator/advocate) Creative Tauranga (advocate)</p>	2007 onwards 2008/2009 Council regulation to allow land to be zoned through the District Plan Review.
5.	Identify additional employment opportunities in the area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage the Western Bay of Plenty District Council to support local businesses when tendering contracts.</li> </ul>	Community (advocate) Community Board (advocate) Tangata Whenua (advocate)	2008 onwards
6.	Support local businesses to submit competitive tender bids for Council, and other government and non-government organisations' contracts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide information to businesses about submitting competitive tenders.</li> <li>Facilitate business networking opportunities to encourage businesses to come together and partner in tender proposals (for example BA 5 - Business After 5).</li> <li>Publicise advertisements about tenders to be let for work in the Waihi Beach ward in the smaller newspapers that are distributed in the community.</li> </ul>	Business Association [not yet established] (facilitator) Business After 5 (facilitator/service provider) Chamber of Commerce (service provider) Hauraki Enterprise Agency (facilitator)	2008 onwards
7.	Educate and inform the community about the kind of industrial and commercial activity that is consistent with the community's vision for economic development in the area. Promote these types of industrial and commercial activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inform the community that the District Plan and Built Environment Strategy give guidelines on what commercial and industrial activity is allowed in the area.</li> <li>Create a profile that includes this information to go in new residents' packs and information centres, and for use at community meetings.</li> </ul>	<p>Council (provider) Business Association [not yet established] (advocate) Community (advocate)</p> <p>Council (provider) Local Economic Development Officer (facilitator) Community Board (partner/advocate)</p>	2008 onwards
8.	Promote and provide support for home enterprises and young entrepreneurs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inform the community, through publications like the Western Bay Outlook and other media, and through community meetings about the opportunities for home enterprises.</li> <li>Ensure the community is informed about the rules and guidelines regarding home enterprises to ensure the look and feel of the area is retained.</li> </ul>	<p>Council (facilitator) Waihibeachinfo.co.nz (facilitator)</p> <p>Council (facilitator)</p>	2008 onwards



## Here's how we'll enable businesses to develop in the area and provide sustainable employment for our people. *(continued)*

Action No.	Key Action	How will it be done	Who will be involved	Key milestones/ timeframes
8. <i>(continued)</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Liaise with agencies, for example the Chamber of Commerce, Priority One, New Zealand Food Safety Authority, Competenz, the Modern Apprenticeship Scheme, Waihi Youth Excel and Real Estate Agents, to promote and facilitate opportunities for entrepreneurship and home enterprises.</li> </ul>	Chamber of Commerce (facilitator) Priority One (facilitator) New Zealand Food Safety Authority (facilitator) Waihi Youth Excel (facilitator) Real Estate Agents (facilitator) Local Economic Development Officer (facilitator) Hauraki Enterprise Agency (facilitator) Te Raranga/Maori Business Network (facilitator) Community Board (facilitator)	
9.	Investigate whether a local economic development forum should be established.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Survey whether there is demand for an economic development forum in the area.</li> <li>Meet with the Retailers Association to discuss broadening their scope.</li> <li>Hold a meeting with interested parties to discuss options for an economic development forum.</li> </ul>	Retailers Association (partner) Community (facilitator) Local Economic Development Officer (facilitator) Hauraki Enterprise Agency (partner)  Priority One (partner) Te Raranga/Maori Business Network (partner)	2008 onwards
10.	Advocate for Council participation on the Waihi Vision Community Trust.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocate to enhance the current relationship between the Council and the Trust by including a Community Board member on the Trust.</li> </ul>	Community (advocate) Waihi Vision Community Trust (partner)	2008 onwards
11.	Advocate for the tools required to support economic opportunities in the area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocate to a bank to install an ATM at Waihi Beach.</li> <li>Liaise with banks to establish the demand for an ATM.</li> <li>Identify good locations to site the ATM.</li> <li>Upgrade existing infrastructure, particularly phones, broadband and power supply.</li> </ul>	Community Board (advocate) Retailers Association (advocate)  Telecommunications Companies (provider) Trustpower/Genesis/PowerCo (provider) Council (facilitator)	2008 onwards
12.	Encourage our schools to provide programmes introducing students to different employment opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitate existing programmes, for example Young Enterprise Scheme, Gateway and Instep, to operate in our schools.</li> </ul>	Katikati College (partner) Waihi College (partner) Chamber of Commerce [Young Enterprise Scheme] (provider) Tertiary Education Commission [Gateway Programme] (provider) Priority One [Instep Programme] (provider) Katikati Resource Centre (service provider)	2007 onwards
13.	Enable mixed use (commercial/residential) development in the commercial area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocate for a flexible, merit-based policy, for mixed-use development in the commercial area.</li> <li>Develop policy through the Built Environment Strategy and the District Plan Review.</li> </ul>	Retailers Association (advocate) Council (provider)	2007-2009



## Here's how we'll enable businesses to develop in the area and provide sustainable employment for our people. *(continued)*

Action No.	Key Action	How will it be done	Who will be involved	Key milestones/ timeframes
14.	Consult the community on the possibility of commercial and light industrial development on Emerton Road.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In consultation with property owners, investigate opportunities for commercial development on Emerton Road.</li> </ul>	Council (provider) Retailers Association (advocate) Community (advocate)	2008 onwards
15.	Explore the potential for more commercial opportunities along the beach front eg cafes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that commercial sites are situated according to the District Plan, so are not located on reserve land or dunes.</li> </ul>	Council (provider) Retailers Association (advocate) Community (advocate)	2008 onwards

## Here's how we'll showcase Waihi Beach and extend the visitor season.

16.	Make the most of our tourism opportunities, including Maori tourism opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Define the scale and nature of tourism desired, for example:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tourism focused on the unique character of the area</li> <li>Tourism that is low impact</li> <li>Tourism that captures free and independent travelers</li> </ul> </li> <li>Link to tourism opportunities in Waihi and other areas. Build tourism packages to incorporate different opportunities.</li> <li>Support our current operators to make the most of existing opportunities. Promote the waihibeachinfo.co.nz website to sustain these opportunities.</li> <li>Investigate tourism opportunities that make the most of our environment.</li> <li>Establish relationships between iwi and others to stimulate further tourism opportunities.</li> <li>Advocate to include Waihi Beach in the Pacific Highway Touring Route.</li> </ul>	Private tourism operators (provider) Tauranga Moana Tourism (facilitator) Tourism Bay of Plenty (facilitator/advocate) waihibeachinfo.co.nz website (provider) Go Waihi (facilitator) Information Centre (provider) Tourism Coromandel (facilitator/advocate) Waihi Vision Trust (facilitator) Waihi Beach Coast Guard (service provider) Waihi Beach Surf Lifesaving (service provider) Community Board (facilitator) Local Clubs (facilitator)	2007 onwards Started with tourism opportunities operating in five years.
17.	Build relationships between Tangata Whenua and other tourism operators to explore potential for tourism opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage stakeholders regarding the Bowentown Heads and build relationships between them to stimulate further tourism opportunities.</li> <li>Examine tourism opportunities through the Reserves Management Plan.</li> <li>Encourage the community and Tangata Whenua to work together on developing cultural events that have a tourism focus.</li> </ul>	Tangata Whenua (partner) Private tourism operators (partner) Council (facilitator) Waihi Beach Tourism Group (not yet established) Tourism Bay of Plenty (facilitator) Tauranga Moana Maori Tourism (facilitator/advocate) Go Waihi (facilitator/advocate) Creative Tauranga (facilitator/advocate) Hauraki Enterprise Agency (facilitator)	2008 onwards
18.	Investigate holding regular events and markets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Through existing events, promote Waihi Beach and the variety of activities in the area.</li> <li>Support an educational focus at these events to attract a wider range of people to the area.</li> <li>Publicise a schedule of events across the area to maximise the impact of events.</li> </ul>	Community Information Centre (partner) Website (partner) Council (facilitator) Local newsletters, for example Pio's Newsletter (partner) Community/Community Board (advocate) Tourism Bay of Plenty (partner/advocate)	2008 onwards



## Here's how we'll showcase Waihi Beach and extend the visitor season. *(continued)*

Action No.	Key Action	How will it be done	Who will be involved	Key milestones/ timeframes
18. <i>(continued)</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enable economic opportunities to operate alongside events.</li> </ul>	Bay of Plenty Polytech (facilitator) Creative Tauranga (facilitator) Local clubs and organisations (service provider) Tourism Coromandel (facilitator) Waihi Vision Trust (facilitator)	
19.	Advocate to retain the airstrip on Emerton Road.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilitate, if possible, continued access to an airfield for community use.</li> </ul>	Retailers Association (advocate) Tourism Operators (advocate) Community (advocate) Council (facilitator) Airstrip owner (provider)	2007 onwards





# Social and Community

"We've discussed the concept of 'the community' a lot, but our aim is simple - with good support we want to strengthen it."



**A LOT of the things the Waihi Beach ward community wants aren't particular to it. The community wants good housing, access to quality social services, opportunities to participate in local decision making, and good information flows between the community and central and local government.**

Having said this, the Waihi Beach ward community has some unique characteristics that mean it can sometimes be a challenge to get the things the community needs and wants.

For example, only 28% of the Ward's ratepayers actually live in the Ward but the population increases markedly as people come to holiday in the area. Defining the service provision needed in this dynamic environment becomes a delicate balance between meeting the needs of permanent residents, part-time residents and holidaymakers.

This Plan recognises the Waihi Beach community as having three 'hearts' - Waihi Beach and Island View, Bowentown and Pio's Beach, and Athenree. Ideally, services and facilities need to be easily accessible in each of these hearts. While resource constraints of government and non-government agencies' may make this difficult, many residents believe that investigations should be undertaken to see what's feasible.

**"Given the fluctuation in the area's population, getting the community involved in activities can be a challenge. It's all about focussing on how others can be inspired or supported to become more involved, regardless of whether they are permanent or part-time residents, or holidaymakers, wanting to ensure that the Waihi Beach ward remains a great place."**

## Our visions for 2027

Being here, having access to social services and being involved in our community. Here's what we believe will strengthen our community in 2027.

### Social Services:

- Waihi Beach has a housing range that meets the needs of the community.
- The residents of Waihi Beach have a range of quality social services to allow choice, and services are well coordinated and affordable.
- Our elderly community is well looked after and has access to high quality and affordable housing and healthcare facilities.
- The community of the Waihi Beach ward knows which services are available and how to access them.

### Community Involvement:

- The Waihi Beach ward community, whether as individuals or as groups, work together in a coordinated way to obtain better social outcomes.
- The community works together toward its goals and aspirations.
- Tangata Whenua are in charge of their destiny.
- Our youth are better represented in decision making processes to ensure that their needs are catered for.
- Recognition in legislation of all rateable property owners in calculations for representation at Council.
- The Waihi Beach ward community is informed about events and other activities in the area.
- We use and invest in the skills of local people.
- Our community is a clean, safe beach community.



## Here's how we'll ensure that our people can live and stay in the area.

Action No.	Key Action	How will it be done	Who will be involved	Key milestones/ timeframes
20.	Provide for a range of housing options.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish the existing housing range in the area by examining the results of the 2006 Census.</li> <li>Consider provision of different housing options for the area, for example semi-detached housing or redefining lot sizes and subdivision rules through the District Plan Review. Advocate for increased flexibility of housing options, sensitive to the characters of the areas, to be built into the District Plan during the District Plan Review.</li> </ul>	<p>Council (provider) Community Board (advocate) Community (advocate)</p>	2008 onwards
21.	Investigate options for social housing in the area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Educate the community about social housing.</li> <li>Establish the demand for social housing in the area.</li> <li>Investigate options, working with service providers, for social housing in the area.</li> <li>Link in with other initiatives to find options for social housing, for example the Community Outcomes Bay of Plenty Housing Group.</li> </ul>	<p>Housing New Zealand (facilitator/advocate) Tangata Whenua (advocate/service provider) Community (advocate) Community Board (advocate) Social organisations (provider) Community Outcomes Bay of Plenty Housing Group (facilitator)</p>	2008 onwards
22.	Investigate options for residential villages providing for a range of life stages, including retirement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate the feasibility of establishing lifestyle villages, including consideration of options for ownership, funding and range of services offered, and the budgetary effects on health provision in the Waihi Beach ward.</li> <li>Advocate for establishment of lifestyle villages.</li> </ul>	<p>Developer (provider) Social organisations (provider) Community (advocate) Community Board (advocate) Council (facilitator/regulator) Bay of Plenty District Health Board (monitor)</p>	Investigate proposals 2007/08 - 2009/10
23.	Investigate options that enable and support people to remain in their homes as they age.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate the support services required to enable people to 'age in place.'</li> <li>Determine the availability of this support in the Waihi Beach ward.</li> <li>Inform the community of the options available to them and assess their demand for the different options.</li> <li>Develop policy to support 'aging in place.'</li> </ul>	<p>Community (advocate) Social/church organisations (service provider) Community Development Officer (facilitator)</p> <p>Council (provider)</p>	2008 onwards
24.	Advocate for the preservation of pensioner housing in the area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider establishment of a local trust or use of other mechanisms for delivery of pensioner housing by a community organisation.</li> </ul>	Community (advocate)	2007 onwards
25.	Investigate affordable housing options for the area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate Seaford Park as a model that provides a range of affordable housing options.</li> <li>Undertake research to identify other affordable housing options.</li> <li>Identify opportunities to participate in the Centre for Housing Research Aotearoa NZ affordable housing study or apply results from completed research.</li> <li>Link in with other initiatives to find options for affordable housing, for example the Community Outcomes Bay of Plenty Housing Group.</li> </ul>	<p>Council (facilitator) Community Board (advocate) Housing New Zealand (service provider) Community Outcomes Bay of Plenty Housing Group (facilitator)</p>	From June 2007 onwards



## Here's how we'll ensure that our people can live and stay in the area. *(continued)*

Action No.	Key Action	How will it be done	Who will be involved	Key milestones/ timeframes
25. <i>(continued)</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with the horticulture and tourism industries to establish the housing and accommodation needs of their employees.</li> </ul>	Horticulture Industry (advocate) Tourism Industry (advocate) Post-Harvest Group (advocate) NZ Kiwifruit Growers Incorporated (advocate) Work and Income New Zealand (advocate) Priority One (facilitator) Developers (provider)	From June 2007 onwards
26.	Ensure that infrastructure supply to homes is reliable.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocate to infrastructure providers that supply to homes in the area is reliable, for example power and water supply.</li> </ul>	Community (advocate) Community Board (advocate) Council (provider) PowerCo (provider)	2007 onwards

## Here's how we'll improve our access to social services.

27.	Encourage social services to have an active presence at Waihi Beach.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify which office of each service operates in the area, for example Police, telecommunications, health, Work &amp; Income, schools.</li> <li>Encourage providers to give this information as part of this project to the Katikati Resource Centre and deposit this information at the Council Office/ Library at Waihi Beach.</li> <li>Publicise this information to the community through the Beach Book and new residents' packs.</li> <li>Facilitate co-operation between Katikati and Waihi Resource Centres to provide referral services.</li> <li>Specially target programmes and services to run in Waihi Beach.</li> <li>Encourage social services to consider the diverse population residing at Waihi Beach so that Maori and Pakeha have access to culturally appropriate services.</li> </ul>	Council (facilitator) Community Board (facilitator) District Health Boards (partner) Ministry of Social Development (partner) Work and Income New Zealand (partner) Telecommunications Companies (partner) Katikati Resource Centre (provider/partner) Waihi Resource Centre (partner) Local church groups (advocate)	2007 onwards
28.	Advocate for the establishment of a community facility in Athenree.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate the demand for a multi-purpose community centre in Athenree, for purposes such as public meetings, sports activities, preschool and childrens' programmes, weddings, funerals and social events.</li> <li>Consider use of the venue as a permanent base for social and health services, and Civil Defence in Athenree.</li> <li>Investigate the feasibility of establishing some commercial activity around the community facility.</li> <li>Investigate a site for the facility as part of future structure planning processes.</li> <li>Encourage sponsorship and other funding to enable construction of the facility.</li> </ul>	Community (advocate) Sponsor (partner) Council (facilitator) Athenree Community Church Group (advocate)	Investigation for a site as part of future structure planning. Establishment of facility when a key minimum population has been reached.
29.	Advocate the library opens more frequently and for longer.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review opening hours and times.</li> <li>Advocate for opening hours on Friday.</li> </ul>	Council (provider) Community Board (advocate)	2007 onwards



## Here's how we'll improve our access to social services. *(continued)*

Action No.	Key Action	How will it be done	Who will be involved	Key milestones/ timeframes
29. <i>(continued)</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate the role of the library in providing more information about the community and social services available in the area, and the facilities available at the library (for example internet access to Council).</li> </ul>		
30.	Integrate health service provision.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage integration of primary, secondary and tertiary health services including well health services, to support the health care services already operating in the area.</li> <li>Identify the barriers to intergrating health services provision.</li> <li>Publicise the services available.</li> <li>Investigate cost barriers to better services for residents.</li> <li>Facilitate improvement in continuity of health care, including transport needs.</li> </ul>	<p>Waihi Hospital (partner)                      Tauranga Hospital (partner)                      District Health Boards (partner)                      Council (facilitator)                      Community Board (advocate)                      Primary Health Organisations (partner)                      Local medical centres and Community Mental Health (partner)                      Waihi Beach &amp; Waihi Health Support Group (service provider)</p>	2007 onwards

## Here's how we'll encourage people to become actively involved in the community.

31.	Support the volunteers in our community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase the community's awareness of the voluntary groups operating in the area.</li> <li>Increase the use of notice boards and websites to advertise the opportunities available to people in the area.</li> <li>Establish a regular meeting/evening for new residents to receive information about community groups operating in the area. Publish this information in the Beach Book and Lions Phone Book.</li> <li>Integrate the list of community groups currently operating in the area into the Community Organisations Database.</li> <li>Encourage nominations to the Trustpower Volunteer of the Year awards.</li> <li>Make sure opportunities are available for those in the area.</li> </ul>	<p>waihibeachinfo.co.nz website (service provider)                      Waihi website (service provider)                      Existing community groups (partner)                      Beach Book (partner)                      Church groups (advocate/partner)                      Waihi Beach Lifeguard Services (facilitator)</p> <p>University of the 3rd Age [UA3] (partner)                      waihibeachinfo.co.nz website (partner)</p> <p>Council (Provider)                      Waihi/Waihi Beach Lions (service provider)</p> <p>Council (provider)</p>	From 2007 onwards
32.	Get youth involved in Council.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate ways of getting youth to engage with Council, for example the 'Mayor-for-a-day' programme.</li> <li>Undertake programmes, like Kids Voting, to encourage youth to participate in local government.</li> <li>Investigate funding sources for projects, for example the Youth Development Partnership Fund.</li> </ul>	<p>Council (partner)                      Tauranga City Council (partner)                      Schools (partner)                      Community Board (partner/provider/advocate)                      Waihi College (partner)                      Katikati College (partner)                      Ministry of Youth Development (partner/facilitator)</p>	2008 onwards



## Here's how we'll encourage people to become actively involved in the community. *(continued)*

Action No.	Key Action	How will it be done	Who will be involved	Key milestones/ timeframes
33.	Mentor our rangatahi (youth).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resource schools to identify potential leaders to attend leadership programmes.</li> <li>Identify kaumatua and other positive role models who are willing to act as mentors.</li> <li>Teach the rangatahi on the marae so that they can learn about their Marae.</li> </ul>	<p>Waihi College (partner)                      Katikati College (partner)                      Marae (partner)                      Tangata Whenua(partner)                      Community Board (advocate)                      Ministry of Youth Development (advocate)</p>	2008 onwards
34.	Support the residents of the area to have their opinions given weight to at the Western Bay of Plenty District Council.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase use of the official signboard by the Police Station for public notices.</li> <li>Undertake face to face consultation between the hapu and Council in accordance with Council's consultation guidelines.</li> <li>Establish regular clinics at Waihi Beach where Council's Community Development Team and the Community Board are available for consultation, to assist the community to work with Council and government organisations.</li> </ul>	<p>Council (provider)                      Community Board (advocate/facilitator)</p> <p>Community Development Team (provider)                      Government and non-government organisations (provider)                      Community Board (provider)</p>	<p>Next electoral cycle, 2007-2010</p> <p>2007 onwards</p>
35.	Encourage Council to send information to absentee landowners informing them of the right to be registered on the Waihi Beach electoral roll.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocate that Council include this information with its correspondence and new residents' packs, place this information at the library and at information centres, and use the information at community meetings.</li> </ul>	Council (provider)	2008 onwards
36.	Enhance local communication in the area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publish a 'what's on' page in Waihi Leader, Katikati Advertiser and Outlook. Include this information on the Council update pages in the Waihi Leader, where appropriate, or publish it in a local 6 monthly broadsheet publication.</li> <li>Use or establish local newsletters for Waihi Beach-Island View, Bowentown and Pio Shores, and Athenree to facilitate communication in the area.</li> <li>Develop good communication strategies between the hapu, Council and the community.</li> </ul>	<p>Waihi Leader/Katikati Advertiser (partner)                      Community Organisations (partner)                      Hapu (partner)                      Council (partner)                      Waihibeachinfo.co.nz (service provider)                      Church groups (advocate)</p>	2008 onwards
37.	Support our people to be safe in a civil defence emergency.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify high risk areas for emergency management in the area.</li> </ul>	Western Bay of Plenty Emergency Management/Civil Defence (provider)	2007 onwards
38.	Support the hapu to develop a hapu resource management plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify funding sources available to the hapu and assist with the preparation of applications.</li> <li>Liaise with the hapu to identify barriers preventing progress with a hapu resource management plan and find solutions to overcome these barriers.</li> </ul>	<p>Te Puni Kokiri (funder/facilitator)                      Cultural Development Officer (facilitator)                      Environment Bay of Plenty (partner)                      Ministry of Social Development (funder)                      Creative Tauranga (advocate)</p>	2007 onwards
39.	Encourage holidaymakers to treat our area with respect.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inform holidaymakers that residents have pride in the way the area looks and want to live in a safe community.</li> <li>Support holidaymakers to have respect for the area by providing information about liquor bans, noise restrictions, rubbish facilities and other ways to have respect for the area and protect the environment.</li> <li>Enforce rules about litter, liquor and noise.</li> </ul>	<p>Waihi Youth Excel (facilitator)                      Community Board (facilitator)                      Council (regulator)                      Accommodation facilities (partners)                      Cafes/restaurants/shops (partners)                      Tourism Bay of Plenty (partner)</p>	2007 onwards



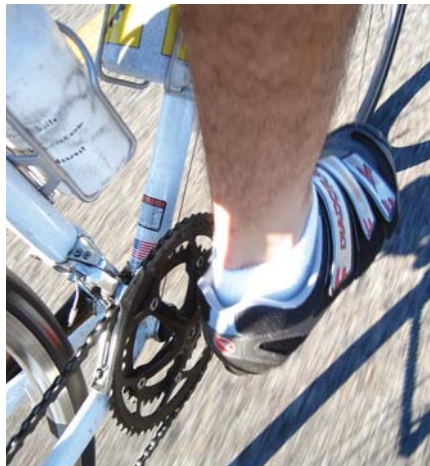
## Here's how we'll encourage people to become actively involved in the community. *(continued)*

Action No.	Key Action	How will it be done	Who will be involved	Key milestones/ timeframes
40.	Encourage more youth specific events to be held in the area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hold more dances and raves for youth, as well as other events.</li> <li>• Provide public transport to ensure those attending events get home safely.</li> <li>• Investigate options to open a youth café in Waihi Beach.</li> </ul>	<p>Waihi Youth Excel (facilitator)                      Community Board (facilitator)                      Community organisations (facilitator)                      Intercity (provider)                      Other transport providers (provider)                      Event organisers (service providers)                      Ministry of Youth Development (facilitator/advocate)                      Creative Tauranga (facilitator)                      Church groups (advocate)</p>	2008 onwards



# Recreation

"Recreational activities in the area mean a lot to this community - it's an integral part of the character of this place."



**THE beach is the community's natural playground and much of its leisure time is spent with 'sand between the toes'. But other recreational choices are available and people are keen to see them enhanced.**

As a start, imagine all the walkways and cycleways in the Ward being coordinated, so that Waihi Beach becomes known as a walking and cycling community. Imagine re-establishing the former Sound Shell as a venue for events, including different cultural celebrations and festivals, and developing facilities that meet the needs of the area's growing youth population.

During the Plan's development, people realistically noted that the viability of facilities must be considered where the permanent population (exclusive of the summer peak) is too small to sustain them, so the focus of this plan is on enhancing existing facilities and careful development of new ones.

The community recognises that some recreational activities can have

a negative impact on others and our environment. That's why the Plan proposes to enforce water safety rules, and minimise and avoid the impacts on the environment of other activities. It also suggests stopping particular activities that, unintentionally, are damaging and detracting from existing recreational opportunities.

Reserves also play a large part in the community. It's important the community's sense of ownership of reserves is maintained, so a Reserves Management Plan, which sets out the future of the reserves in the Ward, has been developed in conjunction with this Plan. The information gathered from the recreation groups involved in the planning process was used to develop the Draft Reserves Management Plan. Consultation on the Draft Reserves Management Plan for Waihi Beach ward was held between June-August.

**"Maintaining what we've got, while making the most of recreational opportunities that come our way - that's a must."**

## Our visions for 2027

Making sure there's a choice of suitable recreational facilities - here are our visions for our recreation opportunities in 2027.

- A wide variety of recreation opportunities is available which meets the needs of residents and visitors.
- Recreation opportunities are easily accessible to all communities within the Waihi Beach ward.
- Facilities are designed to cope with peak summer visitor demand.
- Activities for all ages are available in all the communities within the Waihi Beach ward.
- The community is involved in the control of weeds in public spaces, where practical.
- The Waihi Beach ward is a well-connected walking and cycling community, where pedestrians and cyclists feel safe.
- Reserves in the Ward provide open green space for recreation and still have a "sixties feel".
- There are a variety of different things for young people to do.



## Here's how we'll enhance the recreational opportunities available to us.

Action No.	Key Action	How will it be done	Who will be involved	Key milestones/ timeframes
41.	Develop Broadlands Block into a sustainable reserve.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake community consultation regarding the development of the Broadlands Block in the Waihi Beach Ward Reserves Management Plan.</li> <li>Consider development opportunities for the Broadlands Block and prepare a Development Plan accordingly.</li> </ul>	<p>Council (provider) Community Board (advocate)</p> <p>Council (provider) Community Board (advocate) Environment Bay of Plenty (facilitator of Care Groups) Department of Conservation (facilitator of Care Groups/advocate)</p>	<p>2008</p> <p>2009</p>
42.	Investigate opportunities to re-establish the former Sound Shell as a venue for events. Investigate facilities for youth events.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Determine in the Waihi Beach Outdoor Events Feasibility Study the suitability of the former Sound Shell as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a venue for outdoor events.</li> <li>a facility for youth events.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Council (provider) Community (provider/advocate) Community Board (advocate) Waihi Beach Progressive Association (facilitator) Creative Tauranga (advocate) Waihi Youth Excel (facilitator) Waihi Beach Lifeguard Service (facilitator)</p>	2009/10
43.	Encourage people to observe water safety rules.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure the Harbour Master is aware of public safety issues at Waihi Beach and Bowentown.</li> <li>Educate the community about water safety. Support water safety education programmes at the school.</li> <li>Publicise water safety rules by placing signage at appropriate places.</li> <li>Advocate to the Harbour Master to investigate designating areas for jet skiing and water skiing.</li> </ul>	<p>Harbour Master (regulator) Community (advocate) Waihi Beach Lifeguard Assn (monitor) Waihi Beach CoastGuard (monitor) Water Safety Council (monitor/regulator) Schools (service provider)</p>	2007 onwards
44.	Coordinate walkways and cycleways in the Waihi Beach ward.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plan and provide future walkways and cycleways to show location and connectivity to existing walkways.</li> <li>Prepare promotion information about walkways and cycleways for inclusion on websites, and in newsletters, new residents' packs and community meetings.</li> <li>Investigate opportunities for the community to be involved in the construction and maintenance of walkways and cycleways.</li> <li>Investigate provision of foot bridges over Two and Three Mile Creeks.</li> </ul>	<p>Council (provider) Community Board (advocate/provider) Community (advocate) Environment Bay of Plenty (partner) Department of Conservation (partner) Sport Bay of Plenty (advocate) Health organisations (facilitator)</p>	Commence within 5 years
45.	Improve maintenance on reserves.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review the levels of service on reserves.</li> <li>Investigate opportunities for the community to be involved in carrying out maintenance on reserves, for example through community working-bees.</li> <li>Ensure that all parking areas at reserves are safe.</li> </ul>	<p>Council (provider) Community organisations (partner) Community Board (advocate) Community (advocate)</p>	2009/10
46.	Ensure recreation facilities are youth friendly.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide recreation facilities in the Ward, including Athenree, that are youth friendly.</li> <li>Investigate upgrading the skate park at the Waihi Beach Community Centre reserve.</li> </ul>	<p>Council (partner) Community Board (partner) Waihi Excel Youth (advocate)</p>	2009





## Here's how we'll enhance the recreational opportunities available to us. *(continued)*

Action No.	Key Action	How will it be done	Who will be involved	Key milestones/ timeframes
47.	Ensure through the Waihi Beach Reserves Management Plan, that growth is catered for, for example car and boat parking facilities, additional life guard facilities etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide appropriate reserve management policies and actions that provide for growth in the Waihi Beach ward.</li> </ul>	Council (provider) Community (advocate) Surfing and Boating clubs (advocate)	2007/08
48.	Advocate to Environment Bay of Plenty about harbour management through the Tauranga Harbour Recreation Strategy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partner with Environment Bay of Plenty and Tauranga City Council to investigate sedimentation issues in the Tauranga Harbour and its catchments to develop long term management tools.</li> </ul>	Community (advocate) Boating clubs (advocate) Environment Bay of Plenty (advocate)	2007/08





# Getting Around

"We want to continue to enjoy what we like about this place. To do that we need easy access to get here, and to get around our community."



Improve infrastructure along walkways & cycleways to cater for the elderly, people with disabilities & children.

**BEING in the Waihi Beach ward is important, but it's also important to be able to get around – especially for young people who don't always have access to transport of their own.**

Those participating in the getting around groups at the community meetings identified two particular areas of interest, walkways and cycleways (which need to be safe, user-friendly and extensive), and public transport (which needs an assessment to see what services are available and what additional services the community can sustain). The Plan also reflects a desire that the modes of transport used to get around remain sensitive to the natural environment.

Access to the beach is another important aspect of getting around the area – and is dealt with in the environment, beach and harbour section of this Plan.

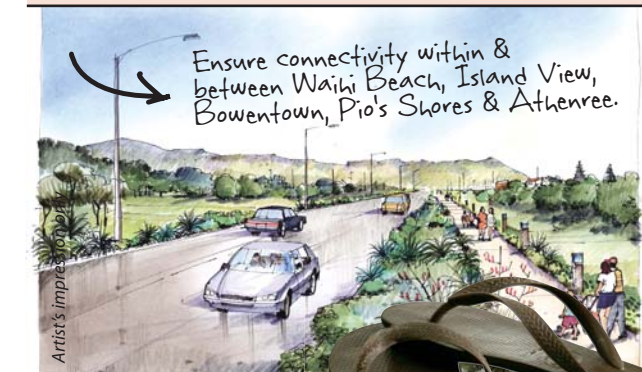
Participants noted that Council has a strong role in this area because Council policy directs a lot of what happens with infrastructure. The Plan raises the issue of improving the community's relationship with Council so that people can find out how they can constructively be involved in processes.

**"As a community we need to work together with other agencies to improve the services available to us."**

## Our visions for 2027

To make the most of what's here in our ward – here's how we want to get around in 2027.

- Walkways and tracks provide education and information about the history and culture of the area.
- Access to and along the beach is well signposted, controlled, and responsible; the dunes are protected.
- People are aware of the issues with dunes and wildlife and how to access the beach responsibly.
- Sustainable transport options are available; roading standards meet our needs, and public transport options are maintained.
- Waihi Beach is a well-connected walking and cycling community, where pedestrians and cyclists feel safe.



Ensure connectivity within & between Waihi Beach, Island View, Bowentown, Pio's Shores & Athenree.



## Here's how we'll make Waihi Beach a great place for safe walking and cycling.

Action No.	Key Action	How will it be done	Who will be involved	Key milestones/ timeframes
49.	Improve walkway and cycleway infrastructure and facilities and ensure that the infrastructure and facilities cater for the elderly, children and people with disabilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify suitable locations for seating facilities and direction signs.</li> <li>Investigate options for making some of the beach access ways suitable for prams, wheelchairs and elderly persons.</li> <li>Consult local people with disabilities about options.</li> </ul>	<p>Council (provider) Community Board (advocate) Sport Bay of Plenty (advocate)</p>	2009
50.	Share information regarding the natural environment and history of the area with users of walkways and cycleways.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify suitable locations for interpretive signage and the appropriate information for each.</li> <li>Develop interpretive signage alongside walkways.</li> </ul>	<p>Council (provider) Community Board (advocate) Tangata Whenua (partner)</p> <p>Council (provider) Community Board (advocate/facilitator) Community Board (facilitator) Department of Conservation (advocate) Historic Places Trust (provider)</p>	<p>2009</p> <p>2010</p>
51.	Improve the summer holiday traffic situation in Waihi Beach.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake an investigation with regard to the parking and traffic situation experienced during summer holidays and develop strategies to relieve the congestion.</li> <li>Implement the proposals from the parking and traffic study after consultation with the community</li> </ul>	<p>Council (provider) Community Board (advocate) Community (advocate)</p> <p>Council (provider) Community Board (advocate) Community (advocate)</p>	<p>2009</p> <p>2010 onwards</p>
52.	Ensure connectivity within and between Waihi Beach, Island View, Bowentown, Pios Shores and Athenree. Investigate various route options for a walk and cycleway between Waihi Beach, Island View and Bowentown and Pio's Beach.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that options remain sensitive to the natural environment.</li> <li>Advocate to include an action in the Department of Conservation's Conservation Management Strategy for the Conservancy to link Bowentown, Athenree and Island View with a walk and cycle way.</li> <li>Advocate for improved cycling facilities in Waihi Beach, for example dedicated cycle lanes and bicycle stands in and around the commercial centre and beach.</li> <li>Investigate options for walkways and cycleways between Bowentown and Island View.</li> </ul>	<p>Council (provider) Community Board (advocate) Environment Bay of Plenty (monitor) Transit NZ (advocate)</p> <p>Council (provider) Community Board (advocate) Community (advocate)</p> <p>Sport Bay of Plenty (advocate) Community Board (advocate)</p> <p>Council (provider) Department of Conservation (partner) Environment Bay of Plenty (partner) Community Board (advocate) Tangata Whenua (advocate) Sport Bay of Plenty (advocate)</p>	<p>2009</p> <p>2007</p> <p>2010</p> <p>2008</p>

## Here's how we'll make Waihi Beach a great place for safe walking and cycling. *(continued)*

Action No.	Key Action	How will it be done	Who will be involved	Key milestones/ timeframes
52. <i>(continued)</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construct walkway and cycleway in accordance with the findings from the investigation.</li> <li>Investigate options for a walkway and cycleway between Athenree and Island View.</li> <li>Construct walkway and cycleway in accordance with the findings from the investigation.</li> </ul>		<p>2009/10</p> <p>2009</p> <p>2010</p>
53.	Link Waihi Beach with Katikati and Waihi.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate options to link Waihi Beach with Waihi and Katikati via off-road cycleways.</li> </ul>	Sport Bay of Plenty (advocate) Community Board (advocate) Community (advocate)	2010 onwards

## Here's how we'll enable people to use public transport.

54.	Ensure that all transportation modes are addressed in the proposed Structure Plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake a study to determine the demand for public transport within Waihi Beach and to and from surrounding towns.</li> <li>Ensure that future Structure Plans have sufficient detail and take all transportation modes into consideration, in accordance with community needs.</li> </ul>	<p>Council (partner) Environment Bay of Plenty (partner) Community Board (advocate) Work and Income NZ (advocate) Transit NZ (advocate)</p> <p>Council (provider)</p>	<p>2009 (include in proposed Structure Plan)</p> <p>2007</p>
55.	Ensure the existing bus services between Waihi, Waihi Beach, and Tauranga are maintained.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that residents are informed about existing bus services through Council's information centre.</li> <li>Market existing bus services to ensure that Waihi Beach retains them.</li> <li>Advocate to extend bus services to Bowentown and Athenree.</li> </ul>	<p>Council (provider) Community Board (partner/advocate) Transit NZ (advocate) Current service provider (provider)</p> <p>Council (provider) Current service provider (provider) Community Board (advocate)</p> <p>Council (facilitator) Community (advocate) Community Board (advocate)</p>	<p>2008</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>



# Development

"It's a near certainty that this area is going to grow. Rather than trying to fight it, we are planning so that it will meet our needs."



Ensure that the rules in the District Plan complement the character & identity of the respective areas of the Waihi Beach ward.

Artist's impression only

**THE Plan recognises that change is inevitable in the Waihi Beach community, and that some anxiety usually accompanies change.**

Participants in the Plan development process were really keen to preserve the beachy and laid-back feel of the area. As a relatively unspoilt isolated community, most residents think Waihi Beach ward is a paradise, and most were open to sharing it with others, as long as visitors had a general awareness of what was special about the ward and were prepared to help retain its special features.

The Plan raises the need to define the special character of the Ward so that Council and those undertaking development will know what it means to the community. This is especially important because each of the three areas in the Ward – Waihi Beach, Athenree and Pio's Beach and Bowentown have their own unique characteristics.

Participants at the community meetings expressed anxiousness about future development in the area - "we don't want to be another Mount" was mentioned often. So all participants were asked to describe exactly what it is about the look and feel of different parts of the Ward that they like or dislike. These "look and feel" guidelines are displayed on page 31. This was a challenging exercise, as participants had to decide how they could realistically give guidelines for development of private land, and what guidelines could be given for development of the interface between public and private spaces. There was a shared view that, in general, development should not impact the natural environment and be sensitive to sites of cultural significance.

Other sections of this Plan also show how the community wants to take advantage of any future development. The social and community section signals how development could broaden the range of housing options in the area to provide for all life stages. The economy section highlights how specific commercial development options could enhance employment opportunities.

During the planning phase Council outlined how it would use the information gained from the community in its plans – thereby making sure future development would take heed of the community's views. A diagram showing how Council's plans fit together, including this Plan, is shown on the next page.

**"There is a shared view that, in general, development should not impact the natural environment and be sensitive to sites of cultural significance."**



## Our visions for 2027

We are a community that sets clear guidelines for future development in this area. Here are our visions for the development, and look and feel of Waihi Beach ward in 2027.

### Development:

- Development and growth in the Ward is sustainable, and considers the sensitivity and limitations of the environment.
- Our whenua is managed in a sustainable manner.
- We know what the community wants and we plan for development in accordance with community needs.
- Our urban areas have their own identity and village feel.
- We have the appropriate infrastructure for our community.
- We maintain our lifestyle, which is connected to our relatively unspoiled beach and estuary.
- Our beach and natural environment is preserved.

### Look and Feel:

- We know what defines our urban character and we actively preserve it.
- The Waihi Beach ward is a family orientated place where people can do the real kiwi thing.
- Waihi Beach is a natural and relatively unspoilt beach in a quiet surrounding.
- Waihi Beach keeps its small beach community identity.
- The pride of our community is reflected in the look, feel and quality of our public and private built environment.
- Our reserves accommodate future growth of the community.
- Our urban areas are:
  - safe
  - have an open feel
  - pedestrian friendly, and are
  - friendly towards people with disabilities.

For more detail on these visions, please see the community's guidelines on page 31.

## How Council's plans fit together

Strategic Plan for Western Bay of Plenty District Council (1992)

District Plan Under the Resource Management Act (1994)

Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP) 2003

Urban Growth Strategy / Structure Plan (Notified 2003)

SmartGrowth (Adopted 2004)

Structure Plan Review (2006)

Shows 2051 urban limits (SmartGrowth)

Regional Policy Statement Decision (Confirmation of urban limits) (Refer map on Page 6)

SmartGrowth

Built Environment Strategy (Currently under development)

Community Development Plan

(Will inform the District Plan Review and Built Environment Strategy)

District Plan Review (To be notified 2008)

## Here's how we'll ensure the look and feel of the area is what the community wants.

Action No.	Key Action	How will it be done	Who will be involved	Key milestones/ timeframes
56.	Ensure that development is sustainable and considers the community's visions for development in the area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that the community's visions regarding the look and feel of the area (see the community's guidelines on page 31) are included in the Built Environment Strategy.</li> </ul>	Council (regulator/provider/facilitator) Community Board (advocate)	2008
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spread information to the community through newsletters, newspaper updates, websites, new residents' packs and community meetings to ensure the community and developers understand the importance of maintaining the current town character through new development.</li> </ul>	Council (provider) Community Board (advocate)	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Obtain input from the Community Board before improvements along road reserves, such as upgrading of pavements and sidewalks are commenced.</li> </ul>	Council (regulator/provider) Community Board (advocate)	2008
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage effective communication between the community and the Community Board, and between the Community Board and Council, to ensure that Council is informed regarding the development needs of the community.</li> </ul>	Council (provider) Community Board (advocate) Community (advocate)	2008 onwards
57.	Ensure that land earmarked for urban development has a zoning that enables sustainable development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Through the District Plan Review, ensure that:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The zonings of land are in accordance with community needs and wants, and appropriate statutory processes are followed.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Council (regulator/provider) Community Board (advocate) Developers (advocate)	2008 onwards
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The zoning will encourage development that will protect and enhance the character of Waihi Beach.</li> </ul>	Council (regulator/provider) Community Board (advocate) Tangata Whenua (advocate)	2008 onwards
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The visual links between important cultural and heritage sites are maintained</li> </ul>	Community (advocate) Department of Conservation (advocate)	
58.	Ensure rules in the District Plan complement the character and identity of respective urban areas of Waihi Beach.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that rules in the District Plan are specific enough to preserve the character of Waihi Beach, but flexible enough to allow development that will enhance the character of this ward (see the guidelines on page 31).</li> <li>Through the Built Environment Strategy and District Plan, ensure that infill development complements the existing character of Waihi Beach.</li> </ul>	Council (regulator) Community Board (advocate)	2008 onwards
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with developers to stimulate good design for urban areas.</li> </ul>	Council (regulator) Community Board (advocate) Community (advocate)	2008 onwards
59.	Ensure development does not impact on our natural environment, such as the beach and dune system.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that development does not affect the water quality in the estuary and rivers.</li> </ul>	Council (regulator) Tangata Whenua (advocate) Community Board (advocate) Waihi Beach Environment Society Inc (advocate)	Ongoing
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain regular monitoring and analysis of stream water to determine the bathing quality, and make results available to the local newsletter.</li> </ul>	Environment Bay of Plenty (regulator) Council (partner) Tangata Whenua (advocate) Community Board (advocate)	

## Here's how we'll ensure the look and feel of the area is what the community wants. *(continued)*

Action No.	Key Action	How will it be done	Who will be involved	Key milestones/ timeframes
59. <i>(continued)</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that any built development does not affect the beach or the foredune, or Department of Conservation wildlife refuge.</li> <li>• Review the set back rules as part of the District Plan Review in 2008/09.</li> <li>• Investigate the provision of quality infrastructure to uphold our tikanga.</li> <li>• Design stormwater reticulation in a way that will prevent erosion.</li> </ul>	<p>Council (regulator) Environment Bay of Plenty (monitor) Tangata Whenua (advocate)</p> <p>Community Board (advocate) Department of Conservation (regulator/monitor/advocate)</p> <p>Council (regulator) Tangata Whenua (advocate)</p> <p>Council (regulator) Tangata Whenua (advocate) Community Board (advocate)</p>	Ongoing
60.	Create an entrance to Waihi Beach.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate options on where to develop town entrances and design various options.</li> <li>• Consider an option to place a sign and lookout along Waihi Beach Road, before the sweeping left-hand bend (just after Fergus Road turn-off to the right).</li> <li>• Develop a town entrance in accordance with recommendations from the investigations.</li> </ul>	<p>Community Board (advocate) Council (partner/provider) Transit NZ (partner) Creative Tauranga (advocate/facilitator) Tourism Bay of Plenty (advocate/facilitator)</p> <p>Community Board (advocate) Council (partner) Creative Tauranga (advocate/facilitator) Tourism Bay of Plenty (advocate/facilitator) Community Groups (advocate/service provider) Community (service provider) Tangata Whenua (service provider) Department of Corrections (service provider)</p>	2009       2010
61.	Ensure that Waihi Beach has an attractive and vibrant town centre, which satisfies the community's needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure Council's Built Environment Strategy incorporates the community needs regarding the "look and feel" of the Waihi Beach town centre.</li> <li>• Ensure District Plan Rules allow for the expansion and development of a unique town centre for Waihi Beach that expresses the local character and satisfy community needs.</li> </ul>	<p>Council (provider) Community Board (advocate)</p> <p>Council (provider) Community Board (advocate) Community (advocate)</p>	2007   2008 onwards
62.	Develop a Town Centre Development Plan for Waihi Beach and other commercial areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In consultation with the community, develop a plan that will guide the future development of the town centre. Consider the suitability of Edinburg Street, and Citrus Ave, Otto Street and Snell Crescent for this future development.</li> <li>• Ensure this development retains of the community's desired character, recorded in the look and feel guidelines on page 31.</li> <li>• In consultation with the community, develop a plan for existing commercial areas other than the town centre to ensure a unique identity for these areas.</li> <li>• Ensure that planning tools, such as the District Plan, incorporate these outcomes.</li> </ul>	<p>Council (provider) Community Board (advocate) Community (advocate) Retailers Association (advocate)</p>	2008/09





## Here's how we'll ensure the look and feel of the area is what the community wants. *(continued)*

Action No.	Key Action	How will it be done	Who will be involved	Key milestones/ timeframes
63.	Preserve the historic character of Waihi Beach.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a strategy to preserve some of the old baches and tennis club.</li> </ul>	Council (provider) Community Board (advocate) Historic Places Trust (partner/advocate) Tangata Whenua (advocate) Property owners (partner) Department of Conservation (partner/advocate) Environment Bay of Plenty (advocate)	2009
64.	Advocate for the undergrounding of power lines.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocate to PowerCo for the undergrounding of existing power lines</li> </ul>	Council (advocate/facilitator) PowerCo (provider)	2007 onwards



# The Community's Guidelines for the look and feel of the Waihi Beach ward

## 1. THE WAIHI BEACH WARD IN RELATION TO THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Participants at the community meetings indicated there is a strong relationship between the character of the Waihi Beach ward and the natural environment. It was stated many times that the beach is the most important feature of this area and should be protected. As a result, it was considered that development on the foredune should be restricted. It was also considered that stormwater should be managed with care and should not have a negative impact on surrounding streams and estuary. Participants at the meetings noted that Waihi Beach has a variety of birdlife and future development should not destroy the habitat of the birds.

## 2. LOOK AND FEEL OF WAIHI BEACH TOWN CENTRE

- The relatively small boutique-type shops that contribute to the 'holiday feel' of the Waihi Beach town centre are important. Future development in the town centre should be an extension of these small boutique-type shops. The scale of development in the town centre is thus important and 'large box retail' should not be accommodated in the town centre.
- As the current scale of the town centre is important, the existing height restrictions should be retained.
- The town centre should be pedestrian and cycle friendly. The town centre should also have adequate car parking.
- Future developments in the town centre should address the parking congestion currently experienced during the summer holidays.
- Plans should ensure that the town centre can expand in future, possibly to Edinburgh Street or Citrus Avenue.

## 3. LOOK AND FEEL – WAIHI BEACH AND ISLAND VIEW

Height:

- To retain the current scale and views, the current three storey height restriction should be retained.
- Houses closer to the beach should be lower than three storeys to enable sea views for properties further back from the beach.

Scale and Density:

- Over the years the scale and density of houses in Waihi Beach and Island View have increased to an extent that puts the current town

character under pressure. It is therefore important that the current scale and density be restricted.

- The community would like to retain space for gardening and trees, so buildings and concrete should not cover the entire lot.
- Norfolk Pines should not be allowed to be planted.
- New buildings should take neighbouring properties into consideration with regard to views, shade, distance from the boundary and windows opening onto the private space of the neighbouring property. Ideally buildings should blend with the neighbourhood.
- Tiny section sizes and houses close together do not suit the 'look and feel' of Waihi Beach and Island View.

Other:

- The old miners' batches and tennis club should be retained to ensure that the north end reflects the history of the town.
- Footpaths don't have to be concrete. More permeable material can be used to reduce stormwater run-off.
- More job opportunities are required in Waihi Beach and therefore a light industrial area needs to be provided.
- Development should be pedestrian and cycle friendly, and connectivity between Island View, Athenree and Pios is important.

## 4. LOOK AND FEEL OF BOWENTOWN & PIO'S BEACH

The Intensity of development:

- To retain the neighbourhood feel, no further development should be allowed on the hill or closer to the beach.
- The current height and setback restrictions should be retained.
- The camp ground is part of the urban environment and should be retained.
- The community enjoy the variety of housing style in the area.

General:

- The current commercial zone is adequate for the area.
- The green surrounding hills, wide roads with swales, parks and dunes are important, and should be retained.
- The way stormwater is mitigated in the area with diffuse run-off onto grass should be retained as a feature.
- The community enjoys the low level street lights and underground cabling.
- It is nice to walk along the beach without seeing buildings situated on the other side of the dune.

- The 'sense of arrival' feeling as you enter Pio's Beach is valued and should be retained.
- The Pa site and other significant sites should be identified with signage, and the information should be shared with the community and visitors.
- Harbour views should be retained over public spaces by ensuring plantings, trees or other reserves development minimises the reduction of these views.

## 5. LOOK AND FEEL OF ATHENREE

- The community would like to maintain the "family feel" of Athenree. The urban area is perceived as pedestrian friendly with wide walkways and is, in general, safe for children.

Development should:

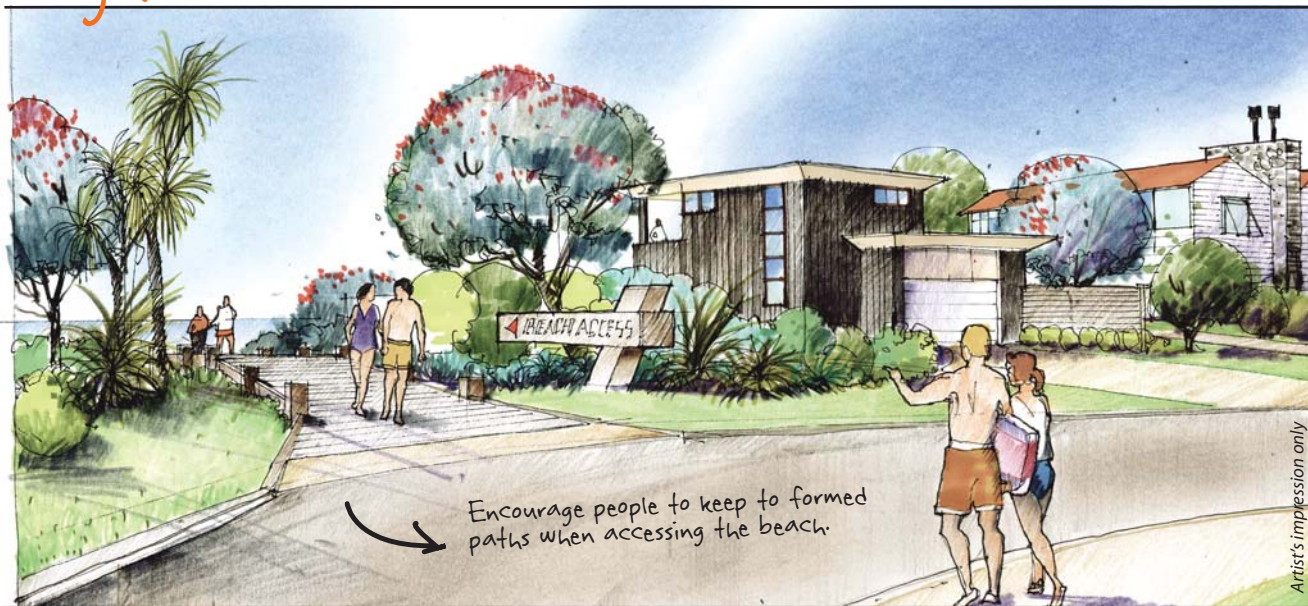
- Maintain the quiet serenity and protect the safe environment.
- Retain the wide road reserves.
- Provide for connectivity and walkways between Athenree Heights, the village, foreshore and estuary.
- Keep existing large open spaces wherever possible.
- Maintain a wilderness and rural feel – open spaces, natural wetlands area.
- Maintain the connection with the water and ensure that the development does not impact on the quality of the estuary.
- Retain larger section sizes and control infill housing to keep the rural feel.
- Control building height; especially on ridgelines.
- Retain the trees in public areas, but control the height to maintain views.
- The camp ground should conform to existing controls on buildings e.g. for colour, set-backs, and distances from boundary etc.
- Commercial development in Athenree should be restricted to the area currently zoned for commercial use.





# Environment, Beach and Harbour

"We understand the natural processes and human actions that harm our natural environment, and we recognise that we all have a role in its protection - because we are its guardians for future generations."



Encourage people to keep to formed paths when accessing the beach.

**THE greatest asset to the Waihi Beach ward community is the beach. So, to protect its many values (principally ecological, but also recreational, amenity, cultural and spiritual) the Plan considers the whole environment of the area; from the hills that surround the ward, to the land that sustains it, to the waters that nurture its kaimoana.**

Those participating in environment groups at the community meetings recognised that erosion, pollution and environmental degradation are issues that are already present. Participants also recognised the community needs to work hard to repair damage already done and ensure that future generations can enjoy and rely on it as much as they have.

The community is raring to go. Encouraging people to be involved is not the issue - but, agreeing what should be done is. The difficulty of reaching agreement was highlighted by the large number of people who participated in the environment groups during the community meetings, and the vigorous discussion that was held there, and on the internet forum. But, through listening and sharing a way forward has been proposed.

**"Through listening to one another, sharing knowledge and expertise, and identifying where we need the help of others, we've developed an action plan."**

## Our visions for 2027

Treasuring and protecting the natural beauty and function of our environment. Here are our visions for our natural environment in 2027.

- All fresh waterways, estuaries and the harbour are clean and valued.
- The whole dune system is healthy and operating within natural cycles.
- The length of the beach can be walked at all tides.
- Public access and connectivity to reserves is well defined and actively managed.
- Decisions about the environment integrate both quality science and local knowledge.
- The natural environment is cared for and ecological processes and waterways are actively managed for resilience, leaving the environment in a better state for future generations.
- All natural heritage, heritage landscape and special places are identified and protected.
- Indigenous fauna and flora are protected and restored.
- Waihi Beach lives as an 'Enviro-community'.

## Here's how we will ensure all fresh waterways, estuaries and the harbour are clean and valued.

Action No.	Key Action	How will it be done	Who will be involved	Key milestones/ timeframes
65.	<p>Develop an understanding and consensus within the community of the issues relating to the water quality in Two and Three Mile/Waiororo Creek.</p> <p>Take necessary steps to address the issues identified.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake ongoing environmental monitoring of water quality to collect data.</li> <li>Ensure progress reports on water quality are disseminated widely to the community.</li> <li>Identify and understand sources of smell in the creeks and harbour.</li> <li>Through interagency collaboration, identify direct and indirect sources of pollution affecting streams and creeks.</li> <li>Disseminate information to the community through websites, community group meetings and newsletters.</li> </ul>	<p>Tangata Whenua (advocate) Local Environment Groups (advocate) Schools (monitor) Environment Bay of Plenty (partner/monitor/regulator) Council (facilitator/partner/monitor) NZ Landcare Trust (partner/advocate)</p> <p>Department of Conservation (advocate) Community Board (facilitator) waihibeachinfo.co.nz website (service provider)</p>	<p>Ongoing 2007/2008</p> <p>2007/2008</p>
66.	<p>Identify ways in which the community can be involved in improving water quality.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hold a meeting of interested community groups to identify ways that they can be involved in improving water quality.</li> <li>Make applications to the Environmental Enhancement Fund, which is contestable, to seek funds to support community groups to improve water quality.</li> </ul>	<p>Tangata Whenua (advocate) Local Environment Groups (advocate) Environment Bay of Plenty (partner/monitor) Council (facilitator/partner/monitor) NZ Landcare Trust (partner/advocate) Landowners (partner) Department of Conservation (advocate)</p>	<p>2008/2009</p>
67.	<p>Improve estuary and harbour conditions to preserve fisheries and kaimoana.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support interagency collaboration in the implementation of the Tauranga Harbour Management Plan.</li> <li>Investigate the management of ecological corridors and their contribution to harbour management.</li> <li>Gather and collate existing research about the role and management of mangroves in a balanced ecosystem.</li> </ul>	<p>Community (advocate) Tangata Whenua (advocate) Local Environment Groups, including estuary groups (advocate) Department of Conservation (provider/advocate) Environment Bay of Plenty (provider) Council (advocate/facilitator) NZ Landcare Trust (partner/advocate) Ministry of Fisheries (advocate/regulator) NIWA (advocate)</p>	<p>2007/2008 onwards (Refer to implementation timing for Tauranga Harbour Management Plan).</p>
68.	<p>Identify, value and protect significant terrestrial, freshwater and marine habitats.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify significant terrestrial, freshwater and marine habitats that are not protected as Identified Significant Ecological Features in the District Plan.</li> <li>Investigate options for including newly identified and unprotected sites in the Schedule of Identified Significant Ecological Features in the District Plan.</li> <li>Use a range of best practice management approaches in the District Plan, including non-regulatory tools and partnering, to protect and manage Identified Significant Ecological Features.</li> </ul>	<p>Tangata Whenua (advocate) Local Environmental Groups (advocate) Environment Bay of Plenty (partner) Department of Conservation (advocate) Council (advocate/provider) Community Board (advocate)</p> <p>Environment Bay of Plenty (partner) Department of Conservation (partner/advocate) Tangata Whenua (partner/advocate) Council (partner/advocate) Landowners (partner) Ministry of Fisheries (partner) Fish and Game New Zealand (advocate)</p>	<p>2007/2009</p>





## Here's how we'll enable the whole dune system to be healthy and grow within natural cycles.

Action No.	Key Action	How will it be done	Who will be involved	Key milestones/ timeframes
69.	Promote the importance of biodiversity for a functioning, and resilient dune system.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve understanding of the importance of biodiversity in our dunes through continued and improved education, through schools and youth clubs.</li> <li>Describe and identify the dune system as a whole, and use this description to improve the community's understanding of the dune system and facilitate a common understanding of the impact of local efforts on the whole system.</li> <li>Work toward an integrated 'whole of beachfront' landscape design to best manage access and amenity, shoreline protection of the beach and residential/reserves interfaces.</li> </ul>	Coastcare (facilitator/advocate) Council (facilitator/funder) Environment Bay of Plenty (advocate/partner/provider) Tangata Whenua (advocate/provider) Local Environmental Groups (advocate/service provider) Community Board (advocate) Department of Conservation (provider/advocate)	2007/2008
70.	Minimise the risk of encroachment on dunes and reserves.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Educate people on ways to minimise encroachment on dunes and reserves, using the media, new residents' packs and visitor information.</li> <li>Maintain the position of fences and use durable mesh for fencing. Actively manage the edges of dunes and reserves using materials and/or landscaping that are sensitive to the natural environment.</li> <li>Encourage respect for dunes and sensitive reserves through interpretive signage.</li> <li>Formalise entry/exit access and linkages between reserves through soft and hard landscaping.</li> <li>Through the Annual Plan process advocate for additional funding to formalise the entry/access points to the beach.</li> <li>Council to enforce rules about encroachment on reserve areas.</li> </ul>	Council (provider) Community Board (advocate) Waihi Beach Environment Society Inc (advocate)  Council (partner) Coastcare (partner) Environment Bay of Plenty (partner) Department of Conservation (regulator/advocate) Tangata Whenua (advocate)  Environment Bay of Plenty (partner/provider) Council (provider) Coastcare (service provider)  Environment Bay of Plenty (partner/provider) Council (provider) Coastcare (service provider)  Community Board (advocate)	2008/2009           According to Reserves Management Plan timetable.   2007/2008
71.	Facilitate a community planning exercise to find a way forward regarding Two and Three Mile Creeks and their link with the beach, (following the Environment Court decision on the rock revetment and taking that decision into account).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish the scope and timeframe for developing an action plan, considering best practice resource management planning, and principles already agreed between the Waihi Beach Protection Society and Friends of the Beach.</li> <li>Recognise what groups have in common and build on that.</li> <li>Investigate options for maintaining walking access around the creeks, for example, building up dunes, sand sausages, footbridges.</li> <li>Explore funding opportunities, for example the Environment Enhancement Fund, Sustainable Management Fund and Biodiversity Contribution Funds to fund the community's work.</li> </ul>	Community (advocate) Tangata Whenua (advocate) Council (facilitator/partner) Environment Bay of Plenty (partner/regulator) Department of Conservation (advocate/regulator) Community Board (facilitator/advocate) Multi-disciplinary technical experts (provider) Coastcare (partner) NZ Landcare Trust (partner) Waihi Beach Protection Society (advocate) Friends of the Beach (advocate) Waihi Beach Environment Society Inc (advocate)	After Environment Court decision on rock revetment consent.

## Here's how we'll enable the whole dune system to be healthy and grow within natural cycles. *(continued)*

Action No.	Key Action	How will it be done	Who will be involved	Key milestones/ timeframes
72.	Encourage people to keep to formed paths when accessing the beach, and in wildlife reserves.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide effective signage showing paths to the beach.</li> <li>• Provide for linkages in reserve management planning and walking and cycling strategies to show access ways to the beach.</li> <li>• Identify areas where access to dunes should be restricted.</li> <li>• Investigate options for enforcing restrictions on pedestrians and vehicles.</li> <li>• Through our schools educate the children of Waihi Beach about keeping to formed paths.</li> </ul>	Council (provider) Environment Bay of Plenty (monitor) Coastcare (advocate) Local Environmental Groups (advocate) Community Board Sport Bay of Plenty (advocate) Schools (service provider) Department of Conservation (advocate)	2008 onwards (depending on Reserves Management Plan priorities)
73.	Seek agreement, in principle, on one walking route that is on public lands and is sensitive to the natural environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hold a discussion within the community about all-tide walking routes that people in the community currently use.</li> <li>• Facilitate agreement on the most appropriate route to be used and promote this route through websites, newspaper updates, new residents' packs and visitor information.</li> </ul>	Council (facilitator) Sport Bay of Plenty (advocate) Community (advocate) Community Board (facilitator)	Following Environment Court decision on rock revetment, and dependent on agreement of way forward for areas around Two and Three Mile creeks.

## Here's how we'll ensure that indigenous habitats are resilient and biodiversity is increased.

74.	Control exotic fauna and flora on private and public land.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage participation in community events and open days to promote knowledge of plant and animal pests.</li> <li>• Work with existing groups to provide information on controlling plant and animal pests within their area of operations.</li> <li>• Establish priorities for weed control in the area.</li> </ul>	Environment Bay of Plenty (provider/regulator) Department of Conservation (provider on Department of Conservation administered land/advocate/facilitator) Landowners (providers) Council (provider/facilitator) Tangata Whenua (partner) Local Environmental Groups (facilitator), for example Environment Bay of Plenty's Weed Busters Schools	Ongoing
75.	Protect indigenous habitats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Share the identification and knowledge of indigenous habitats with landowners and the community.</li> <li>• Spread knowledge of the rare natural flora and fauna of our natural environment.</li> <li>• Coordinate environmental expos, workdays and workshops where invited experts can share their knowledge.</li> <li>• Promote bush trails and events through media and websites to show the community the flora and fauna in their natural environment.</li> <li>• Use a range of best practice management approaches in regional and district plans to protect and manage habitats including: non-regulatory tools, partnering, Integrated Harbour Management, the resource consent process, Rahui, Covenants, Farm Management Plans and education.</li> <li>• Investigate options for strengthening protection for habitats identified as significant by partner agencies.</li> </ul>	Tangata Whenua (advocate/provider) Community Board (advocate) Local Environment Groups (advocate/provider) Private Enterprise (provider) Council (provider/facilitator) Department of Conservation (advocate/provider) Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society (provider)	2008-2013





## Here's how we'll ensure that indigenous habitats are resilient and biodiversity is increased. *(continued)*

Action No.	Key Action	How will it be done	Who will be involved	Key milestones/ timeframes
75. <i>(continued)</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage activities that promote the regeneration of native vegetation that link to other areas of vegetation, so that the regenerated areas become resilient.</li> <li>Work together to develop a 'green network' that would link natural areas to create a network of gardens, parks, streams, roadside plantings and coastlines.</li> <li>Use websites as an educational tool to share knowledge of the flora and fauna in the area.</li> </ul>	Council (provider/facilitator)	
76.	Actively involve the community in the monitoring of indigenous habitats.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitor bird counts and kaimoana species and communicate the results through the media and websites.</li> <li>Determine priorities for the monitoring of bird and kaimoana species.</li> <li>Establish a monitoring programme which enables community participation in monitoring.</li> </ul>	Department of Conservation (facilitator/provider) Ministry of Fisheries (facilitator/provider) Department of Conservation (facilitator) Ministry of Fisheries (facilitator) Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society (service provider) Local Environmental Groups (provider) Schools (monitor) Environment Bay of Plenty [Enviro Schools] (monitor) Tangata Whenua (monitor/advocate) Council (facilitator)	2008/2009
77.	Design stormwater reticulation to prevent erosion of our unique environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review stormwater design guidelines for future stormwater management through development of Council's Built Environment Strategy, structure plans and Code of Practice review.</li> <li>Through interagency collaboration, keep up-to-date with new developments in stormwater management.</li> </ul>	Community Groups (advocate) Tangata Whenua (advocate) Council (provider) Environment Bay of Plenty (regulator) Developers (provider)	2007- 2009

## Here's how we'll build community knowledge about the environment.

78.	Protect indigenous habitats.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Help develop the community's awareness and understanding of the impact and effects of climate change on our beaches.</li> <li>Encourage agencies to communicate results of relevant regional and local research to the community, through the internet, media briefings and public meetings.</li> </ul>	Crown Research Institutes (provider) Environment Bay of Plenty (provider) Ministry for the Environment (provider) Council (provider/facilitator) Local Environment Groups (advocate) Coastcare (advocate) Tangata Whenua (advocate) Community Board (facilitator)	From now - ongoing
79.	Encourage people to be involved in protecting the environment and build their capacity to take action.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Involve youth in the dialogue and actions.</li> <li>Spread technical knowledge about the beach and environment throughout the community.</li> <li>Encourage people to join environment and care groups.</li> </ul>	Environment groups (facilitator/service provider) Council (facilitator/ provider) Environment Bay of Plenty (provider) Tangata Whenua (provider)	2007 onwards

## Here's how we'll build community knowledge about the environment. *(continued)*

Action No.	Key Action	How will it be done	Who will be involved	Key milestones/ timeframes
79. <i>(continued)</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use media, websites, and new residents' pack to promote opportunities to become involved.</li> </ul>	Schools Identified youth groups – Waihi Youth Excel (advocate) Real Estate Agents (service provider/advocate) Waihi Beach Retailers Association (partner/advocate) Go Waihi (service provider) Waihi Beach Environment Society Inc (advocate)	
80.	Encourage and facilitate cooperation and coordination of environmental groups and agencies to spread their knowledge in the community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publicise existing groups through newsletters, websites, project updates, newspaper updates and community meetings.</li> <li>Maintain existing interagency environmental forums.</li> <li>Support coordination of environmental groups' actions to maximise the effectiveness of the actions.</li> <li>Invite experts to educate the community.</li> </ul>	Environment Bay of Plenty (provider) Council (provider/facilitator) Department of Conservation (provider/facilitator) NIWA (provider) Coastcare (provider) Local Environmental Groups (advocate) Tangata Whenua (advocate) NZ Landcare Trust (facilitator) Community Board (facilitator) Technical Experts (facilitator)	2008 onwards
81.	Secure resources for community-led environmental projects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Research funding streams for community-led projects, for example feasibility studies for the Waiiau Restoration Projects, Reserves Management and Wetlands Restoration.</li> <li>Distribute information about funding sources and application criteria (including contestability) to community groups.</li> <li>Encourage community groups to coordinate applications to maximise the effectiveness of the funds secured.</li> </ul>	Local Environmental Groups (service provider/advocate) Tangata Whenua (advocate) Council (facilitator) NIWA (provider) Community Board (advocate) Environment Bay of Plenty (partner) Environmental Development Officer (facilitator)	2007 onwards

## Here's how we'll sustainably manage the area's waste.

82.	Enable effective removal of rubbish and publicise waste disposal services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider improvements to the rubbish removal system to cater for the non-permanent population, people wanting to dispose of rubbish during the week (when services aren't currently available) and summer influx, within Council's Solid Waste Strategy Review.</li> <li>Improve public communications about rubbish and recycling service facilities available in the community.</li> </ul>	Council (provider) Community Board (Advocate) Environment Bay of Plenty (partner) Sustainable Business Network (advocate) Community (advocate)	2007/08
83.	Encourage the community, visitors and businesses to reduce waste.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify opportunities for waste reduction through Council's Solid Waste Strategy.</li> <li>Advocate to central government for national policies to reduce waste.</li> </ul>	Council (provider/advocate) Community Board (advocate) Contractors (partner) Environment Bay of Plenty (partner) Sustainable Business Network (advocate/facilitator) Community (advocate) Environmental Education for Resource Sustainability Trust (partner)	2007/08





## Here's how we'll sustainably manage the area's waste. *(continued)*

Action No.	Key Action	How will it be done	Who will be involved	Key milestones/ timeframes
84.	Improve recycling services in our community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extend opening hours of the Recycling Centre. Publicise opening hours using newsletters, newspaper updates, new residents' packs and websites.</li> <li>Map recycling cages in the area, eg skips.</li> <li>Identify improvements for an efficient and effective recycling system through the review of Council's Solid Waste Strategy. Investigate kerbside recycling and greenwaste services.</li> </ul>	<p>Council (provider) Community Board (advocate)</p>	2007/08





## Definition of roles contained in the Plan

**Advocate** Promote the interests of the community to other decision-making organisations, for example central government.

**Facilitator** Encourage others to be involved in these activities by bringing interested parties together to progress identified issues.

**Funder** Fund other organisations to carry out these services. Funding may be contestable.

**Monitor** Will gather information on these activities and check against progress toward Community Outcomes.

**Partner** Fund and carry out these services in formal partnership with other organisations.

**Provider** Full responsibility for funding and carrying out these services.

**Service Provider** Provides a service either voluntarily or funded by another party.

**Regulator** Statutory responsibility and may choose to regulate these activities.

**Please note** the views expressed in this Plan may not be those of all members of the community. The Plan has been developed through public consultation, recognising there is a diversity in opinion.



**Western Bay of Plenty  
District Council**





# Waihi Beach

Defining Our Future

**Western Bay of Plenty District Council** | [www.wbopdc.govt.nz](http://www.wbopdc.govt.nz)

Head Office: Barkes Corner, Tauranga, ph 0800 926 732 | Waihi Beach Office: Waihi Beach Road, phone: (07) 863 4573 | Offices also at Katikati, Omokoroa and Te Puke