

Shoreline Adaptation Plans

Ngā mahere whakaurutau mō te takutai

SAP Area J: Pahurehure Inlet

Community Objectives

March 2024



Disclaimer

This document provides a high-level summary of community engagement for the Pahurehure Inlet Shoreline Adaptation and presents community objectives based on the analysis of that feedback. A more detailed community engagement report for the Pahurehure Inlet will be published in conjunction with the final Pahurehure Inlet Shoreline Adaptation Plan.

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Pahurehure Inlet Community Objectives

Coastal connections, use and access

1. Community connections to coastal areas are maintained and strengthened in a manner which responds to the natural character, features and ecological outcomes for different areas of the coast, providing access and connection for diverse users.
2. Coastal infrastructure is designed for all coastal users and located appropriately to support safe and maintained access to and along the coast, both for land and water-based activities.
3. Priority areas for access and recreation include, but are not limited, to Conifer Grove walkway, Karaka harbourside walkways, Wattle Downs beaches and the Weymouth beach/wharf.

Environmental

4. Catchment and coastal habitats and biodiversity are valued, supported and restored, utilising local knowledge and supporting local communities' stewardship of their local coastal areas.

Cultural

5. Coastal management aims to enhance understanding and recognition of the rich cultural landscape across the Pahurehure Inlet and wider Manukau Harbour, and in doing so aligns with the aspirations of local iwi.

Responding to risk

6. Coastal erosion and other natural hazard and climatic impacts on coastal areas are identified and planned for, enabling proactive, management of risks and impacts to support the resilience of community facilities, assets and valued species and ecosystems in hazard zones.

Pahurehure Inlet Community Engagement Summary

Community engagement for Manukau East, North and Pahurehure Inlet SAPs ran in parallel and included a series of in-person, public out-reach events. Public engagement was open from 23 June - 7 August 2023. To capture a diversity of demographics, a range of events and engagement opportunities were utilised, including both in person and online engagement. In addition to the in-person and online platforms, feedback was also provided through email submissions.

Engagement approach

Key stakeholders, community groups and networks identified with a potential interest in the coast, while community partners were used to circulate information to the wider community, including Local Boards networks, Resident and ratepayer associations and local organisations such as EcoMatters and the Beautification Trust.

Online surveys and digital mapping tools were promoted alongside the opportunity to attend in person events through AK Have Your Say, Auckland Councils general SAP webpage and the People Panel engagement platform.

Engagement with local iwi as programme partners, is led through a separate workstream. Feedback and the collaborative development of the plans will be detailed in the final SAP area reports. In-person events were spread across the three respective SAP areas where community engagement was occurring in parallel. The following venues were located within the Pahurehure Inlet area:

- Sir Edmund Hillary library, Papakura
- Weymouth Yacht Club, Weymouth
- Associated events held in neighbouring SAP areas included:
 - Welsley Market, Mt Roskill,
 - Ecomatters Environmental Trust, New Lynn
 - Titirangi Beach Hall, Titirangi
 - Mangere Boating Club, Kiwi Esplanade
 - Aotea (Onehunga) Sea Scouts, Onehunga waterfront
 - Mangere Markets, Mangere

Public events provided an opportunity to inform people of the SAP programme, sharing prior examples with experts present to respond to questions as required. The key call to action at these events was the encouragement to identify 'what matters most' to them about the public coastal areas and their associated facilities (through sharing this with the team or identifying this on sticky notes on the large format maps) or to use the AK have your say survey or social pinpoint to share their thoughts. Feedback collected through in person events has been analysed alongside that which has been received from Local Boards, key stakeholders and digital platforms. This includes:

- 57 comments left on the interactive digital Social Pinpoint map
- 68 surveys relevant to the Pahurehure Inlet area via Social Pinpoint and AK Have Your Say

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- Meetings and discussions with key residents and ratepayer groups. With site specific information and recommendations shared by groups with interests in the Wattle Downs and Weymouth areas.

Analysis and key themes

Following the close of community consultation, analysis of the results was undertaken, and community objectives have been developed based on the themes identified across the feedback received.

Feedback was collated and sorted into the several major categories alongside consideration of location and activity specific feedback. The key categories include:

- **Social: uses and activities:** including the types of activities and uses that people use coastal spaces for. Examples were generally grouped under the following uses; water based sports, active recreation, passive recreation and community uses
- **Asset Management and Maintenance Roads & AT network:** including key feedback on the maintenance and management of parks and community facilities, coastal defence structures, coastal recreation structures, three waters infrastructure & closed landfills / contamination
- **Community concerns, experiences and natural hazards & risk:** including matters raised regarding climate change, natural hazard, and impacts on risk through land use changes
- **Environmental:** including considerations of conservation, water quality and native species & biodiversity
- **Cultural:** including associations with sites or landscape, connections to the coast (sense of place), and accessing/gathering shellfish or fishing.

A summary of each category is captured below.

Social, uses and activities:

Many respondents to the online surveys identified as residing in the area. Access to and the use of coastal areas was identified as an important value for the Pahurehure SAP area and the need to maintain safe access a priority. Activities such as active recreation (walking, dog walking, running and cycling) or for access to the harbour were identified frequently. Feedback on more passive recreational uses, such as sitting and picnicking was also received and Weymouth Beach, Youngs Beach, St Anne's Foreshore, and Bottle Top Bay emerge as favourites.

The natural character of the shoreline was identified as an importance value and the analysis indicates a shared commitment among respondents to ensure continued access to the shoreline while prioritizing the conservation of its natural features, including both flora and fauna.

Assets Maintenance and Management

Feedback on specific assets and their maintenance highlighted the Conifer Grove walkway, Karaka harbourside walkways, Wattle Downs beaches and the Weymouth beach/wharf as the key areas for access to and along the shorelines of the Pahurehure SAP area. Respondents reported specific instances of damage to walkways, properties, and coastal defences (seawalls), with some noting urgent repairs and remediation requirements to mitigate further damage and maintain the use of these assets.

Concerns over the design and function of assets in storm events were used further exemplify the impacts of severe weather events on coastal infrastructure and resulting impacts on the environment.

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Community Concerns, Experiences, and Coastal Hazards

Feedback highlighted community concern related to damage to coastal areas due to severe weather events. Instances of erosion, particularly during storms, were observed in different locations both within and beyond the SAP coastal areas. Storm events, including heavy rainfall, high tides, and strong winds, consistently emerged as contributors to coastal degradation, highlighting the vulnerability of these areas to extreme weather conditions (as noted above in relation to assets and below in relation to environmental outcomes). Multiple examples of impacts were provided, related to the storms of early 2023.

Coastal erosion was the top ranked concern. A need for urgency with respect to repair and remediation was a shared theme which respondents considering urgency is required to prevent further damage and achieve continued safe access to coastal areas.

Cultural

Recognition of the rich cultural landscape was demonstrated through in person events and stakeholder & community discussion. A desire to better understand and align with mana whenua's aspirations, for the Pahurehure (and wider Manukau Harbour) was identified through community engagement.

Environment

The preservation of coastal habitats and biodiversity for their intrinsic value and in support of communities use and enjoyment of coastal areas was an overarching theme of feedback received. Feedback across all platforms and specifically within the social pinpoint platform highlight the communities' interest in ecological resources and outcomes for the Pahurehure inlet area. Topics such as mangroves, bird nesting sites and fish spawning were frequently identified providing local knowledge and insights and a range of views on the value of mangroves. Coastal change, concerns around the effects of climate change and the observed impacts of recent storm events on the native species (such as the Dotterel (Tūturiwhatu)) and their habitats were identified through in person events, discussions and through feedback received.

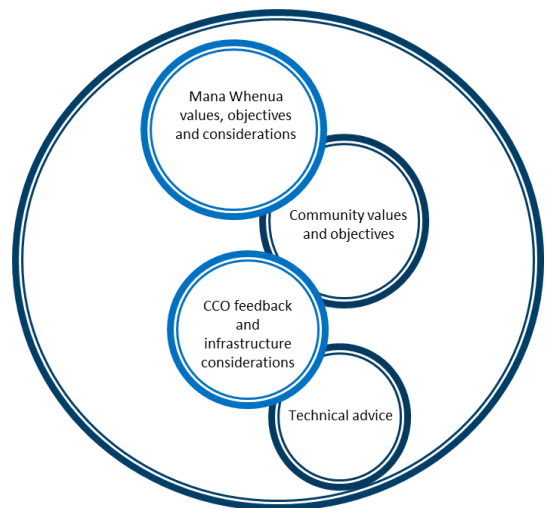
How will place based feedback and Community Objectives be used?

Informing Adaptation Strategies

To help us develop strategies to manage the Pahurehure Inlet, we use:

- coastal hazard data
- climate change forecasts
- values from mana whenua
- input from infrastructure providers
- input from the local community

Through this process, we aim to identify and document the best options for managing our coastal areas over the next century.



Adaptation strategies are recommended across the short (0-20 years), medium (20-60 years), and long (60+ years) timeframes. Adaptation strategies are supported by guidance notes for implementation reflective of relevant local context (including feedback and information from local iwi, community and asset owners) When dealing with climate change impacts, it is important to note that the timing of when a change in strategy is required can be uncertain. While specific signals and triggers are not identified in this plan, we have endeavoured to provide high-level indications of potential impacts that would lead to a change in strategy.

Four major adaptation strategies to set long term management approaches are considered which are outlined below:

- **No Active Intervention (NAI):**

Natural processes are allowed to continue. This includes no investment in the provision or maintenance of any defences. This strategy is selected for areas of the coastline that are not owned by Auckland Council.



- **Limited Intervention (LI):**

Limited works are undertaken to extend the existing asset life or to ensure assets remain safe, including localised realignment of individual assets. This approach acknowledges that the coastline's position will not be fixed into the future and may include small-scale, nature-based measures (e.g. dune planting) to support the coastline's resilience.



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- **Hold the Line (HTL):**

The coastal edge is fixed at a certain location, using nature-based options (e.g. beach nourishment) or hard structures (e.g. sea walls). Nature-based options are the preferred method where possible.



- **Managed Retreat (MR):**

Assets and activities are moved away from hazard-prone areas in a controlled way over time. Managed Retreat allows greater space for natural buffers and reduces asset exposure to natural hazards.



Next steps & key dates

The team are currently focused on the development of the adaptation strategies for the Pahurehure Inlet Shoreline. This includes considering feedback from local iwiasset owners and Local Boards, the community objectives included in this document, along with the locally specific feedback provided by the community (to be published in the final Pahurehure Inlet Community Engagement Report).

Once the Shoreline Adaptation Plan is finalised, it will go to the Local Boards for endorsement. A digital copy of the complete report will be available on the AK Have Your Say webpage.

If you have any questions or feedback regarding the community objectives for the Pahurehure Inlet Shoreline Adaptation Plan, please email the team at shorelineadaptationplans@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

