

TE HIKU COMMUNITY BOARD MEMBER'S REPORT

Member Name: Sheryl Bainbridge

Subdivision: Doubtless Bay

Date: to 22 October 2021

REPORT

1) Meetings

September and October meetings of Te Ahu Charitable Trust. Other meetings have been virtual.

2) Issues

Draft District Plan – proposed heritage precinct for Mangonui. Other communities have joined the Mangonui community in expressing concern about the Heritage Area proposal and process. Other than extending the date for submissions there has been no acknowledgement from the council regarding this apprehension, despite widespread publicity. At what point, if any, does the council actually listen to the communities it represents?

That the Te Hiku Community Board requests information from the council on what steps will be taken to acknowledge and address widespread community concern regarding the Heritage Area proposal and process.

Footpaths – The Board has been advised that there will be no subsidy for footpaths from Waka Kotahi for the next few years. There is \$150,000 allocated each year from the council. The cost to construct eight footpaths prioritised by the Board at its meeting of 1 June 2021 is \$690,000. Footpaths that have a lesser priority on the footpath matrix at this stage amount to some \$1,780,000, so altogether \$2,470,000 is required for footpath construction. At a \$150,000 allocation per year they will take 16 years to complete. This poses a potential threat to pedestrian safety in the Te Hiku ward which has several communities where growth is expanding. These include Ahipara, Doubtless Bay and Pukenui/Houhora.

The council has allocated 10c in the dollar, that is roughly \$9 million **per year** over the next 3 years at least, to future planning, while right now, pedestrian safety of our present community members, including children is compromised due to lack of footpaths. I think the council needs to look at where it can make cost efficiencies in other areas so that the Board's footpath projects can be constructed in a more timely manner.

It would also be good to know when the footpaths from Ahipara School to the new subdivision, and a portion of Cable Bay Block Road will be laid.

That the Te Hiku Community Board expresses disappointment at the lack of a footpath subsidy from Waka Kotahi, and for reasons of pedestrian safety requests the Far North District Council to look at areas where cost efficiencies can be made so that a realistic footpath programme can be achieved.

And that the Board requests advice as to when work will start on the footpaths identified in the current allocation of \$150,000 i.e. Ahipara School to the new subdivision, and a portion of Cable Bay Block Road.

3) Requests for Service

Christmas tree at Cable Bay – excellent initiative by a member of the local community.