

COMMUNITY BOARD MEMBER'S REPORT

Report to: Bay of Islands-Whangaroa Community Board

Member Name: Lane Ayr

Subdivision: Kerikeri

Date: Apr 15/22 June17/22

REPORT

Meetings

25/04/22 ANZAC day Dawn gathering
29/04/22 Inspection with D Clamp of Memorial Wall
02/05/22 Kerikeri Domain Working Group
04/05/22 Spatial Plan Workshop Kaikohe
05/05/22 BOI-Whangaroa Community Board Meeting Teams
16/05/22 BOI-Whangaroa CB strategic planning Zoom meeting
23/05/22 Meeting with local Dog Group
25/05/22 Combined Community Board Meeting Kaikohe
30/05/22 Kerikeri Domain Working Group
02/06/22 BOI-Whangaroa Community Board Meeting Kerikeri
13/06/22 DAG meeting Kaikohe
16/06/22 Spatial Plan Workshop Zoom

Resource Consents

None received

Requests for Service/information

#4060535 submitted 17/05/21

Post Office Parking Lot not action but possible scheduled post 27/28

#4097831 submitted 16/02/22

Re Noise complaint Limited Response, will investigate the reg under which we inspect

#4097836 submitted 16/02/22

Re Public access to Moturoa Is. NO RESPONSE

#4097823 submitted 16/02/22

Re: Road maintenance Rangihoua Rd Partial response only

Comments

RFS's no comment.

Kerikeri Domain

As previously indicated the initial budget has been exhausted but should cover the completing of the Playground which has been started recent weather conditions has limited construction time. End of July is still within reason. The working group has agreed on the segmentation of the remain project on the Domain and a priority schedule. Additional funds may be available after July 1/22 these will be prioritized over the various areas.

While technically the Domain remains with the Council as an area of District wide importance the Working Group was approached in regard to a mural to be painted on the back of the existing washroom block which will face the new playground, it was unanimously agreed to by all. The final decision of course remains with Council.

DAG Committee

The DAG group continues to bring awareness of the needs of the disabled to elected officials and staff.

A draft Council policy for Accessibility is attached to this report.



20220516 - Final
Draft for consultation

Last Meeting

At our last meeting I stated that to the best of my knowledge there had not been any major incident with regards to tree or branch fall in the Reserve (at Village). I was publicly admonished by the Chair who stated that I was "wrong", but gave no details, a letter from the Manager of the Village was then not only tabled, but

read out by the Chair, this letter contained no empirical data rather just a series of claims re safety and possible liability. I would like to formally request copies of any **existing** reports (not written tomorrow) regarding any events. If such reports are available, they should have formed part of the numerous submissions to the Board. If there are no such reports, I would reasonably expect an apology. This is a comment upon our process not the trees.

Accessibility Policy

Adopted:
Last updated:

Background

The disabled community suffers from marginalisation, stigmatisation, and barriers that affect access to employment, education, recreation, entertainment, health care, and other services.

The council has a significant role as a provider of public services and facilities to support all people to access and participate in a meaningful manner. It is imperative that those with access needs are supported in a mana enhancing way that encourages independence and a strong sense of mana motuhake (self-determination) as guaranteed by te Tiriti o Waitangi.

Supporting those who have accessibility needs to participate, may increase individuals' sense of agency, oranga (wellbeing), and happiness Which may contribute to positive interactions across the Far North, increasing quality of life, happiness, and reduction of stigma across the region.

The council can be champions in the region by providing safe and equitable experiences to all residents. This can be achieved by actively promoting accessibility services, ensuring communications, accessibility. Any action, service, and facility that provides for those with accessibility needs will benefit all who access these services.

Definitions

The following definitions apply to this Policy:

- **Council** – means the Far North District Council.
- **Policy** – means the Council's adopted Accessibility Policy.

Disability

The council recognises the definition set out in the social model of disability. The social model of disability recognises that people have a disability when their needs are not considered, and access and participation is compromised.

For the purposes of this policy, all who have access needs whether physical, intellectual, or attitudinal are considered, including but not limited to:

- disabilities and impairments
- English as a second language
- those with low literacy
- speech impediments
- parents with young children and prams
- disability assist dogs (as prescribed in Section 75 of the Dog Control Act)
- elderly and aging peoples
- temporarily impaired people (broken limbs and wheelchair support)

An accessible community is where everyone:

- has rights
- is treated with dignity and respect
- can access all places, activities, services
- information easily and with dignity.

Legislative Context

This policy supports multiple legislative requirements for local authorities, including but not limited to:

- Human Rights Act 1993
- Building Act 2004
- NZS 4121:2001 – Design for access and mobility: Buildings and associated facilities

Te Tiriti o Waitangi ensures Māori can participate in important matters. This policy supports the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi by ensuring the voice of Māori is heard. Tāngata Whaikaha (Māori disabled) will be supported to provide their input and expertise recognising our obligations set out in te Tiriti o Waitangi.

Strategic alignment

The policy will support and contribute to achieving outcomes set out in various strategies and action plans nationally and locally.

This policy is informed by, and supports:

- The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2007);

- Human Rights Act 1993
- New Zealand Disability Strategy (2016-2026)
- He Korowai Oranga, the Māori Health Strategy
- National Disability Action Plan (2019-2023)
- Enabling Good Lives (EGL) by the Ministry for Disabled People.

Disability Action Group

The Far North District Council is supported by the Disability Action Group (DAG). The DAG provides advice and a conduit between the community and council for all matters as they relate to the disability and access-needs community. This policy supports the Terms of Reference for the DAG.

1. Council will ensure that information received on behalf of DAG is considered and responded to in a timely fashion.
 - a. Council staff will maintain a presence on DAG to provide information and guidance
 - b. Council staff will receive information from DAG and respond to this information in a timely manner.
2. The Disability Action Group Annual Strategic Goals document will be circulated to council and considered to provide cohesive alignment and accurate reflection of the accessibility communities' goals and stated outcomes.

Objective

To position the Far North District Council as a leader in inclusion through effective guidance, policies and strategies that ensure the mana motuhake (self-determination), participation and safety of all residents in the Far North Region by:

- recognising that people with disabilities are experts on their experiences
- ensuring information is accessible
- ensuring design and upgrades of facilities consider those with accessibility requirements,
 - referring to the engineering standards and minimum standards for buildings and actively considering universal access approaches to the design, build and alteration of new and existing facilities
 - considering accessibility requirements in each project and strategy
- encouraging and supporting all people regardless of ability to participate in democratic processes
- encouraging and supporting all residents regardless of ability to enjoy use of council facilities including recreation, reserves, parks, beaches, and buildings
- acknowledge that Māori are disproportionately represented in the disabled community

- upholding and delivering on the stated intentions set out by strategic documents.

Policies

Communications

3. Council will support people with disabilities and those with access needs to understand communications by council by:
 - a. providing information in a variety of formats such as easy-read, pictorial, video, audio and written as appropriate
 - b. recognising that people with disabilities are experts in their experiences;
 - c. ensuring that public consultation is accessible.

Participation

4. Council will encourage participation by people with disabilities and access needs by:
 - a. supporting the Disability Action Group to champion the needs and concerns of members of the access-needs communities;
 - b. giving effect to the principle of participation from Te Tiriti o Waitangi to ensure Māori participation in issues of significance to Māori and the access-needs community.

Consideration

5. Council will ensure accessibility is a key driver in all facets of council operations and strategic thinking.
6. Council will consider the needs of the disability community are included in the development and resourcing of the Long-Term Plan and any other strategies or plans.

Staff

7. As an employer, council will provide all staff with support and guidance to promote safe inclusion and participation of people with disabilities by:
 - a. providing disability and access training to all people leaders
 - i. where people leaders identify accessibility training as vital to the role of their team, ensuring the training is provided; and,
 - ii. making available this training for all other staff.
 - b. creating and reinforcing a culture that respects the diversity and individual needs of people who reside in the Far North District; and,
 - c. ensuring that disability is not a barrier to the democratic process, participation, or inclusion in council-led initiatives.

Facilities and amenities

8. As a provider of public facilities, amenities, programmes and services, the council will seek to improve access by:
 - a. ensuring clear signage is in place indicating accessible entrances, services, and facilities;

- b. providing suitable focus on the needs of the disabled community through capital works spending including upgrading and retrofitting of existing facilities and services and design and development of new facilities and services; and,
- c. incorporating universal design principles and applicable accessibility standards for all new infrastructure.

Monitoring and Implementation

- This policy will be reviewed in response to issues that may arise, every 5 years, at the request of the Council, or in response to changes to legislative or statutory requirements (whichever occurs first).
- Amendment to this policy following a review will be consulted on with the Disability Action Group and any other parties identified because of that consultation.

Council will monitor the implementation of the policy.