

ITEM

MEETING: KAIKOHE-HOKIANGA COMMUNITY BOARD
5 DECEMBER 2018
ITEM: CHAIR'S REPORT
AUTHOR: CHAIR MIKE EDMONDS
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Strategic Statements

The Kaikohe-Hokianga Community Board is currently working on its strategic plan. The board's former plan expired – by the board's own limitation on its life.

This plan will not be adopted in time to be considered as part of the FNDC's annual plan process.

The board members, in a workshop, identified a small number of items that were important enough to them to be presented for discussion and adoption so that they could be considered by the FNDC as part of its 2019/20 Annual Plan process where appropriate, or for other action where not.

My recommendation is ***“that the board adopt the following strategic statements to be communicated to the FNDC:***

Footpaths

Footpaths are an important means of getting about safely. The board expects that the council funds an ongoing program of footpath construction and replacement commensurate with the population of the Kaikohe-Hokianga ward, and that rating for footpaths is absolutely fair. Furthermore, it is essential that this program is undertaken on time.

The board's footpath priority has been communicated to council. However, the following footpaths are extremely important to the board for immediate fulfillment.

***Station Road from the cycle trail exit to Recreation Rd
Recreation Road from Station Rd to Mangakahia Rd (south side)
Kohukohu (Health Club to sports club). The first part of this is important to the board.***

***(The first three should be designed as shared cycle/foot paths)
Signal Station (dangerous parts)***

The board is also aware of the requirement for a safe walking strategy in Rawene from the bottom of town, along the water front past the Boatshed restaurant, to the toilets. This is in the Rawene Community Plan. The board asks that some initial work be undertaken in forming such a strategy.

Our community has identified that the pedestrian crossing between the footpaths on opposite sides of the roads outside the Opononi Area School is also important. The board supports this.

Dust Nuisance

The board asks that the sealing of roads near marae is made a priority use of the road sealing budget.

Economic Development

The board will look at ways of supporting the following contributors to the economic development of Kaikohe and Hokianga:

***The cycle trail
Motor caravan tourism
Pioneer Village Kaikohe
Lindvart Park
Ngawha Springs hot pools
Kaikohe Innovation Park
Kohewhata marae
Kaikohe saleyards
Motuti museum and Pompellier remains
Arai te uru lookout***

In particular, the Pioneer Village Kaikohe is an important part of the Kaikohe experience. This should be developed in conjunction with the cycleway and motor caravan business. The board supports the museum and asks that the annual grant be increased to achieve the same as its initial purchasing power (the board estimates \$50,000) and be indexed to inflation from 2019/20.

Fair rates

The board understands the concerns of the community that their rates continue to increase while very little improvements are seen to be made. For example, no new footpaths have been laid in the west for some time.

The board asks that the council actually achieve its construction objectives so that residents can make the connection between their rates and work done.

The board supports a full rating review at the earliest opportunity.

Furthermore, the board asks that a long term objective of the FNDC be that it finds ways to reduce rates in real terms without lowering the level of service.

District Facilities

The Far North District Council is a landlord to elderly people in pensioner housing. While the council chooses to be in this business, or chooses not to exit, the board agrees with the community expectation that the units to be maintained in a warm, dry, safe and secure condition and asks that as much future funding be brought forward to bring all pensioner housing up to this level in the 2019/20 year”