

KAPITI COAST : CHOOSING FUTURES

**COMMUNITY
OUTCOMES**

**PARAPARAUMU BEACH
LOCAL OUTCOMES**



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Foreword – Alan Milne, Mayor, Kapiti Coast District

In 2003 – 2004, when the major initial consultation was undertaken to prepare our first Long Term Council Community Plan *Kapiti Coast: Choosing Futures*, we found we had a full set of broadly districtwide Community Outcomes as well as a number of chosen outcomes focused on specific localities and communities within the District.

Turning the seven principal districtwide outcomes into reality requires the Council to take the vision and develop timescales, funding and action plans. Among the action plans was the promise to work with local communities to give shape and form to their local outcomes.

This series of local outcome documents takes the districtwide outcomes and gives them a local focus. From there the specific local outcomes are presented along with programmes developed in consultation with the community to redefine the outcomes into practical visions and programmes for the future.

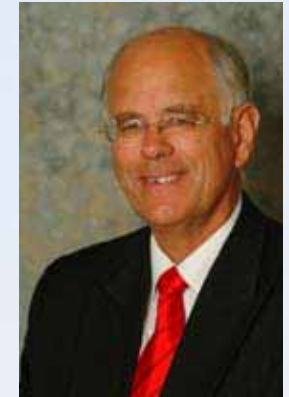
The vision for the Kapiti Coast's future is an exciting one but each community has its own view of the flavour and colour of that future. For some it is one of growth and expansion while for others growth must be limited but conditions provided for the community to continue to thrive.

To achieve the greatest long term benefit for the District, the way we proceed into the future needs to be focused and managed in a way that meets the needs of the people while retaining the essential character of the town and country.

The local outcome documents were developed through a series of meetings and design workshops involving many of the people and most of the significant groups in each community.

Their aim is to provide a framework or touchstone for options and actions for the future as local communities and the wider district evolve over time.

The challenge for each of us in our own community, for the District and the Council is to take these documents and their vision and ensure we shape a Kapiti Coast which is responsive to the needs of people and flexible enough to meet the forces that will form the District and this country in the years to come.



Kapiti Coast: Choosing Futures – Paraparaumu Beach Local Outcomes

Introduction

This document builds on *Kapiti Coast: Choosing Futures – Community Outcomes*. Under the umbrella of those broader community outcomes, it sets out a further layer of information about the community's vision for the Paraparaumu Beach Town Centre and its surrounding area.

Residents and business people from the Paraparaumu Beach community have participated in a number of design workshops since the initial Choosing Futures process in 2004. The material from these later workshops, along with the detailed material from the original Choosing Futures workshops, builds up a clear picture of desired future direction.

The *Kapiti Coast: Choosing Futures – Community Outcomes* document covers areas such as the natural environment, growth management, protection of character, access, efficient use of resources (e.g. water, reduction of waste, energy), building local employment choices, creating a place that works for young people, and general enjoyment of what the Kapiti Coast offers. These are not repeated here in any detail.

This umbrella *Kapiti Coast: Choosing Futures – Community Outcomes* also acknowledges the particular character of communities and places along the Kapiti Coast. It does this in broad terms and much of the focus of the *Paraparaumu Beach Local Outcomes* document is to provide more guidance on what this means for Paraparaumu Beach.

Kapiti Coast: Choosing Futures – Community Outcomes and any *Local Outcomes* documents, have status under the Local Government Act 2002. Provided that the desired community

outcomes are consistent with a sustainable development approach and support the social, cultural, environmental and economic wellbeing of people and communities (both local and districtwide), the District Council and central government agencies must show how their actions progress this community vision.

While the broader *Community Outcomes* and *Local Outcomes* cannot bind an agency to a future direction or a particular level of investment, especially as these issues need to be balanced against needs and requirements in other areas and across the District as a whole, these documents together become the basis against which the performance of agencies in supporting the community's wellbeing can be assessed. They also form a more concrete basis for engagement between communities, agencies and institutions and discussion of particular issues.

The *Community Outcomes* and the *Local Outcomes* are not just documents intended to shape the response of the Council and other agencies. They signal a collectively desired direction for the Paraparaumu Beach Town Centre as a place and as a community. In many cases the challenge is for the residents to become involved, to do things in their community to make things work. Paraparaumu Beach already has a community where people are very involved in issues and decision making. Some people work very hard for the community. In other cases, such as the way individual shopping choices affect the local economy, things are less obvious. These Outcomes present a challenge for everyone into the future.



Kapiti Coast: Choosing Futures - Outcome 1

There are healthy natural systems which people can enjoy

This Outcome area contains a number of very specific detailed outcomes.

- key natural areas shaping the fundamental form and quality of the District's settlements, including:
 - Kapiti Island is recognised as the symbolic heart of the District for iwi and the wider community;
 - the coast in its entirety is recognised as being central to the local culture and lifestyle;
 - the District's streams become major natural features in all the settled areas;
 - the District's urban parks become major features of the District as places of beauty and enjoyment.
- the Kapiti Coast becomes nationally recognised for an extensive cycleways, walkways and bridleways network;
 - a coastal walkway and cycleway from Paekakariki to Otaki and north;
 - extensive linkages through built up areas to key natural features such as rivers, streams and areas of bush;
 - good local linkages to schools and centre.
- that vulnerable areas of native vegetation and wildlife are protected including:
 - remaining dunes;
 - that people know about their natural areas and how to care for them.



Further Local Outcomes for Paraparaumu Beach

- 1.1 That Maclean Park and the coastal dune reserve are developed as an exciting gateway to the coast and Kapiti Island.**
- 1.2 That Paraparaumu Beach Town Centre becomes known as the gateway to Kapiti Island and the beach area.**
- 1.3 That the historical values of Kapiti Island are identified and displayed to enhance public knowledge and appreciation.**
- 1.4 That the coastal hazard issues along the Paraparaumu Beach waterfront are managed in a way that maximises restoration of natural character and processes where possible.**
- 1.5 That Tikotu Stream is restored with riparian planting to improve water quality and stream character.**





Kapiti Coast: Choosing Futures - Outcome 2

Local character is retained within a cohesive district

This Outcome is concerned with recognition of the uniqueness and character of the string of communities along the coast while also concentrating on those things that link people together to create a sense of the whole. The former brings a focus on such things as local landscape, the style and scale of buildings, the design of local roads and the feel of place. The latter includes a focus on access, on community networks and on participation in decision making. In summary:

“that the role, nature and character of each of the Kapiti Coast’s towns and special areas is recognised and retained, and shapes the future form and quality of the District”

The umbrella document *Kapiti Coast: Choosing Futures – Community Outcomes* acknowledges all of the communities along the coast. It has this to say about Paraparaumu Beach.

That Paraparaumu Beach is recognised as:

- a local centre;
- a destination for local visitors and tourists;
- having a strong connection to Kapiti Island.

and that this is supported by:

- improving accommodation and facilities;
- supporting a more vibrant retail area;
- encouraging some local entertainment initiatives;
- exploring some medium density intensification around the centre but away from the beach;
- restoring the stream as it passes through to the coast.

Since September 2004, the Paraparaumu Beach community has participated in a number of community design workshops which have defined the community vision, particularly in terms of the nature and character of the Paraparaumu Beach Town Centre.



Further Local Outcomes for Paraparaumu Beach

- 2.1 That the history of Paraparaumu Beach and Kapiti Island, including the history of tangata whenua, is made a feature in public areas and places.**
- 2.2 That the retail area is supported by street upgrades in Maclean Street and Seaview Road. These upgrades will include median trees, textured paving at intersections, changes to pedestrian crossing points and smooth footpaths.**
- 2.3 That destination activities are explored, including a pier and Cultural Museum / Visitor Centre.**
- 2.4 That no more buildings are built on Maclean Park and the park is enhanced for public entertainment and enjoyment.**
- 2.5 That more public toilet facilities are provided to support greater visitor numbers.**
- 2.6 That a greater range of businesses including community services, banks and medical services are encouraged to locate at the Beach Town Centre.**
- 2.7 That a ‘re-branding’ of the beach shops be considered to build on the local identity and celebrate the unique qualities of the Beach Town Centre.**
- 2.8 That a wind break structure be investigated for the seaward end of Maclean Street to create a sheltered café experience for visitors.**
- 2.9 That all age groups are catered for at Paraparaumu Beach, including youth, families and older persons.**
- 2.10 That a strong entrance to the commercial area is developed at the intersection of Kapiti Road and Maclean Street with welcome signage and a sculptural feature.**
- 2.11 That pedestrians are recognised as having priority within the commercial area and traffic is calmed to ensure that pedestrians can safely explore.**
- 2.12 That views of the coast are maintained and enhanced within the commercial area and development is concentrated in the existing compact commercial area.**

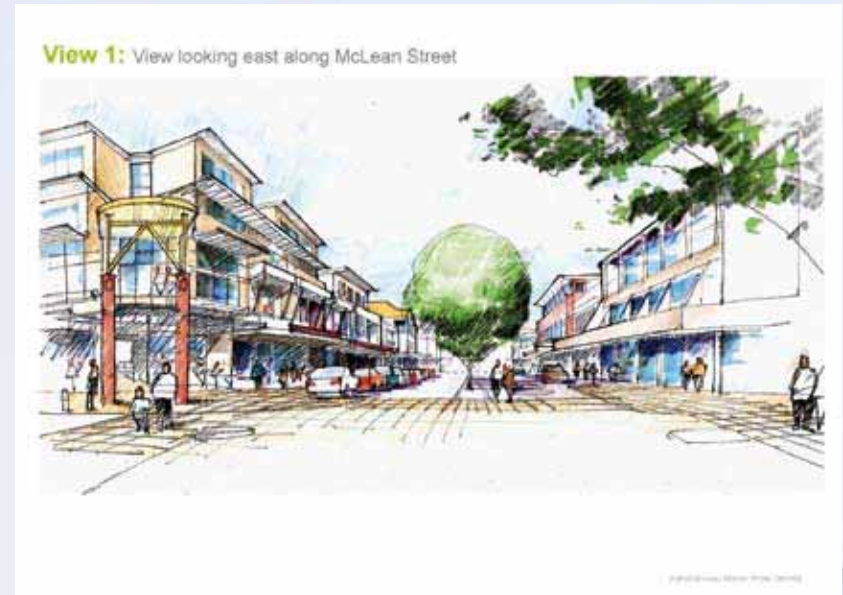


Kapiti Coast: Choosing Futures - Outcome 3

The nature and rate of population growth is appropriate to community goals

This Outcome records the community's vision of how the District should develop and respond to population growth pressures over time. It is an important area, given the population pressures on the District. The key points include:

- that there is a focus on accommodation of local natural population growth in the short and medium term and that the Kapiti Coast does not simply react to external population pressure.
- that intensification is explored in specific areas and where it clearly contributes to wider community goals of:
 - improved public transport;
 - supporting the vitality and character of specified town centres;
 - increased safety of specified town centres;
 - providing housing choice.
- that the specified areas for exploring medium density housing are:
 - Paraparaumu Town Centre;
 - Waikanae Town Centre;
 - Paraparaumu Beach, provided it is away from the beach itself;
 - around rail stations.
- that there is efficient use of existing infrastructure first, with an increased focus on the potential of Otaki to absorb population growth in the short and medium term
- that, where possible, the location of new population supports the development of a local 'district' economy.



Further Local Outcomes for Paraparaumu Beach

- 3.1 That mixed use, retail, office and apartments are encouraged within Paraparaumu Beach commercial area with high design quality, a 12 metre height limit but flexibility on the number of storeys.
- 3.2 That parking within the town centre is maximised in shopping areas and that underground or parking buildings be explored to achieve more parking.
- 3.3 That traffic speed is reduced within the town centre to improve access to shops and links with the coast.
- 3.4 That quality medium density housing is provided for as part of a mixed use town centre and within easy walking distance of the communal centre.



Kapiti Coast: Choosing Futures - Outcome 4

The District's resources are used wisely

This Outcome records the community's vision about how the District's resources should be used. Key points include:

Quality of Public Spaces/Landscapes

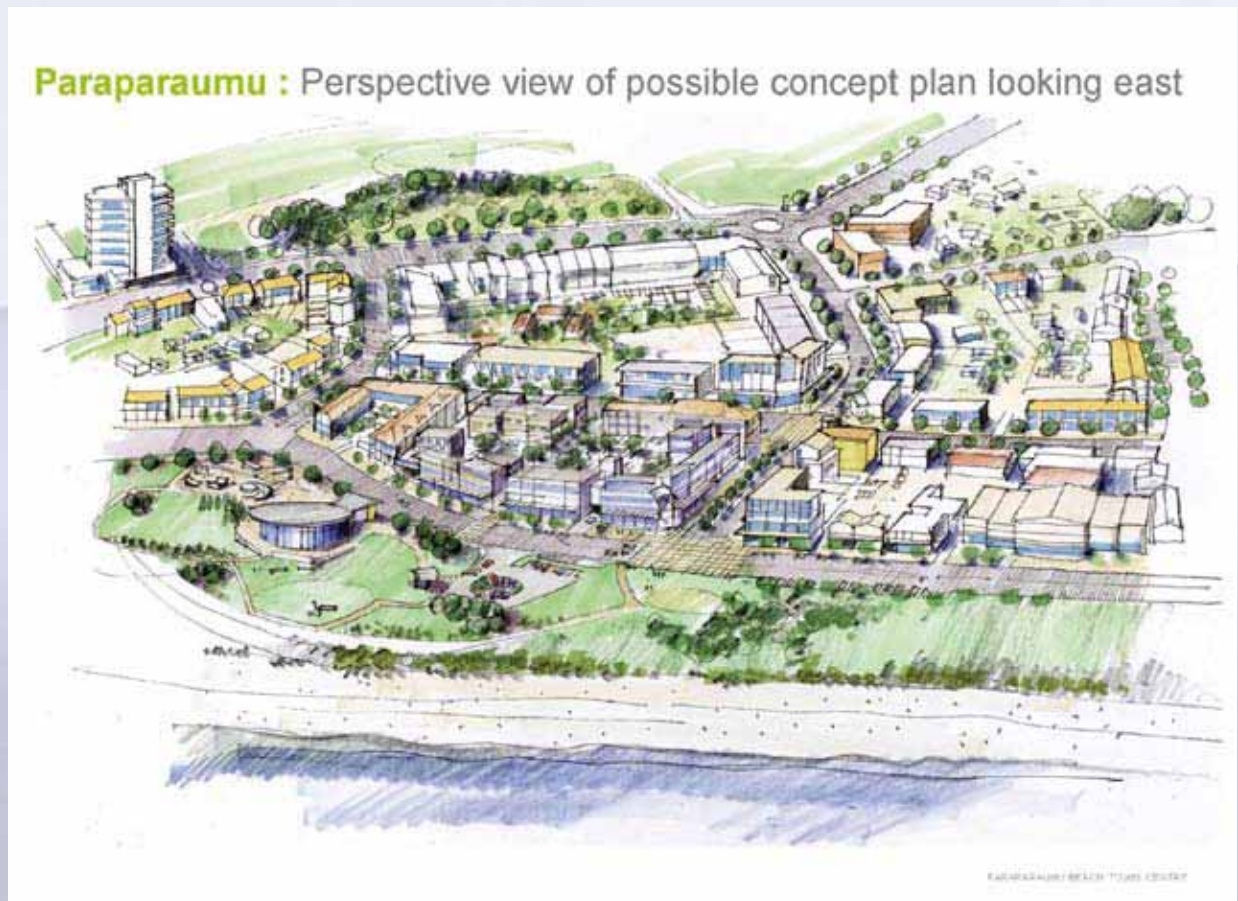
- the quality of the streams and rivers is improved;
- the coast is managed as a linked ecosystem.

Access

- the linkages between Paraparaumu and Waikanae are improved to reduce travel time and energy use.

Design

- there are opportunities for innovative design of subdivisions, housing and infrastructure to reduce energy and resource use.



Further Local Outcomes for Paraparaumu Beach

- 4.1 That Paraparaumu Beach is known for quality mixed use design of housing that is energy and water efficient.
- 4.2 That Tikotu Stream is known for its environmental quality and is an example of good practice for urban streams.
- 4.3 That well used, safe pedestrian and cycle routes connect Paraparaumu Beach with Waikanae and Paraparaumu.
- 4.4 That increased public trees and gardens are provided.





Kapiti Coast: Choosing Futures - Outcome 5

There is increased choice to work locally

This Outcome is not just concerned with making sure as many people as possible in the District are in employment, it is also concerned with building a local economy, including increased business activity in and around our District, local and neighbourhood centres. Achieving this includes improved support for business development and set-up, more effective and reliable infrastructure and good internal District transport for people working locally. In summary:

District Form

- there is more usable commercial land available in the District, where possible, the location of new population supports the development of a local district economy.

Quality of Public Spaces / Landscapes

- key focal points are managed in a way that welcomes visitors, but protects their essential qualities.

Access

- there is improved internal public transport access for the work force.

Design

- there is greater acknowledgement of the economic benefits of good design and good quality urban environments;
- existing commercial, industrial and retail areas and local neighbourhood shops are more attractive and show more design innovation.

Community and the Individual

- that there is a strong business development and mentoring focus;
- the local labour force is employed in skilled work as much as possible in the District.



Further Local Outcomes for Paraparaumu Beach

- 5.1 That Paraparaumu Beach is a key visitor destination in the region for beach activities and local employment opportunities are enhanced by boutique shops.
- 5.2 That the commercial centre is used seven days a week by residents and visitors.
- 5.3 That public transport and other infrastructure is enhanced to support increased use of the commercial centre by visitors and enables residents to travel more sustainably to other locations in the region.
- 5.4 That economic benefits of good design are recognised and design controls placed on developments to promote a quality environment in which to live, work and play.





Kapiti Coast: Choosing Futures - Outcome 6

The District is a place that works for young people

A major theme expressed by parents, young people and many older people was a concern that the Kapiti Coast be more responsive to the needs and aspirations of young people.

- the beach destinations at Otaki and Paraparaumu have better facilities for young people in keeping with the character of those areas;
- the town centres are youth friendly, safe and interesting for young people to use;
- the public spaces are safe and welcoming for young people;
- that there is a better range of shops catering for young people;
- affordable flats and housing for young people;
- there are playgrounds within walking distance for all residential areas;
- improved range of entertainment facilities and events for young people;
- greater range of quality recreation facilities;
- young people are involved in decisions about themselves;
- people feel enabled to take action and act responsibly.



Further Local Outcomes for Paraparaumu Beach

- 6.1 That the 'duck pond' is retained as a feature in Maclean Park.
- 6.2 That family entertainment and activities are promoted and enhanced including upgrading the existing Skate Park to accommodate events and finding a permanent location for the weekend market to operate from.
- 6.3 That a wider range of employment opportunities are available for young people at the beach.
- 6.4 That Maclean Park is safe and welcoming to young people and that a wider range of active recreational opportunities are explored on the coast.





Kapiti Coast: Choosing Futures - Outcome 7

The District has a strong, healthy and involved community

This Outcome is concerned with the direct health and wellbeing of each person in the District, the sense of community and the general enjoyment of what the District has to offer, a sense of fun and happiness. Other Outcomes will contribute to this but there are specific concerns here that people have identified as important. These include:

- the main public places, including beaches, are safe and attractive;
- there is good easy access to the beaches for everyone at the main beach settlements, including older and disabled people;
- the District's centres (especially Paraparaumu and Otaki) are more 'alive' at night;
- the District has high quality civic and local centres;
- there are extensive safe linkages within the District;
- good easy access to beaches;
- there is a greater range of housing available;
- there is a comprehensive planned approach to recreational facilities – including outdoor events and aquatic centres;
- there is a high level of community control over community decision making;
- people have access to information about their local community, district and wider world.

Further Local Outcomes for Paraparaumu Beach

- 7.1 That local people are heavily involved in the range of sports groups and facilities within the Paraparaumu Beach Town Centre.**
- 7.2 That access to the beach from Maclean Park car park is improved for elderly and disabled users. That accessible public beach access points are clearly marked.**
- 7.3 That local retailers and residents are involved in the design of the Paraparaumu Beach Town Centre upgrade and lead the re-branding process.**

