Representation Review

Council Briefing
27 July 2021

Kāpiti Coast
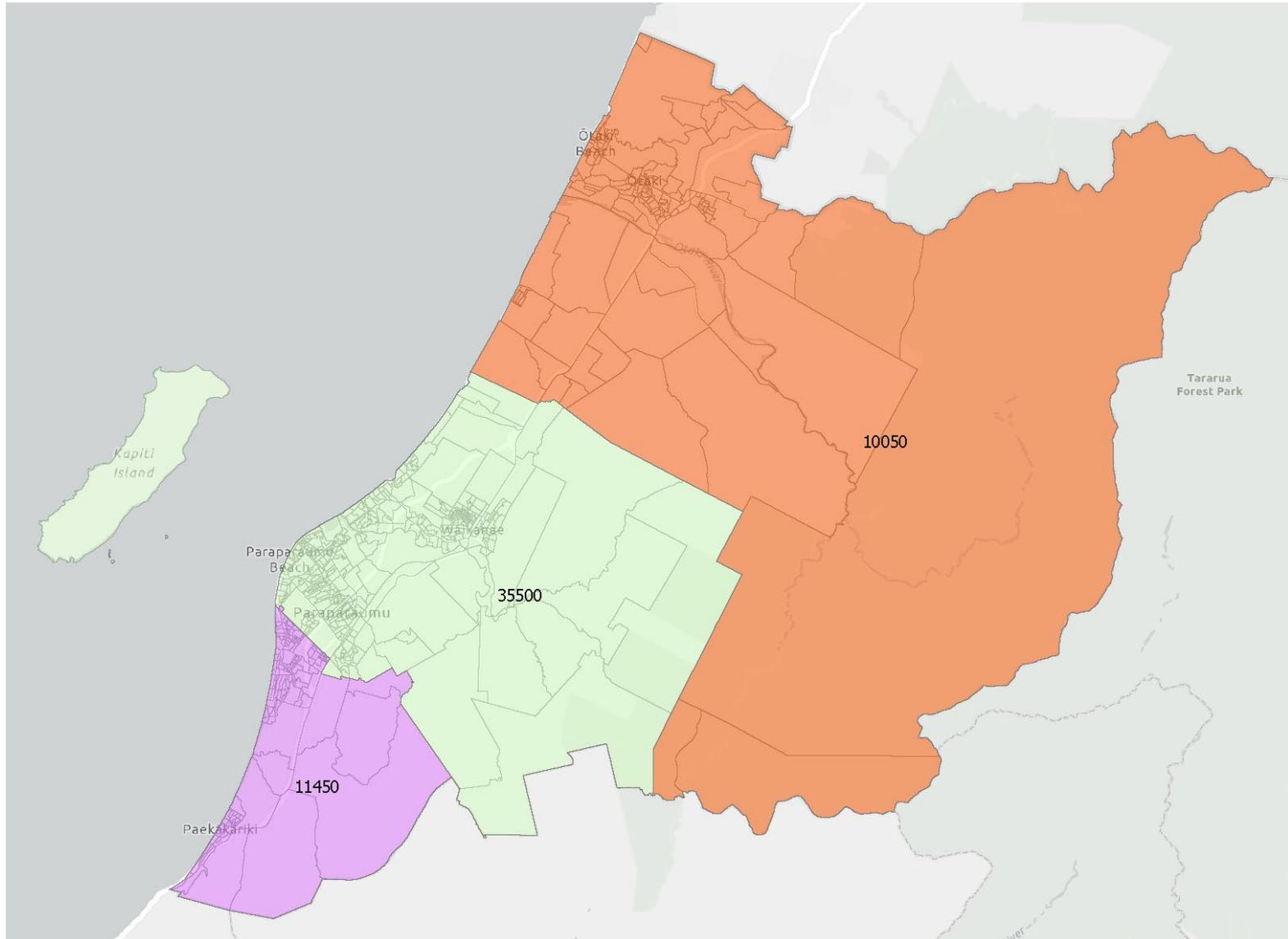**DISTRICT COUNCIL**
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Purpose of briefing

- Look at preferred option in more depth…
  - review ward boundaries and discuss approach to naming
  - consider how this option strengthens local participation in democracy

Recap of approach

- Targeted research and engagement to understand the community voice

- Led to us establishing some design principles

- We explored different options to achieve fair and effective representation and to best represent our communities of interest

- You told us your preferred option is **Large Wards A, mixed model (no community boards)**

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Large Wards A: mixed-model
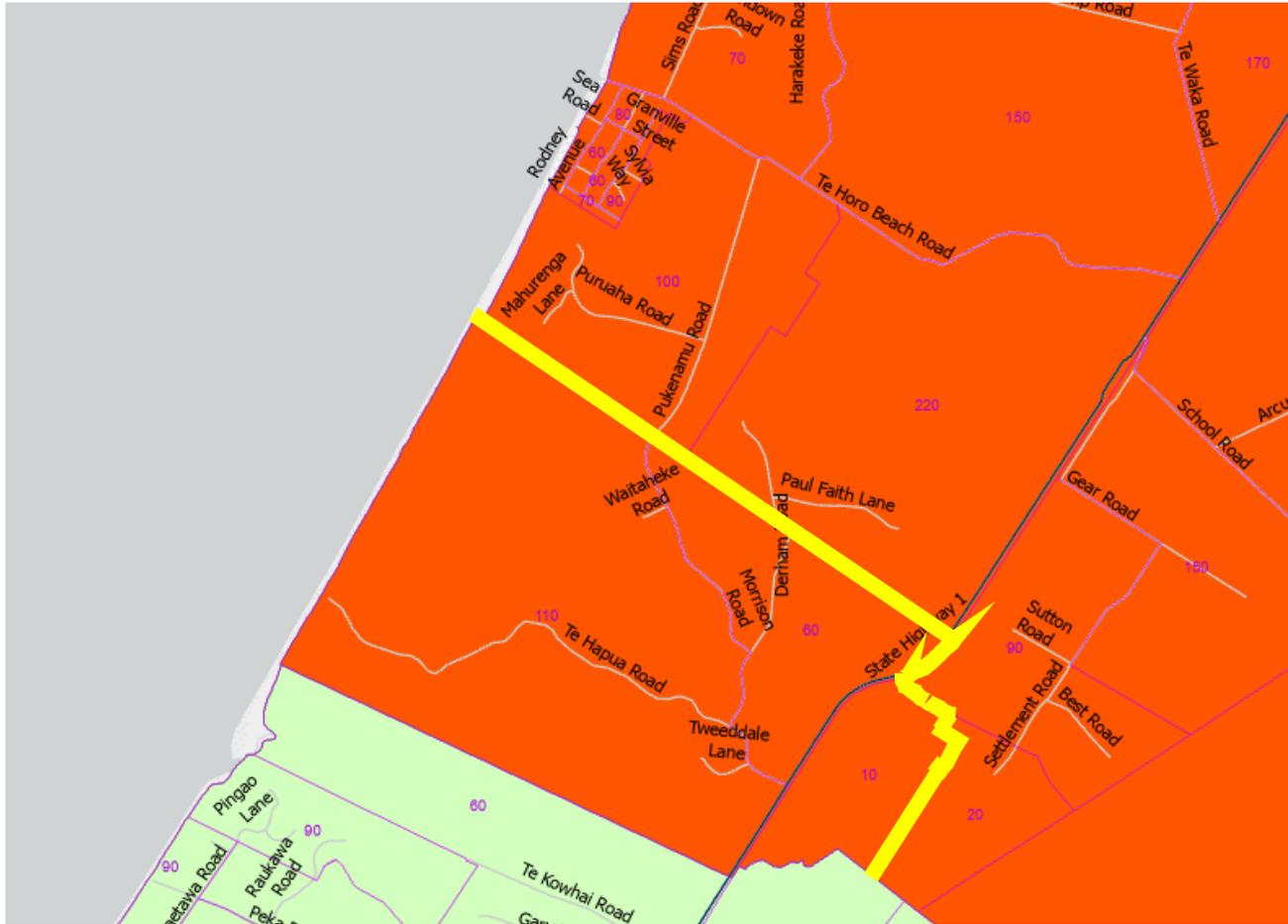
You asked us to consider…

- You asked us to consider:
  - Could this work as an all ward model?
  - How does this strengthen local participation in democracy (the community voice)?

Ward Boundaries

Boundary considerations

- 2015 LGC recommendation:
  - "…between state highway 1 and the coast, two roads presently in Ōtaki community (Derham Road and Paul Faith Lane) only had access south through Waikanae community, while one further road (Pukenamu Road) crosses this community boundary…"
  - "…the Commission recommends to Kāpiti Coast District Council that at its next representation review, it gives particular attention to the ongoing appropriateness of certain sections of the Waikanae/Ōtaki ward/community boundary."
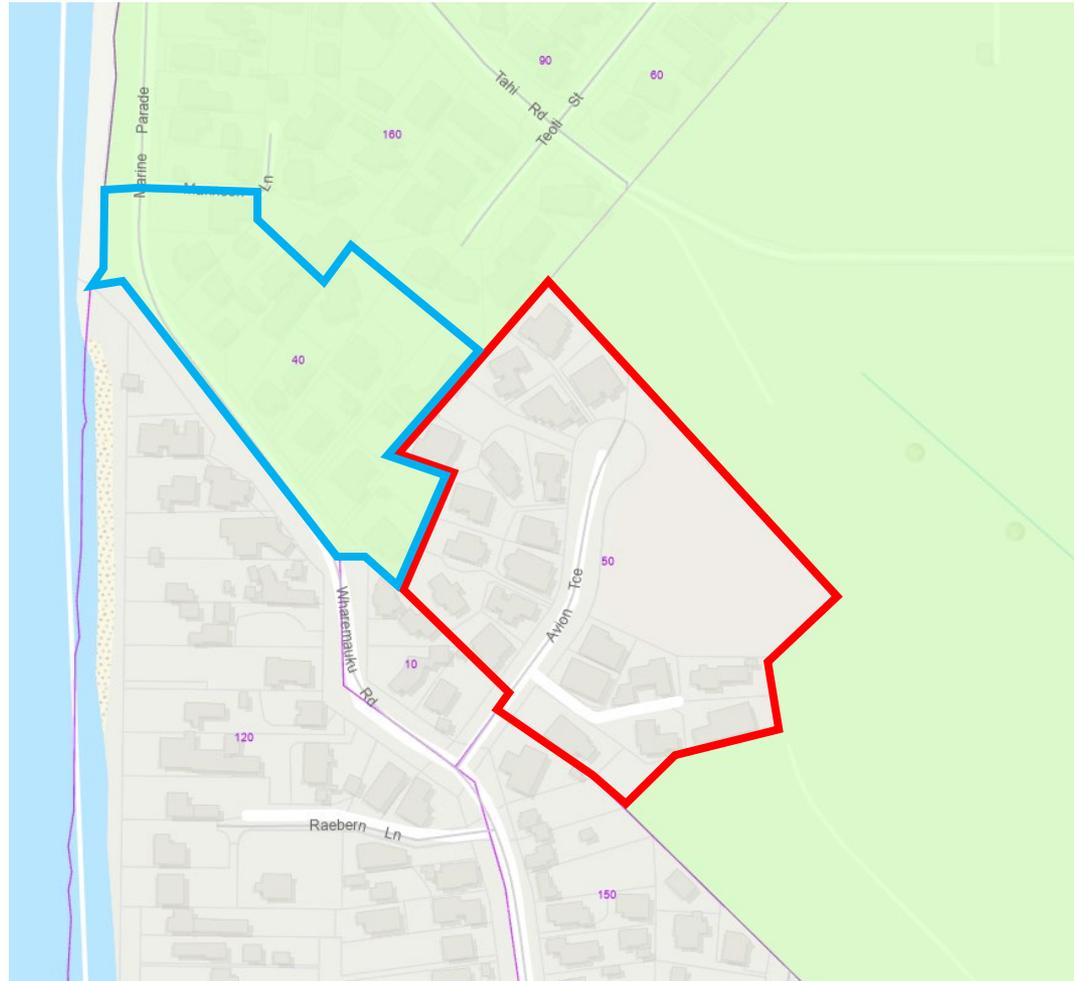
Option 1: move boundary north
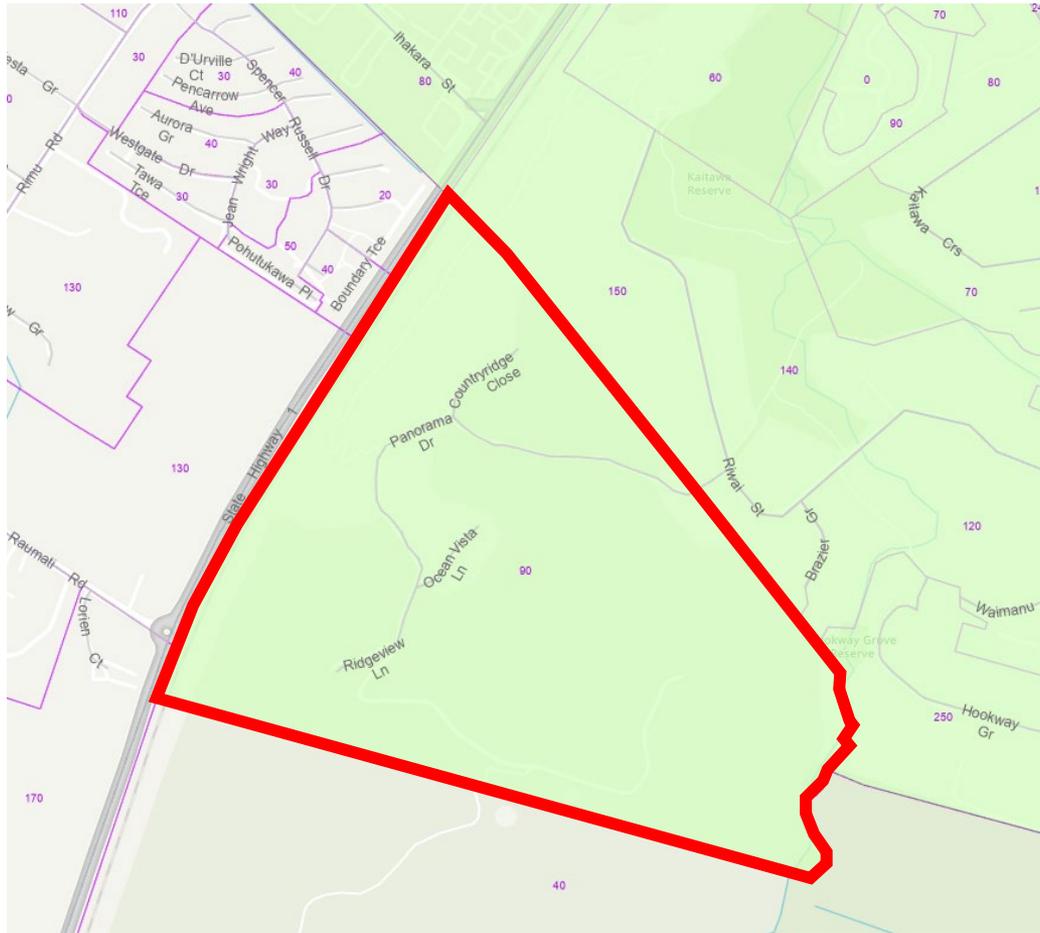
Option 2: move boundary south

Boundary considerations

- We have considered any other roads that are dissected by the ward boundaries
- We identified four…

Avion Terrace / Wharemakau Road
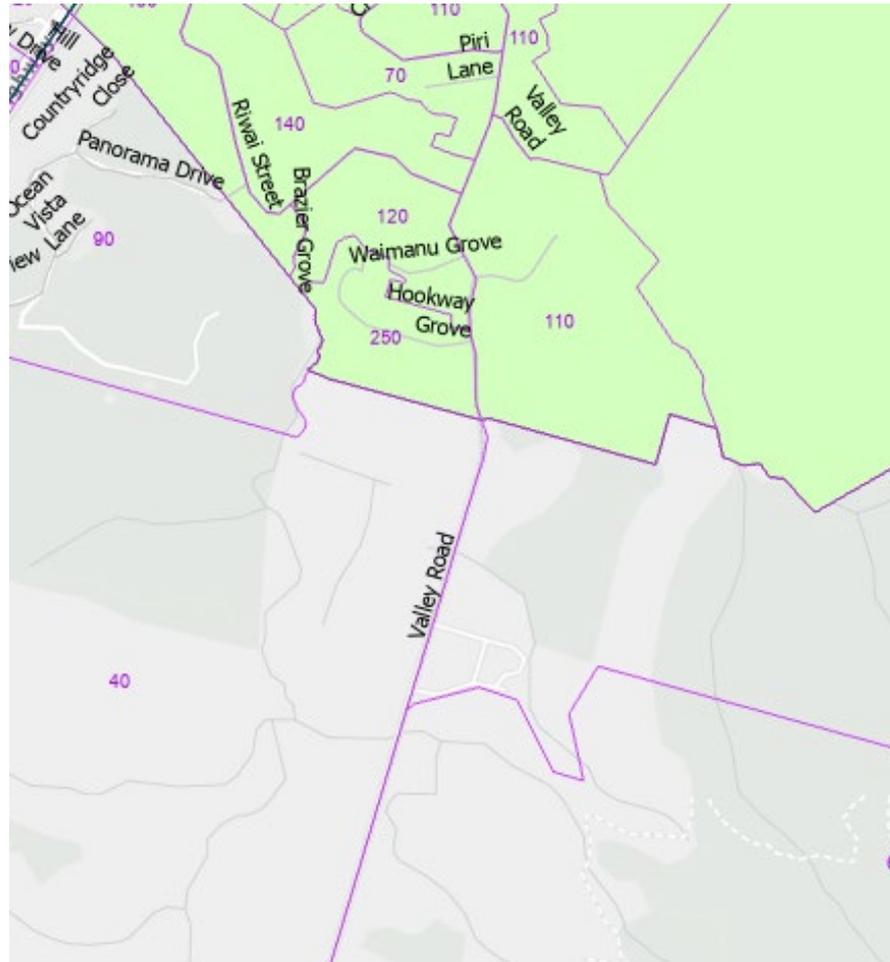
Panorama Drive

Valley Road

Ward Names

Approach for ward names

- For larger wards we propose moving away from using individual town names for the ward names

- Would like to explore ward names in te reo Māori

- Ward name suggestions will be included for discussion at the next briefing on 5 August

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Strengthening local representation

Better local representation and participation

You asked us for more information on:

- How the new model maintains and strengthens local participation

- How the new model will be resourced

- How we will be able to demonstrate this to our community

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Reducing layers and barriers

- Recap: our community research has demonstrated community boards can create layers of representation

- Layers can become barriers to representation/ having a voice heard

- Challenges the principles of efficient and effective representation for communities of interest

- Likely concern – community voice will not be heard without community boards

Others have similar challenges

- Representation reviews in other districts highlighted similar challenges (Matamata-Piako and Selwyn)

- Local Government Commission supported changes to reduce or remove community boards in these areas

- In this cycle of reviews there are changes on the table in Queenstown-Lakes

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Strengthening local representation

- Our communities want a democratic model that brings them closer to their elected representatives and decision-makers

- Not including community boards in the new model takes away a largely duplicative and confusing layer of representation

- Creates a more direct link between individuals/ communities and councillors/decision makers

- Opportunities to better empower communities

Supporting councillors to reach deeper into communities

- Repurpose staff resource and budget earmarked for community boards

- Meeting space/neighbourhood clinics

- More communications and engagement support

- Strengthened local outcomes approach – follow through/case management

- Neighbourhood fora or community panels

- Better insights from new voice of the customer programme

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Empowering communities

- Perception that communities are empowered via community boards

- Research did not back this up – highlighted barriers and confusion

- We can do more to foster community-led development to support new representation model

- Possible examples:

  – Enhanced grants programme (GAS?)

  – Increased funding and staff support for existing community groups to lead initiatives

  – Support establishment of new community groups where needed

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What do you think?

- How can we better support you to reach deeper into communities?

- How can we better empower communities to have a voice and lead initiatives?

Next Steps

5 August : Briefing
- Present Councillors with Initial Proposal (draft), identify required tweaks

- Tweak full Initial Proposal

26 August : Council Meeting
- Present Councillors with Initial Proposal for approval

Public Submissions
- Receive public submissions (one month)
- Consider submissions (Hearings 19 October)

26 October : Briefing
- Discuss submissions, determine changes (if any)

- Update Community Board Members
- Update the public

11 November : Council Meeting
- Present Councillors with Final Proposal for approval

Appeals/Objections
Receive any appeals or objections (one month)

Send to Local Government Commission for determination if we receive an appeal or objection, and/or if Final Proposal is outside of guidelines

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