

► We've commissioned a coastal hazard report to show how coastal erosion and inundation (flooding from the sea) are likely to affect our district over the next 30, 50 and 100 years.

This information is not just for people who live on the coast. We're a coastal community – coastal hazards affect us all. Your rates contribute to the cost of repairs, while coastal hazards could affect your access to and enjoyment of our beaches.

How will the community use the report?

The report is one of many that will be considered by the Takutai Kāpiti independent Coastal Advisory Panel when it looks at Kāpiti's options for adapting to coastal changes resulting from sea-level rise. The panel is made up of community and iwi representatives who will bring together good science, economic and social research, expert planning, indigenous knowledge, and community values to look at how our district should adapt to coastal hazards. Sign up for updates at www.takutaikapiti.nz.


Coastal hazards affect our coastal lifestyle

Some areas of beach will become increasingly inaccessible as the sea rises and intrudes inland. Damage to coastal roads and tracks will restrict access to parts of our coast. You can already see this in some areas at high tide.

Our coastal adaptation kaupapa

Kāpiti Coast District Council is putting the community at the heart of working out how we should adapt to sea-level rise.

We're committed to having an open, transparent, and respectful conversation as we plan for our future. The technical report is just one of many inputs to this conversation. The project will bring together good science, economic and social research, expert planning, indigenous knowledge, and community values. Takutai Kāpiti is our starting point.

 Read about the Takutai Kāpiti coastal adaptation project at takutaikapiti.nz.

 A technical report on coastal hazards for the Kāpiti Coast is due out soon. Watch for it on Council's social channels and website: kapiticoast.govt.nz

Contact us

Find out more about the science around coastal hazards and meet the community-led Takutai Kāpiti Coastal Advisory Panel at kapiticoast.govt.nz/coastal-adaptation

Email us: coastal@kapiticoast.govt.nz



Our coastline is changing

Climate change is causing sea level rise around the world. Extreme storms are becoming more frequent and damaging, causing coastal erosion and coastal flooding. Over time, Kāpiti will face further significant changes to our coastline. Our shoreline is moving inland in some places and building outwards in others. ►

We need good data to plan for and protect community assets

Community coastal assets include accessways, outlets, signage, and seawalls. We need to know where and when coastal hazards are likely to occur or worsen so we can plan whether to continue maintaining these assets, take new steps to protect them, or relocate elsewhere. This is what 'adapting' to our changing coastline means. Over the next five years, Council will spend an average of more than \$8.8 million a year managing our community coastal assets – and this doesn't include big-ticket items like roads, stormwater pipes, and parks. As coastal erosion and inundation increases in frequency and magnitude, the costs will increase.

We're getting expert advice

Independent coastal engineering experts Jacobs New Zealand are writing the report for us. Jacobs has done similar work for communities around New Zealand and overseas. Beca and Greater Wellington Regional Council are independently reviewing the report. It follows Ministry for the Environment guidance and uses the latest national and international data. It addresses all the technical issues that were challenged in 2012 by property owners worried their values would drop, and considers their recent feedback on the report methodology.



Read about the report on the Council website kapiticoast.govt.nz/coastal-science.

Will the report put lines on the map?

The report will show expected coastal erosion and inundation over 30, 50 and 100 years:

- 30 years for long-term council asset planning,
- 50 years is the expected lifetime of a building for consent applications, and
- 100 years is the minimum timeframe government has directed councils to assess coastal hazard risk.

For each timeframe, it looks at two or three sea-level rise scenarios each reflecting degrees of certainty from: likely to occur, will probably occur, and unlikely but possible.

Interactive online GIS maps will show the extent of each scenario. The existence of these online resources does not create new 'hazard lines' in any regulatory sense – it's simply information. But we may use the Jacob's report and maps as supporting evidence in planning. One imminent example is our proposal to maintain the status quo by temporarily preventing intensification along the coast. We want to delay new government laws enabling more medium density housing until the Takutai Kāpiti project and work of the Coastal Advisory Panel is complete. We will be consulting on this soon.

Will it go on my LIM?

Buyers rely on Land Information Memoranda (LIMs) to make informed decisions about properties. All LIMs have information on them about hazards affecting our district.

Since June 2021 all newly issued LIMs have had links to the report's methodology on our website. These links will be updated when we receive the report, but this does not automatically change or restrict your ability to build on or renovate a property.

Will I be able to build or renovate?

If a property is identified as subject to natural hazards which can't be mitigated for the building or the land, this is noted on the property title in the form of a section 72 notification. Council officers will only consider hazards that are likely to affect the new building work during the life of the work covered by a building consent. Talk to our Building or Planning team if you have any questions about a specific project.

We need to know where to invest

The information in this report matters to all of us, not just those living on the beach. We need good data to help us decide where and when we invest in or protect community infrastructure.

We all pay for coastal assets

Your rates pay for building and repairs to Council roads, bridges, water pipes and channels, and public parks and facilities that are damaged by coastal erosion and inundation. Costs of repairing and maintaining electricity and gas networks are passed on by suppliers to you, their customers. Some properties may become uninsurable, and banks may refuse to lend. Banks and insurance companies assess these risks based on their own business costs. Insurance premiums rise for everyone to compensate companies for increased risk. Insurers have asked councils to take a long-term view and be proactive in looking at how our communities should adapt to coastal changes. Anticipating and planning for sea-level rise reduces costs and our collective risk.