

**KAPITI COAST : CHOOSING FUTURES**

# **COMMUNITY OUTCOMES**

**OTAKI  
LOCAL OUTCOMES  
GREATER OTAKI VISION**



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**Kapiti Coast District Council**  
*in partnership with the community*

## Foreword



### From Mayor Alan Milne

Ōtaki is on the brink of a new era of expansion and economic development that could have far reaching impacts on the nature and form of the area as well as on the lives of its people.

For this exciting future to have the greatest long term benefit for the area, it 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.

This document is the Greater Ōtaki Vision and it was developed through a series of meetings and consultations involving many of the people and most of the significant groups.

Its aim is to provide a framework or touchstone for options and actions for the future as the local community and wider district develops.

The challenge for the people of Ōtaki, for the District and the Council is to take this document and its vision and ensure an Ōtaki which is responsive to the needs of people and flexible enough to meet the forces that will shape the area and this country in the years to come.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alan Milne'.

21 August 2007

### From Community Board Chairman André Baker

Tēnā tātou katoa

Ōtaki is the foundation of settlement on the Kapiti Coast for three distinctly proud and identifiable communities of origin – Māori, European (Pākehā) and Chinese. The community of Ōtaki today reflects this rich and unique blend of cultures contrasted by the emergence of multi cultural, multi ethnic and multi lingual populations of diversity.

The communities of Ōtaki township inhabit three main areas including Ōtaki Beach, Main Street and The Railway. Surrounding Ōtaki are the rural communities that extend from State Highway 1 to the foothills of the Tararua.

The Greater Ōtaki Project links these communities together - tui, tui, tui tuia, *weaving the magic, weaving the story, weaving together* the future of Ōtaki.

And together retailers, consumers, farmers, market gardeners, property owners, manufacturers, suppliers, consultants, researchers, students, hapu and iwi, youth and senior members of the community have committed their statements of purpose to the Greater Ōtaki Vision through an inclusive and productive consultative process.

The Greater Ōtaki Vision is a work in progress, a living document and an expression of our community's priorities and values. I commit the Greater Ōtaki Vision to the community's of Ōtaki.

Nā reira, Kia Piki Te Ora

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'André Baker'.

# Kapiti Coast: Choosing Futures – Ōtaki Local Outcomes

## Introduction

This document builds on *Kapiti Coast: Choosing Futures – Community Outcomes*. Under the umbrella of those broader community outcomes, this document sets out a further layer of information about the community's vision for Greater Ōtaki.

*Tui, tui, tui, tuia*

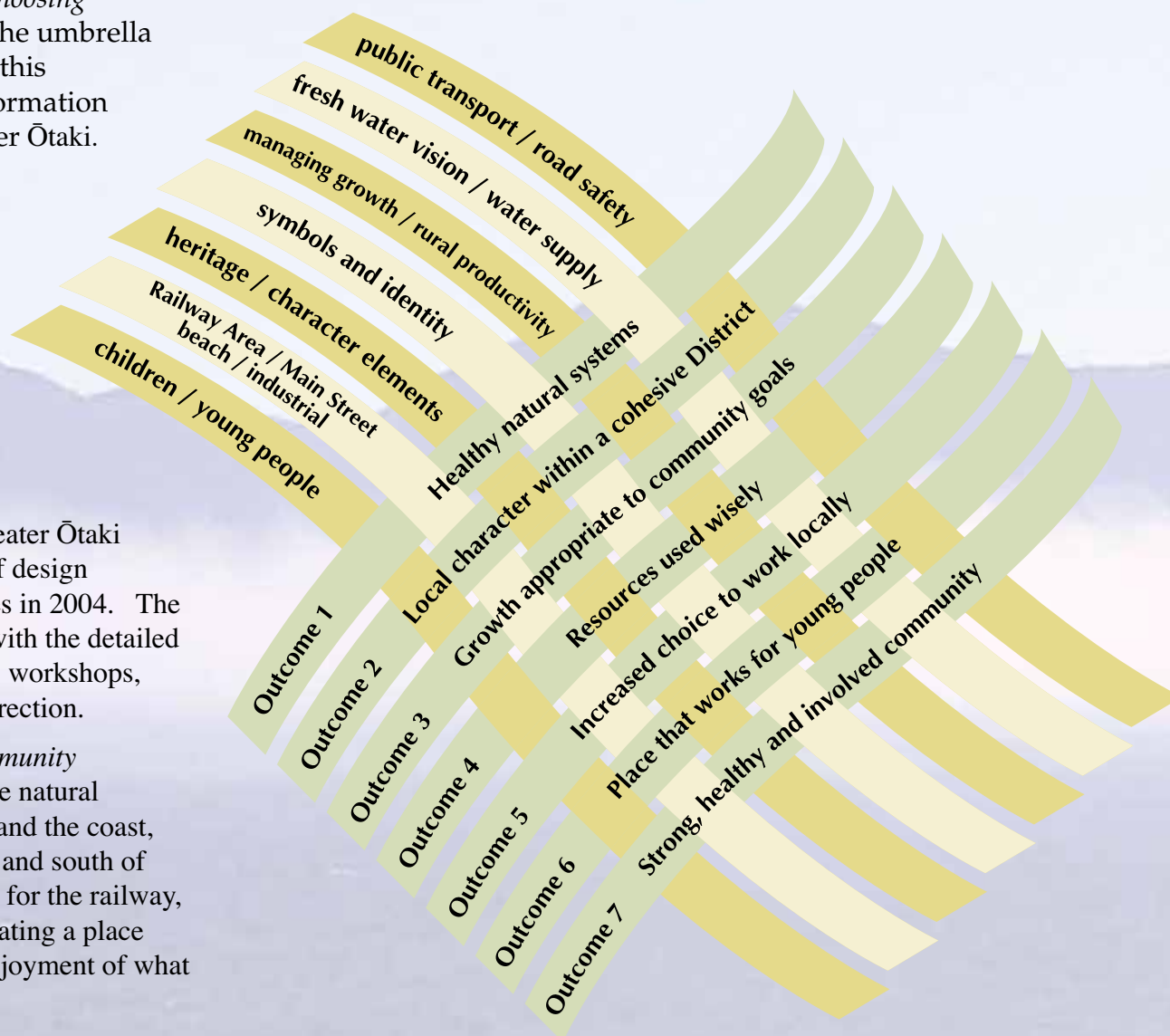
*Weave the magic,*

*weave the story,*

*weave together*

Residents and business people, from the Greater Ōtaki community have participated in a number of design workshops since the initial Choosing Futures in 2004. The material from these latter processes, 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 including a fresh water vision and the coast, protection of character, transportation north and south of Ōtaki, rural productivity, growth and design for the railway, industrial, Main Street and beach areas, creating a place that works for young people, and general enjoyment of what the Kapiti Coast offers.





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 Greater Ōtaki Local Outcomes document is to provide more guidance on what this means for the community.

*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 might progress this community vision.

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. However, these documents together become the basis against which the performance of agencies in supporting the community's wellbeing can be assessed. It also forms a more concrete basis for engagement between communities, agencies and institutions and discussion of particular issues.

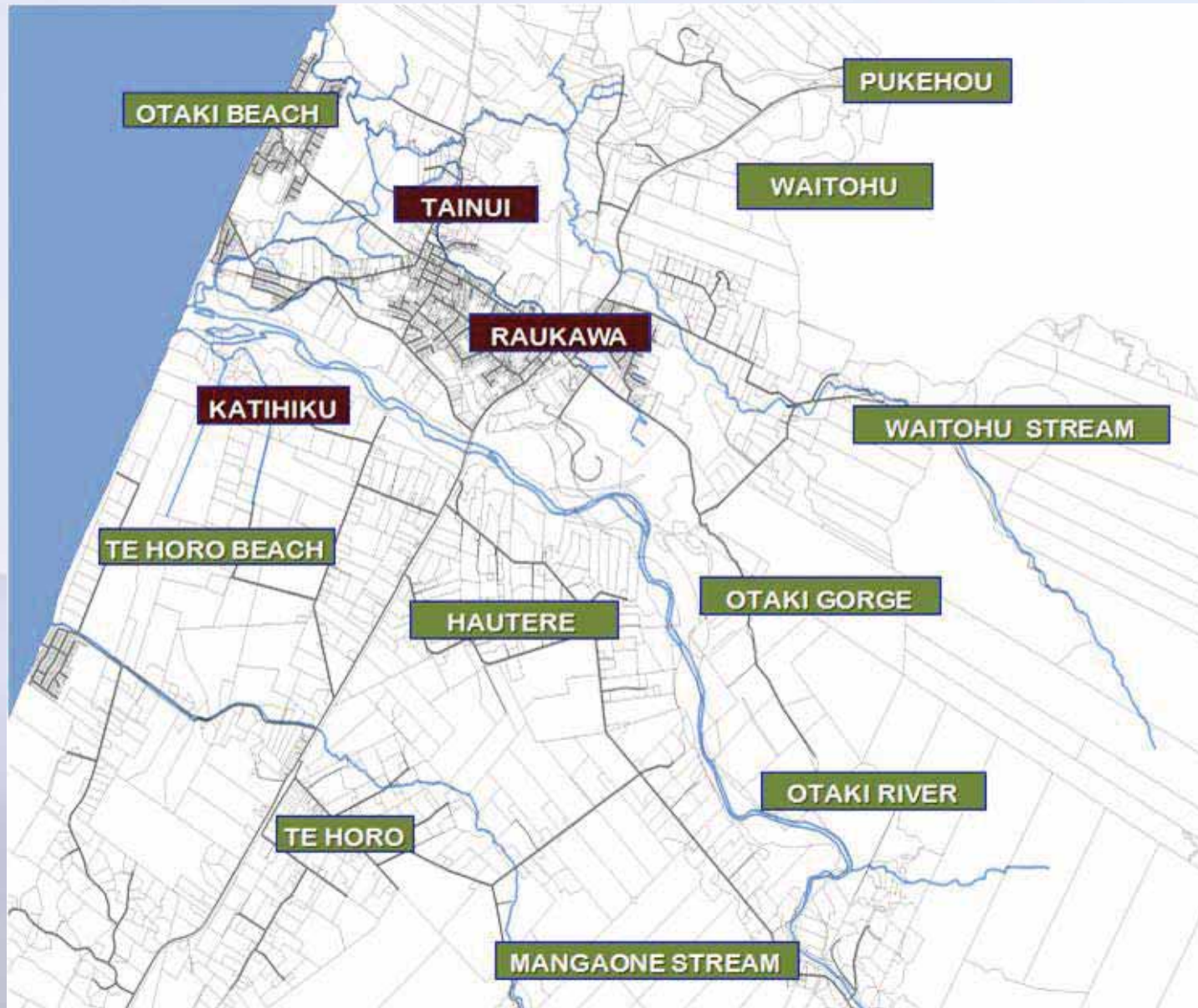


The Community Outcomes and the Local Outcomes are not just documents intended to shape the response of the Council and other agencies. They signal a collectively desired direction for Ōtaki as a place and as a community. In many cases the challenge is for the residents to become involved, to do things in their community to make things work. Ōtaki already has a community where people get very involved in issues and decision making. Some people work very hard for the community. These Outcomes present a challenge for everyone into the future.





Where are you in the Greater Ōtaki big picture?

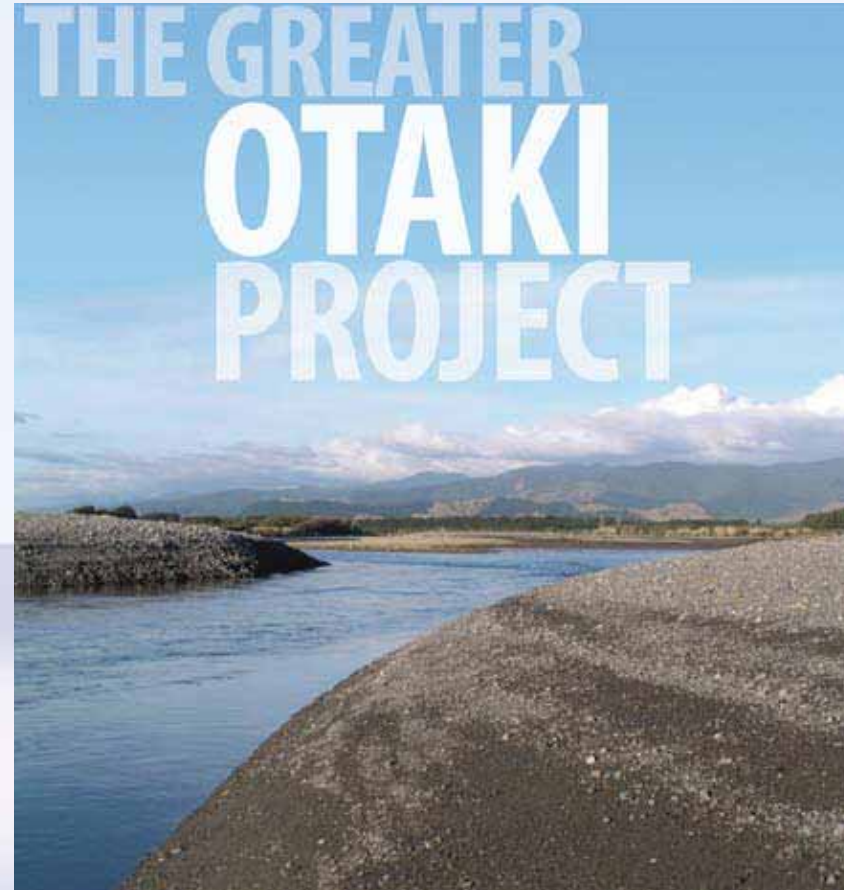


## 1. The Broad Vision

### 1.1 That the current strengths of the Greater Ōtaki area are recognised. In general terms these are:

- the nationally unique mix of Māori, European (pākehā) and Chinese settlement and communities and the cultural vibrancy and heritage that results;
- the Ōtaki River, the stream and the springs;
- the coast and the Tararua ranges;
- the role of education facilities, primary, secondary and Te Wānanga-o-Raukawa, in shaping the future of our people;
- the role of Ōtaki Town and Railway areas as a gateway to Kapiti Coast;
- the regional importance of productive potential and capacity of the rural areas;
- the strong community bonds where people work together to improve their environment and support each other;
- the strength of its community elders and the resource of prospective young leaders;
- a community that has healthy outcomes;
- a place where there is interest and enthusiasm for creating new jobs and opportunities;

**and: with the help of local and central government, businesses and residents, this strength is nurtured, to further build a strong community and environment.**





## 2 For Our Tamariki, Our Children

### 2.1 That Greater Ōtaki:

- is a place that acknowledges the role of children and young people in our community;
- considers the impact on and opportunities for children and young people when looking at all growth and development projects;
- has an environmental education strategy for young people;
- celebrates success and encourages excellence for our children.

### 2.1 Some priorities identified by Ōtaki children include:

- an adventure park
- a slide into Haruatai Pool
- toilets down by the river
- a basketball court at the beach
- a radio station for Ōtaki
- more trains stopping
- a movie theatre
- safer roads



### 3. Te Huarahi Pai o Te Hunga Rangatahi *a good pathway for our young people*

3.1 That all Ōtaki young people have a pathway that moves them from education into training and or work.

3.2 That there is the potential for young leaders to be nurtured for success and we build on the learnings of Whakatupuranga Rua Mano – Generation 2000.

- The community vision for young people involves a community where there is encouragement of young people to express what is important to them and then plan for their future needs.
- It is a community that allows rangatahi to dream and celebrates their sporting, academic and artistic achievements.
- It is a community that collectively works to tackle the issues and find a way forward.

*Ka pū te ruha, ka hao te rangatahi*

*The old net is cast aside, the new net goes fishing*

*(our rangatahi are the leaders of tomorrow)*

*Kia tū tāngata ai i ngā wā katoa i tēnei ao hurihuri*

*To stand for the people at all times in this ever changing world*





#### **4. Fresh Water Vision**

- 4.1 That Greater Ōtaki has rivers, streams, lakes, estuaries, groundwater, springs and wetlands that are recognised as ecological lifelines and define our environmental priorities.**
- 4.2 The community of Greater Ōtaki is aware of the impacts of their actions when using fresh water areas directly or indirectly.**
- 4.3 That there is appreciation for the importance of freshwater resource for its continued ability to exist in an unpolluted state and sustain/supply the overall community of humans, flora and fauna.**





## The Greater Ōtaki Community Freshwater Vision

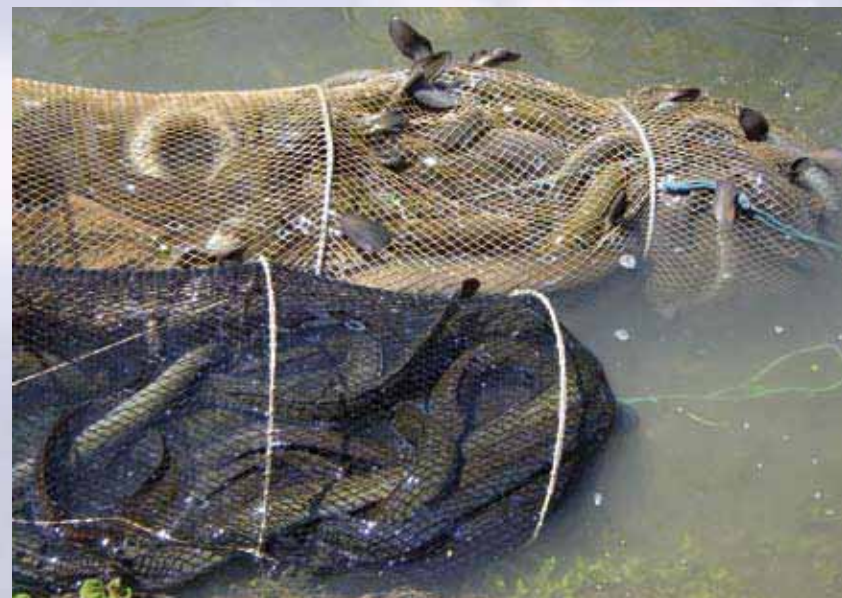
*“Kia pakari te tinana, kia oho te wairua,  
kia piki te kaha o te tāngata.*

*Sustaining life is the most important aspect of all water-bodies.  
A healthy resource gives rise to diverse life forms and therefore  
increases the mana of that place.”*

The Greater Ōtaki Community Freshwater Vision was developed over six months through a consultation process which encouraged the participation of the public, hapū, and key community groups between Pukehou in the North, and Te Horo in the South.

The values of the community have been expressed about the freshwater resource and the comments collated to lead the development of the Greater Ōtaki Community Freshwater Vision. The freshwater resource includes rivers and streams, lakes, estuaries, groundwater, springs, and any other wetland the community identified as being significant.

Overwhelmingly the community identified rivers and streams as being the most important aspect of the freshwater resource. However, many participants also commented on the interconnected nature of the entire freshwater resource and valued each and every wetland equally. Examples of these community values are expressed with quotes such as “all of our water bodies are important and can’t be separated as they are part of a whole system” and “all water sources need to be nurtured for the various qualities that they impart in our lives, be it water we drink, animals, birds, and insects that we watch, and all creatures of the food chain.”



### **Inclusive Of Rivers, Streams and Lakes**

The community identified 14 water bodies as significant. The majority of these were surface water bodies but there were many comments that linked the surface water with the ground water. The links between the surface water and ground water were obvious when people talked about puna (fresh water springs) and their importance. Members of the community also related the flow in rivers to the groundwater level, and the pressures that development and extraction have on the health of our major waterways.



Statistically the Ōtaki River and the Waitohu Stream were identified as the most significant water bodies. Other important community water bodies included Lakes Waiorongomai, Ngā Totara, and Waitawa, the Mangaone, Ngātoko, Mangapōuri, Rangiuru, and Pahiko Streams. The Tasman Road and Rangiuru Road bores which supply the majority of the Ōtaki community with potable water were also identified as highly important. The Katihiku Marae bore, and bores in the Te Horo Beach area were also mentioned as being significant. The dependence of the southern part of the community on shallow ground water for drinking water which does not undergo any form of treatment is important. The community is also well aware of the risks associated with drinking this water as the Te Horo Beach Water Working Party in conjunction with Kapiti Coast District Council performed a risk assessment exercise in mid 2004 which confirmed some water quality problems with shallow ground water.



## Vision Statements and Values

The comments from the community clearly identify freshwater values important to the community with an emphasis on sustaining all life in the area, as well as maintaining regional health and integrity (mana). These values helped shape six key themes which consistently emerged through the consultation process, and can be used as ‘umbrella statements’ that apply to the freshwater resource. The key themes could be considered as ‘community management priorities’:

- **that waterways are protected, maintained and improved for future generations;**
- **our rivers and streams are clean for swimming;**
- **fisheries and fishery habitats are restored and enhanced;**
- **water is clean for drinking and the supply is never compromised;**
- **freshwater ecology is protected and enhanced;**
- **our cultural identity is recognised in the management of natural resources, while being protected and improved.**

Comments about the significance of the local rivers and streams were numerous and demonstrated the intimate connection that many in the community have with their waterways. People recognised their dependence on the freshwater resource for their survival. This dependence is identified through a number of quotes and emergent themes.





## A Question Of Values

When members of the community were questioned about why they valued a particular freshwater body, or part of the freshwater resource, there were a number of responses. Some of the more generic responses included:

**Involving Young People:** Getting young people involved and promoting the concept of responsibility for the environment. By encouraging young people to enjoy the resource, they may also come to protect it for their children .

### **Enhancing The River, Protecting Against Pipelines:**

“The Ōtaki River and its catchment should be protected from any pipelines”. There was concern that moves to take water from the Ōtaki River would be detrimental to the Ōtaki community and residents while also having a negative effect on the health of the river.

**Iwi Management Plan:** Implement the Iwi Management Plan and allow local iwi into the management of the awa.

**Rivers Holistic Value:** “Rivers and streams are the connection/ link between the whenua (land) and moana (sea). Through these [rivers and streams], life is transient and forever growing. They must be clean to be viable for the ongoing process of food provision, distribution of life, and to be drinkable.”

**Restoring Riparian Margins and Assisting Farmers:** People value the importance and role of restoring riparian margins on rivers in order to enhance and increase water quality. There is community will for Council to support the efforts of farmers “to improve water-ways and protect them from deterioration”.

**Flood Protection:** “The community and its assets are protected from flood events.”



**Community Co-operation:** The various active groups can work towards this vision in a cooperative and representative way, so that the community at large can understand the issues and be actively involved.

**Supporting Stream Care Groups:** People are enthusiastic about Council supporting and assisting, “Stream Care groups to avoid erosion of sand dunes, to plant native trees, create wetland and enhancement programs for the native fish habitat.” The community value the role Stream Care groups play in enhancing the health of the rivers and streams.

**Raising Awareness and Combining Community Resources:** Raising awareness of peoples actions and how they affect the health of the waterways. Combining volunteer input, education (from preschool onwards) and enforced rules e.g. fencing riverbanks, no rubbish into waterways, to eliminate toxins; planting of natives to revegetate water bodies.

## 5. Managing Growth for Local Benefit

**5.1 That there is an increased focus on the existing Ōtaki urban areas as places for the location of future Kapiti Coast District population and employment growth, provided that this happens in a way that:**

- takes a sustainable development approach;
- respects the character of the town;
- consolidates development within existing zoned residential areas;
- makes efficient use of towns services;
- encourages sustainability through grey water and rain water systems and waste pollution minimization;
- clearly creates work opportunities for the community.

**5.2 That there is no new urban development at Te Horo Beach and the previously proposed Te Horo future urban growth area is removed, in preference to a focus on Ōtaki.**



## 6. Passenger Transport

### 6.1 That Greater Ōtaki has:

- as a priority, a passenger rail service providing regular access to the south;
- mobility services for the elderly and disabled providing access to health and social services to the north and south;
- a bus service linking to rail services which caters in the long term for both workers and other users;
- improved access for all the community;
- has an extensive network of cycleways and walkways.

The community vision enables young people to be connected with social activities on the coast and regionally through a public transport system.

It is a community that has access to transport for health and other social services delivered outside Ōtaki and options for transport within and around Greater Ōtaki.





## 7. Main Street and Ōtaki Railway

**7.1 That the Ōtaki Main Street and Railway retail areas prosper in a way that makes best use of the complementary strengths of each area. These strengths are:**

- Main Street – civic heart (marae and service centre), key services, local retail and historic/tourist attraction;
- Railway Station – sub-regional retail function with specialist shops, rail station.

**7.2 That local culture and design is celebrated in and links these centres.**



## Vision for the Railway Area

**7.3 That the Railway area is developed in a way that :**

- looks at the entire area;
- includes the Railway Station and other heritage buildings as major features;
- provides safe access to adequate long-term parking;
- provides more trees, particularly native trees and plants;
- explores the potential for an expanded market and possible festivals;
- improves the look of the streets (seats, lighting, planting, signs) and keeps the character of the area;
- provides better pedestrian and cycling access from Rāhui Road to Arthur Street and a possible separate road access.



The Ōtaki Railway Station is a significant feature of Ōtaki, rich with history and an important community asset. There is strong support within the community to develop the Ōtaki Railway area, including Arthur Street and the service lane running parallel to the railway tracks.

A number of workshops have been held with different members of the community, including Ōtaki retailers, and together they have come up with a vision for the area. It covers many of the ideas listed above and also:

- promotes a new outward facing commercial development to increase local business opportunities (onto the Railway Station parking area and the back lane on the western side). It also improves safety by making these areas less closed off and dark;
- the stream area is made more attractive by planting and with a safe footpath along its southern edge.





## Vision for Ōtaki Main Street

### 7.4 That the Ōtaki Main Street:

- maintains and grows its shopping activities;
- builds its strength and business and employment opportunities from the surrounding heritage and cultural features and sites;
- remains the civic heart of Ōtaki;
- develops in a way that protects Raukawa Marae from noise and enables it to carry out its traditional functions and activities;
- has strong entry statements at both Te Wānanga-o-Raukawa and Raukawa Marae ends of the centre;
- has improved parking and safe access for both cyclists and pedestrians;
- is made more attractive with trees and planting (with Aotaki Street being a green pathway leading to the Ōtaki River);
- has more public toilet facilities and play facilities for children.



More detailed ideas from people included different paving in the retail area, improved lighting, restoring the fountain on Aotaki St, protection and restoration of the Civic Theatre and the possibility of more housing choice around the centre over time was also raised.





Community workshops identified five informal overlapping areas or precincts that either exist or could be encouraged to support the health of the area. These are:

- Te Wānanga-o-Raukawa (existing);
- the broad heritage area of Te Rauparaha Street and across to Rangioru Road;
- a possible arts and culture area with Te Whare Toi and back along the Main Street;
- the Civic area – with library and service centre and the Marae (existing but could be emphasised).

The workshops also developed more detailed concepts for the area and although the detail will continue to be worked on over time, the broad framework now developed must be seen as a guide for future decisions.



**capture, maximize, consolidate**

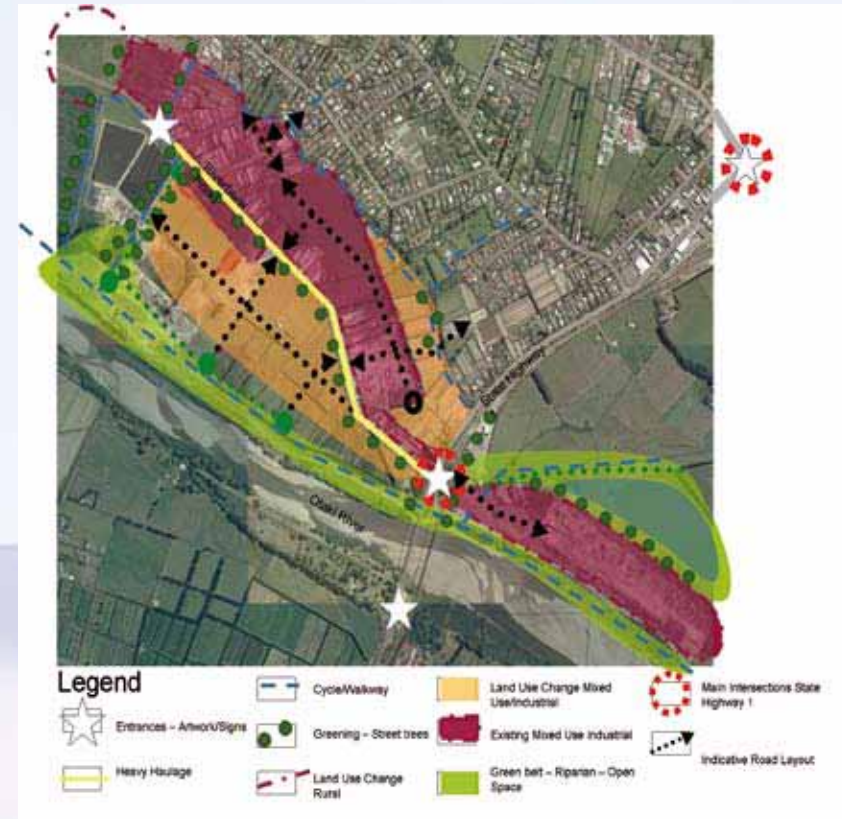


## 8. Industrial Area

### 8.1 That the Riverbank Road industrial area becomes a major commercial/industrial development and employment area of districtwide significance, and is a leader in its image and products produced.

This includes:

- extending the mix of industrial activities, such as new technologies, recycling initiatives, etc;
- developing an overall image and appearance which links businesses and activities and improves on the current image;
- strongly linking the industrial area to the Railway and Main Street, so it is not a 'backwater' but is seen as part of the whole Ōtaki economy – the Ōtaki 'loop';
- providing for links through the area to the river and developing a 'user friendly environment' with improved footpaths and cycling;
- ensuring that traditional services and business are supported to remain while still attracting new businesses and improving appearance and image;
- making more of the proximity of the area to State Highway 1 and to rail;
- connect with cycleways/walkways into the residential area but avoid road connections.



### 8.2 The Ōtaki industrial area has the potential to take advantage of the 'new economy' of technologies and businesses. There is a great deal of land still available, making it possible for local businesses and landowners to forge an image and direction for the whole area at the beginning and not 'after the fact'.



**8.3 Out of the workshops with business owners and land owners a vision is starting to emerge.**

**The strengths of the Ōtaki Industrial Area are:**

- **potential** – to grow the area and the economy while retaining area identity;
- **proximity** – to main transport routes and local centres and the workforce;
- **people** – driven by positive local business people with locals as employment resource;
- **product** – currently includes a number of businesses which have a regional or national significance.

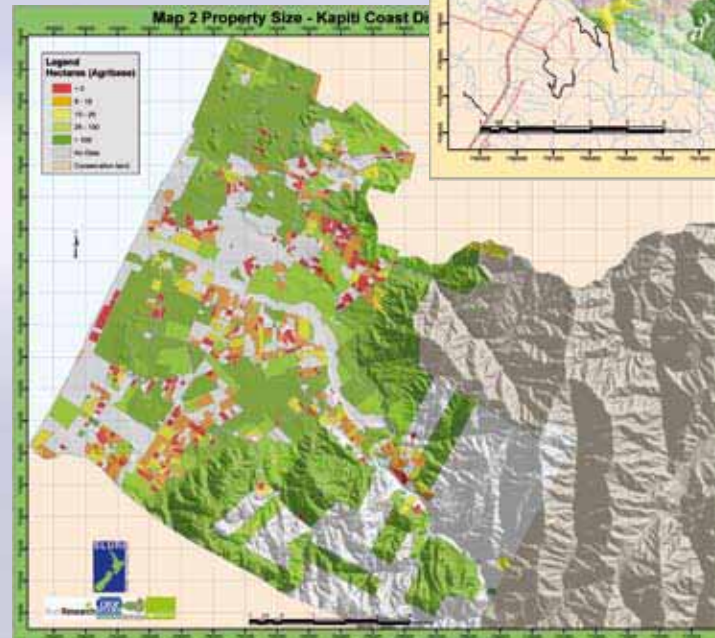
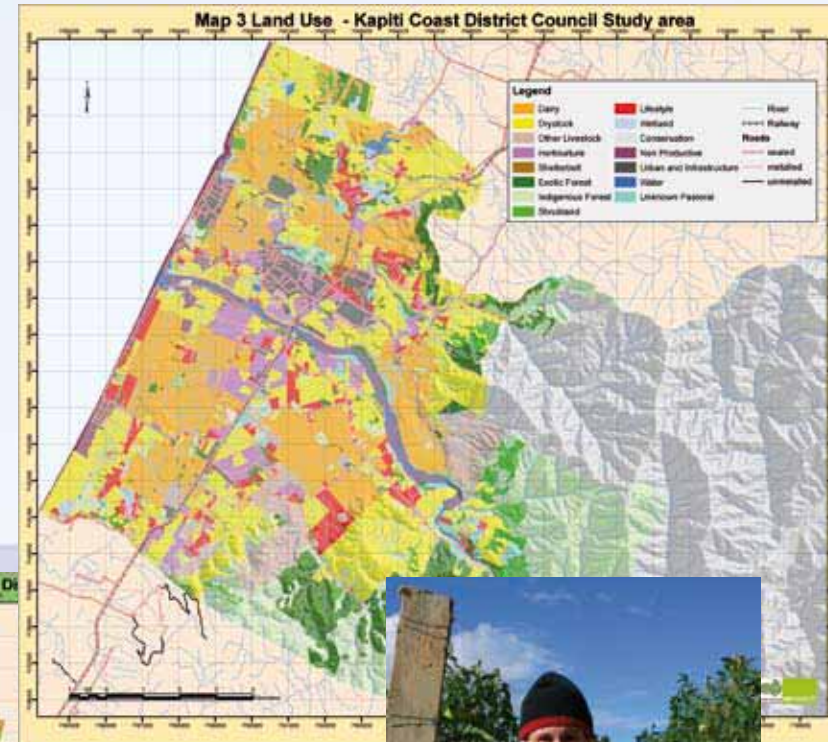


## 9. Te Horo, Hautere and the Wider Rural Area

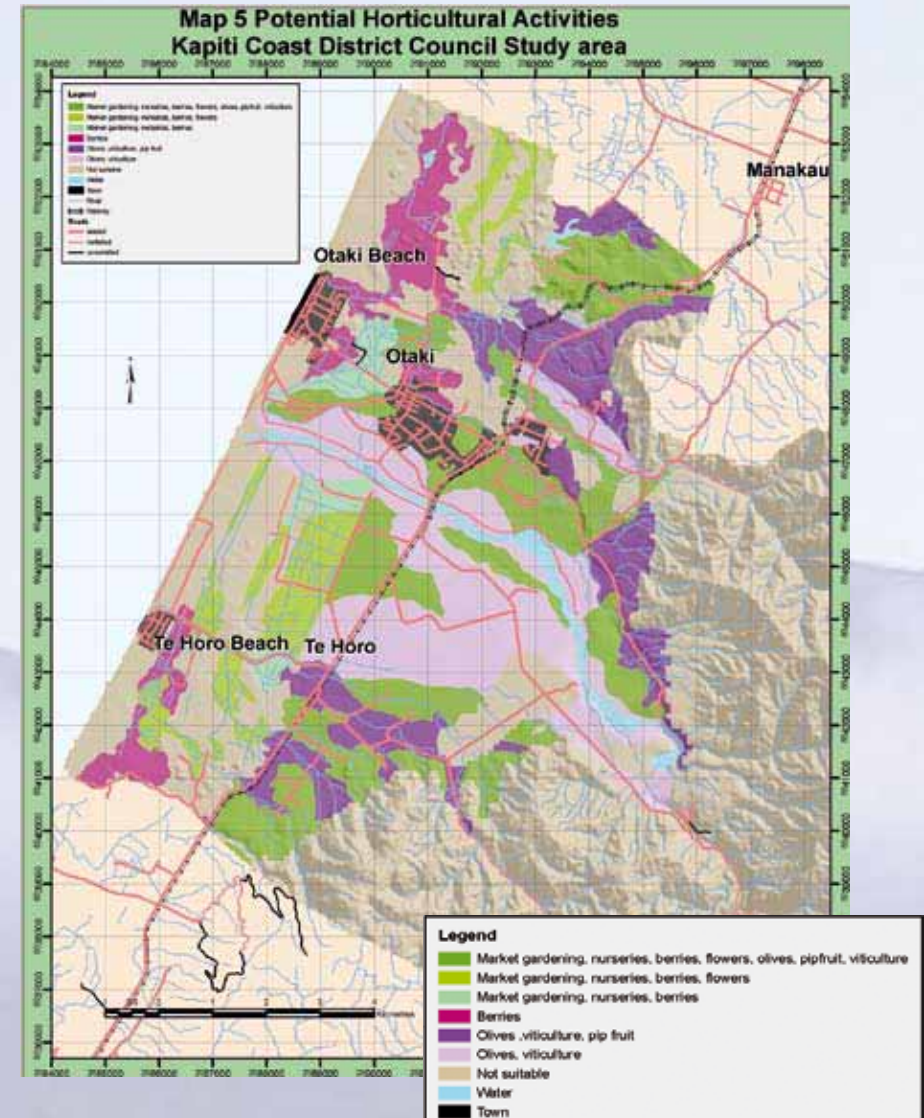
### 9.1 That the full potential of the rural area to grow and promote food and other products and provide local employment is realized and that this happens in a way that:

- ensures that people who make their living from the land are supported and can continue to function;
- protects the water resource and soils;
- protects remaining bush and coastal areas;
- provides opportunities for local farmers' markets;
- provides opportunities for local activities linked to the land;
- supports the development and marketing of products for local and export markets.

### 9.2 The community vision for the rural area is to ensure that it can continue to produce food and does not become simply a place for rural lifestyle living. People are keen to develop local products of a high quality and to develop activities, such as local restaurants and tourism that build on that local rural character.







## **10. The Coast (including harvesting)**

**10.1 That the coast is protected for future generations;**

**10.2 That the *kaitiaki* role of tāngata whenua is valued;**

**10.3 That there is public appreciation and understanding of healthy natural eco-systems including educational signage showing the values of these systems:**

- the lagoons and estuaries are healthy attracting birdlife and promoting inanga growth;
- the dunes are restored and protected.

**10.4 That the coast is accessible for a range of activities but avoids damage of dunes, estuaries and shellfish areas by vehicles;**

**10.5 That there is adequate protection of the coastal character including dune systems, shellfish beds and birds' nests, by restricting vehicle access;**

**10.6 That the coast is valued as a kete kaimoana, food basket, and there is fresh water for shellfish growth;**

**10.7 That the Greater Ōtaki Freshwater Vision and Ōtaki River Iwi Management Plan are taken account of and implemented;**

**10.8 That support for Environmental Groups is promoted.**





## 11. Ōtaki Beach

### 11.1 That Ōtaki Beach:

- keeps its low key 'old fashioned' beach feel;
- keeps the separate single, low rise housing character, particularly along Marine Parade;
- is improved in terms of a general 'clean-up' but not 'over beautified' and changed.

That the special character of the area at South Marine Parade to the south of the Rangioru Road intersection is protected, maintained and improved.

### 11.2 That the environmental damage at the Ōtaki River mouth and surrounding area is restored.

### 11.3 That if there were to be any additional shops and some medium density housing this should occur:

- away from the beach front;
- and be very tightly controlled, perhaps located around the existing shop and Byron Browns.

### 11.4 That there are improvements to the main reserve area on Marine Parade near the surf lifesaving club, provided that the general 'wild' feel of Ōtaki Beach is kept.

### 11.5 That Waitohu Stream and the stream mouth is restored to good health, with extensive native planting and restored bird and stream life.

### 11.6 That there is limited or no upstream pollution in the Waitohu and Mangapouri Streams.







## **12. Te Horo Beach**

- 12.1 That Te Horo Beach retains its current low-key character;**
- 12.2 That the Mangaone Stream is restored to a healthy state;**
- 12.3 That it is an area that has safe water and wastewater on-site systems;**
- 12.4 That there is no new urban development at Te Horo Beach.**



### 13. Symbols and Identity

- 13.1 That Greater Ōtaki is recognised nationally as an area that showcases its culture, history and te reo Māori.
- 13.2 That the main settlements and services have recognised signage and symbols that incorporate cultural and bilingual concepts associated with the area.





## Ōtaki Language Town

**13.3 That Greater Ōtaki is an area where people are comfortable speaking their own and other languages;**

**13.4 That as a community we celebrate Ōtaki's unique heritage of Māori, European (pākehā) and Chinese.**

The Ōtaki community vision is one that celebrates language as part of everyday life and embraces cultural differences. It's a place where Ōtaki's success with te reo Māori is showcased on a national scale and lifetime learning from Te Kōhanga Reo through to Kura Kaupapa Māori and Te Wānanga-o-Raukawa is celebrated. It's a place that incorporates bilingual language locally in signage and symbols.



## 14. Knowing and Understanding Heritage (including Pipi Trail)

**14.1 That there is an appreciation and understanding of the heritage of Greater Ōtaki;**

**14.2 That the Greater Ōtaki area is known for its special character and has sufficient protection of historic heritage buildings, trees and sites.**

The community vision includes the development of the Pipi Trail which identifies significant sites of importance and promotes these for better understanding. It is a walking trail that is educative and promotes the heritage sites along Te Rauparaha Street.

In acknowledging the future growth and development in the area, Ōtaki is a community that considers the impact on heritage and the opportunities for promotion of it.





## 15. Character Elements

**15.1 That the valued character elements of the community and key features of the Greater Ōtaki area are protected.**







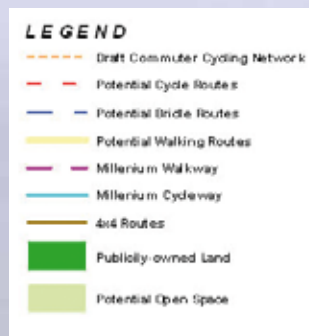


## 16. Access and Road Safety

**16.1 That Greater Ōtaki is a safe place to travel about whether cycling, walking or in a vehicle;**

**16.2 That Greater Ōtaki is a place that:**

- recognises the importance of working together on community education about road safety;
- promotes a pedestrian and cycle friendly town;
- has increased the number of cycle lanes and cycleway link network across the District;
- has slowed the traffic through Main Street;
- considers the road safety element in all future developments and Greater Ōtaki Projects.



**Cycleways, Walkways and Bridleways,  
indicative conceptual network for Ōtaki**

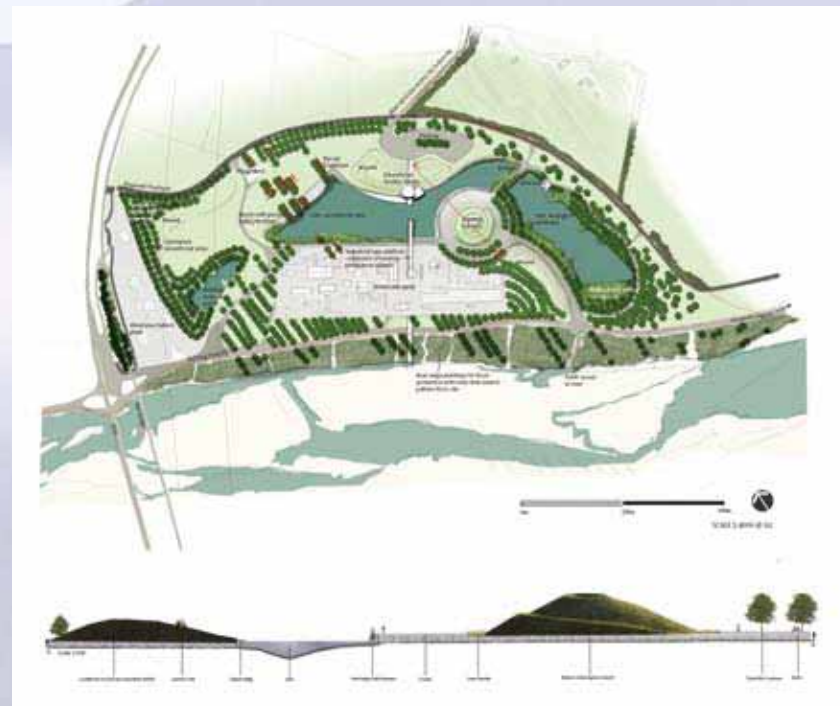
## 17. Access to the Ōtaki River

17.1 That the Ōtaki River is accessible for the community to enjoy;

17.2 That the future development of the lake at the Winstone's plant builds on the community vision including:

- a focus on greening of the industrial area;
- supports the development of the cycleway/walkway/bridleway network across the District.

17.3 That people are made aware of and use the Ōtaki River Walkway





## **18. Water Supply**

- 18.1 That there is adequate water supply for the Greater Ōtaki population into the future;**
- 18.2 That in ensuring Ōtaki River water will be available for future Ōtaki developments, account is taken of the Ōtaki River Iwi Management Plan;**
- 18.3 That water is recognised as a finite resource and is used responsibly.**

