



Have
your say

Me pēwhea te whakakanohi i a koe anō?

How would you like to be represented?

Collectively, councillors determine the Kāpiti Coast district's overall strategic direction, approve budgets, set rates, and make bylaws, policies and plans aimed at meeting community needs. So, it's important to let us know how you'd like to be represented.

Following the decision to create a Māori ward last year, we are now reviewing our representation arrangements for the 2025 local government elections. This process is called a Representation Review.

What's a representation review?

Council has a duty to ensure fair and effective representation of our communities through the way our Council structure is set up. We must review our representation arrangements every six years.

Fair representation means each elected general ward councillor should represent a similar number of people, within plus or minus 10 percent (the +/- 10 percent rule). We can be outside this (if the Local Government Commission agrees) provided we can justify our decisions with good reasons, such as the need to retain communities of interest. Effective representation is also about fair access to councillors and how they can hear from you.

This representation review

Council completed a comprehensive review of its representation arrangements in 2021 and was not due for another review until 2027. However, due to an amendment in 2021 to the Local Electoral Act (2001), Council was able to make a decision to establish a Māori ward without requiring a poll in November last year. As a result of that decision, Council is required to do a representation review this year for the Māori ward to be in place for the 2025 local government elections.

Early engagement

We began our process with early engagement between 4 March and 2 April 2024 to ask the community their

thoughts on how they'd like to be represented. This included seeking feedback on how many councillors we should have, whether they're elected from general wards, districtwide (elected by all voters of the district), or a combination of both, whether the district has community boards, and how the new Māori ward could fit into the arrangements.

We received 285 submissions, with the majority indicating the current arrangements work well and supporting the inclusion of the new Māori ward with minimal changes to the current Council structure. The majority also supported retaining the current councillor to community board appointment structure.

Current Council structure

In Kāpiti, we currently have:

- One mayor
- Four general wards represented by seven elected councillors
- Three districtwide councillors
- Five community boards with four elected members each and a specified number of ward councillors appointed to the boards.

In total this equates to ten councillors, one mayor and twenty community board members (see page 5).

Initial proposal

On 30 July, as a result of the early engagement, Council decided the current structure should be largely retained, proposing the following representation arrangements for the 2025 local government elections:

- One mayor
- Four general wards represented by seven elected councillors
- Two districtwide councillors
- One Māori ward councillor
- Five community boards with four elected members each and a specified number of ward councillors appointed to the boards.

In total this equates to ten councillors, one mayor and twenty community board members, with one districtwide seat replaced at the Council table by the new Māori ward seat (see page 6).

Proposed boundary changes

We're also proposing to change:

- the Ōtaki and Waikanae ward and community board boundaries at Te Horo moving it further south past Te Hapua Road, and
- the Paekākāriki-Raumati and Paraparaumu ward boundaries at Emerald Glen and Valley Road
- this will also change the Paekākāriki and Paraparaumu community board boundaries.

We believe these boundary changes will better reflect the communities of interest – people who have a common geographical, economic, social, historical, or other bond. For example, where they live and associate with.

These proposed boundary changes are in line with community feedback following the Local Government Commission's decisions during our last representation review process and feedback received from members of these communities since the last elections in 2022. Our proposed changes to the boundary between the Ōtaki and Waikanae wards don't meet the fair representation criteria (the +/- 10 percent rule). Council is able to make this change however, our final proposal will need to be referred to the Local Government Commission to consider the district's final representation arrangements.



Community boards

We are not proposing any changes to our community board arrangements, apart from the proposed boundary alterations. Community boards work with ward councillors to represent your interests. They have 'delegated authority' for some things such as awarding local grants, but they can't vote at Council.

Councillors appointed to community boards

We believe that every triennium, the newly elected Council should have the ability to consider appointing a specified number of ward councillors to its community boards in a fair and equitable way that considers workload and specific skills. We therefore propose to leave the current councillor to community board appointment structure in place and for the new Council to decide which ward councillors (either the new Māori ward councillor and/or the general ward councillor(s)) should be appointed to community boards.



What do the Government's changes to legislation mean for our representation review?

On 4 April 2024, local government minister Simeon Brown announced the Local Government (Electoral Legislation and Māori Wards and Constituencies) Amendment Bill which was confirmed as legislation on 30 July 2024. The Bill reinstates a requirement for councils to hold polls at the 2025 local government elections for any Māori wards established without a poll. It also requires councils to re-affirm or reverse (rescind) their decision to establish Māori wards. At an extraordinary Council meeting on 6 August 2024, Council re-affirmed their decision to establish a Māori ward. This means continuing with this representation review to determine our arrangements, including establishing the new Māori ward, for the 2025 local government elections. During the 2025 elections we will hold a poll to determine the future of the Māori ward for the 2028 and 2031 elections.

Establishing the Māori ward

The decision to establish a Māori ward has been made, re-affirmed, and is not part of this representation review. Under the new legislation, Council will need to hold a poll to determine whether

or not the Māori ward remains in place for the 2028 and 2031 local government elections. Depending on the outcome of the poll, Council may have to undertake another representation review in 2027.

Who will I vote for?

In the 2025 elections, people on the Māori electoral roll will vote in the new Māori ward instead of a general ward and people on the general electoral roll will vote in their general ward instead of the Māori ward. Both Māori and general electoral roll voters will still vote for the mayor, districtwide councillors, and community board representatives for the area they live in. People can change what roll they're on any time up to three months before a local or national election date. Our next local government elections will be held on 11 October 2025.

Our proposed boundary changes will not affect the number of general ward councillors residents in Ōtaki (1), Waikanae (2), Paraparaumu (3) or Paekākāriki-Raumati (1) will vote for. Nor will they affect the one Māori ward councillor those on the Māori electoral roll will vote for.

The number of districtwide councillors you vote for will reduce from three to two.

Have your say

We're seeking feedback from our community on our initial proposal for a new Council structure. Have we got the number of councillors, community boards, and ward and community board boundaries right?

To provide feedback, you can fill out our survey online, on paper, or in person at one of our libraries or service centres.

Submissions are open until **Thursday 12 September 2024, 5pm**.

Those wishing to speak to their submission may do so at our hearings on **Tuesday 24 September 2024**.

Councillors will consider all feedback before making their final decision on **Thursday 31 October**.

To learn more about the representation review, and to have your say, visit:

haveyoursay.kapiticoast.govt.nz/RepresentationReview

Information sessions

If you would like to chat to an elected member about our proposed Council structure, please join us for our:

- Webinar, **Thursday 29 August, 6pm**.
- Drop-in session, **Saturday 31 August, 10am–12 noon**, Paraparaumu Library.

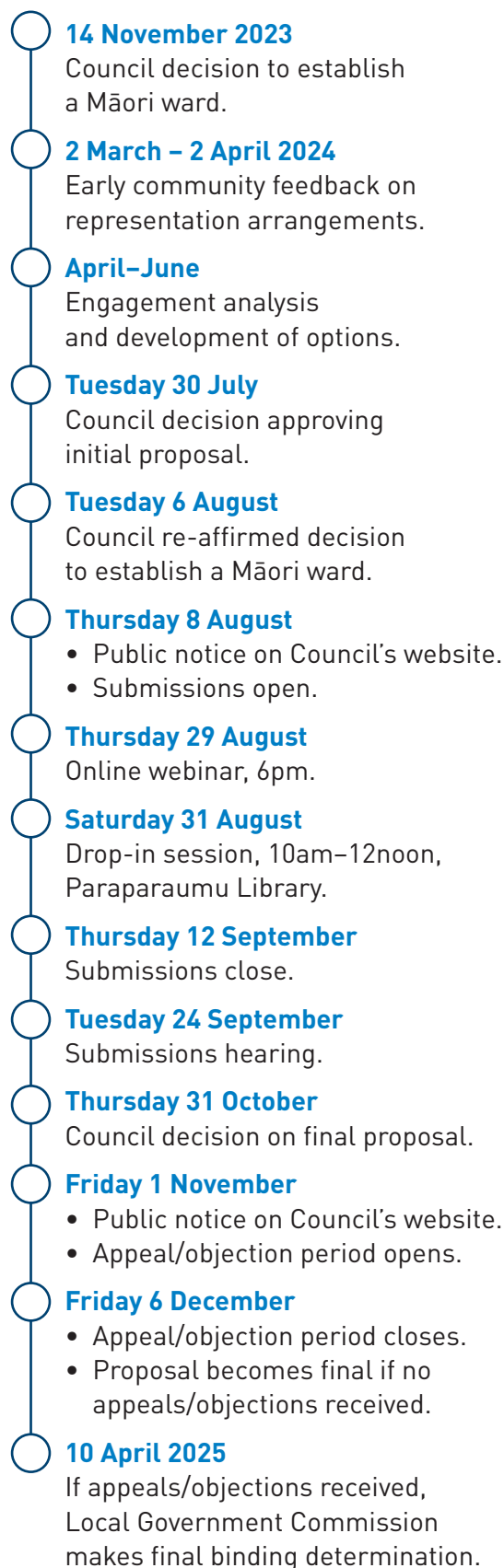
What happens to my feedback?

Following feedback from this round of community engagement, Council will hold public hearings before making a final proposal decision on representation arrangements for the 2025 local government elections on 31 October 2024.

If an appeal or objection to the final proposal is received or if the adopted structure does not meet the fair representation requirements (+/- 10% rule) the binding determination on the district's representation arrangement will be referred to the Local Government Commission (LGC) for consideration. The principle of a Māori ward cannot be appealed. A decision by the LGC will be given no later than 10 April 2025.

Timeline

The process to follow and the milestones to meet for a representation review are mandated through legislation.



How you're represented now: Current Council structure

- Mayor: 1
- Districtwide Councillors: 3
- **Ōtaki Ward**
Ward Councillor: 1
Population: 9,320*
Avg. per Councillor: 9,320
+ or – variance: 11.65% (underrepresented)
- **Waikanae Ward**
Ward Councillors: 2
Population: 15,650*
Avg. per Councillor: 7,825
+ or – variance: -6.26% (overrepresented)
- **Paraparaumu Ward**
Ward Councillors: 3
Population: 24,700*
Avg. per Councillor: 8,233
+ or – variance: -1.36% (overrepresented)
- **Paekākāriki-Raumati Ward**
Ward Councillor: 1
Population: 8,760*
Avg. per Councillor: 8,760
+ or – variance: 4.95% (underrepresented)

● **Current Community Board boundaries:**

Ōtaki Community Board

4 community board members,
plus 1 ward Councillor

Raumati Community Board

4 community board members,
plus 1 ward Councillor

Paekākāriki Community Board

4 community board members,
plus 1 ward Councillor

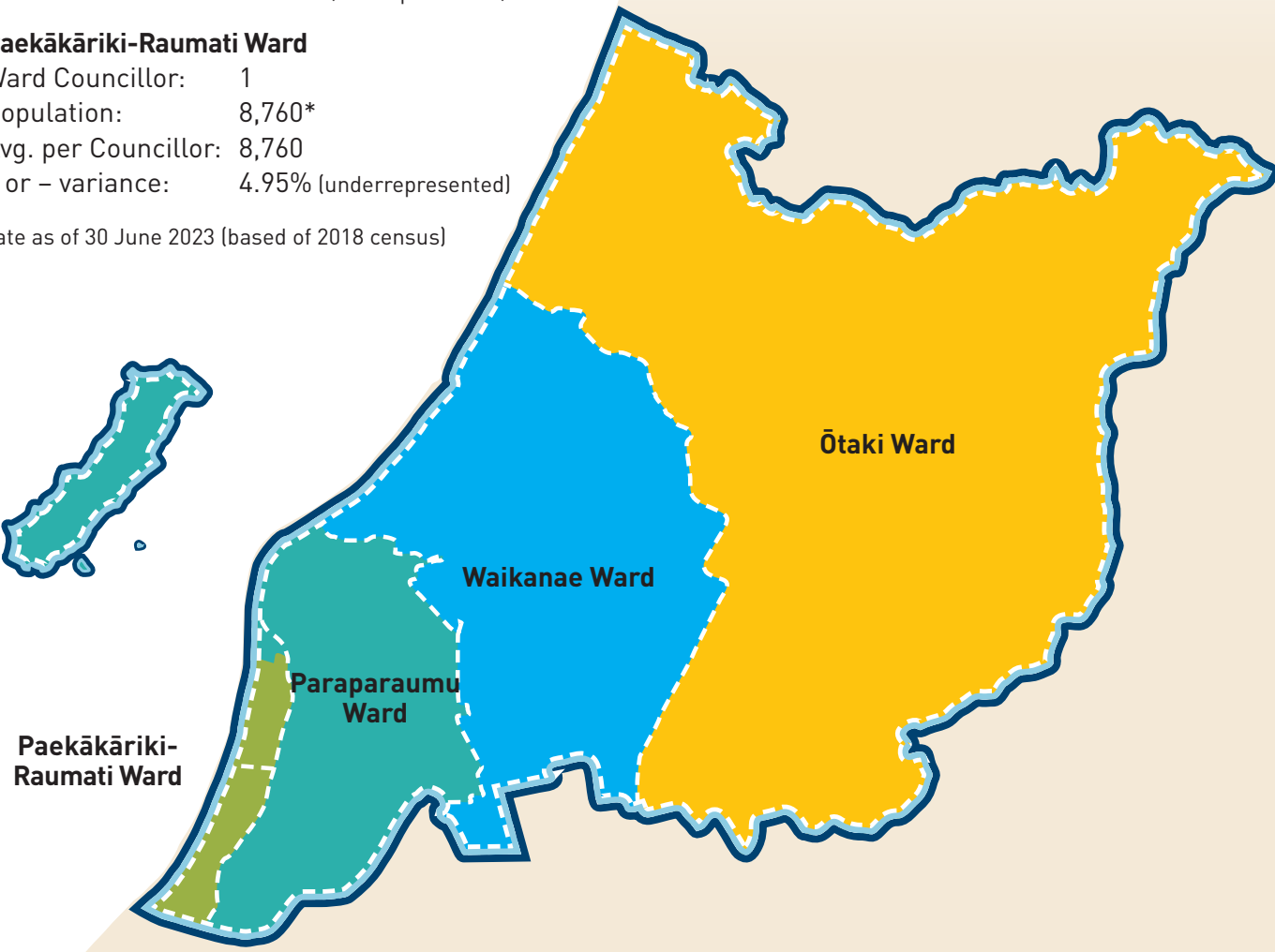
Waikanae Community Board

4 community board members,
plus 1 of the 2 ward Councillors

Paraparaumu Community Board

4 community board members,
plus 2 of the 3 ward Councillors

*Estimate as of 30 June 2023 (based of 2018 census)



Note: Community board boundaries typically align with our ward boundaries, with the exception of Paekākāriki and Raumati which are two separate community boards. The Raumati Community Board straddles two wards.

Our proposed Council structure for the 2025 elections

- **Mayor: 1**
- **Districtwide Councillors: 2**
- **Kāpiti Coast Māori Ward Councillor**
Ward Councillor: 1
Population: 4,930
Avg. per Councillor: 4,930
+ or – variance: Does not apply
- **Proposed Ōtaki General Ward**
Ward Councillor: 1
Population: 8,510
Avg. per Councillor: 8,510
+ or – variance: 11.32% (underrepresented)
- **Proposed Waikanae General Ward**
Ward Councillors: 2
Population: 13,800
Avg. per Councillor: 6,900
+ or – variance: -9.74% (overrepresented)
- **Proposed Paraparaumu General Ward**
Ward Councillors: 3
Population: 22,900
Avg. per Councillor: 7,633
+ or – variance: -0.14% (overrepresented)
- **Proposed Paekākāriki-Raumati General Ward**
Ward Councillor: 1
Population: 8,300
Avg. per Councillor: 8,300
+ or – variance: 8.58% (underrepresented)
- ⦿

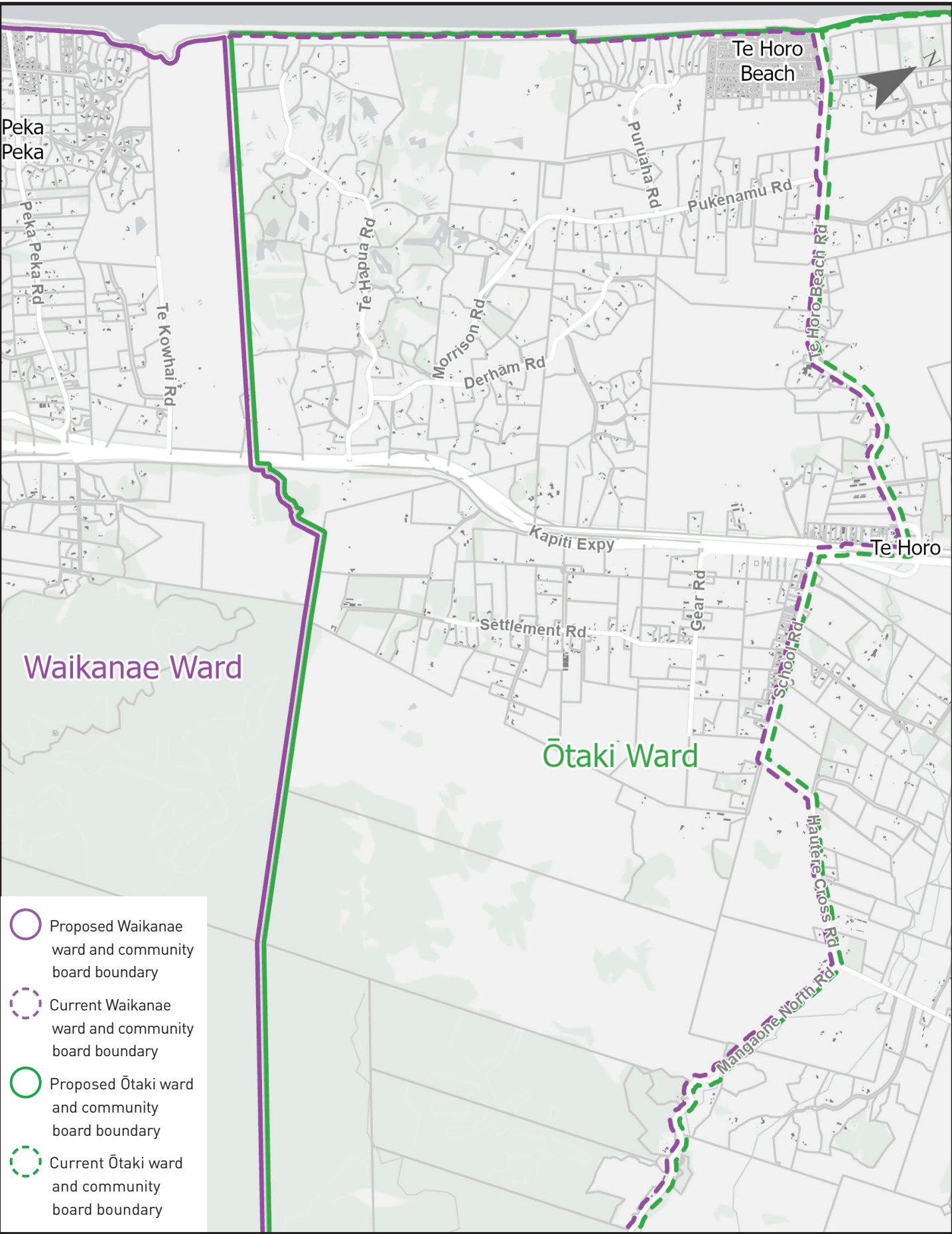
Current Ward and Community Board boundaries
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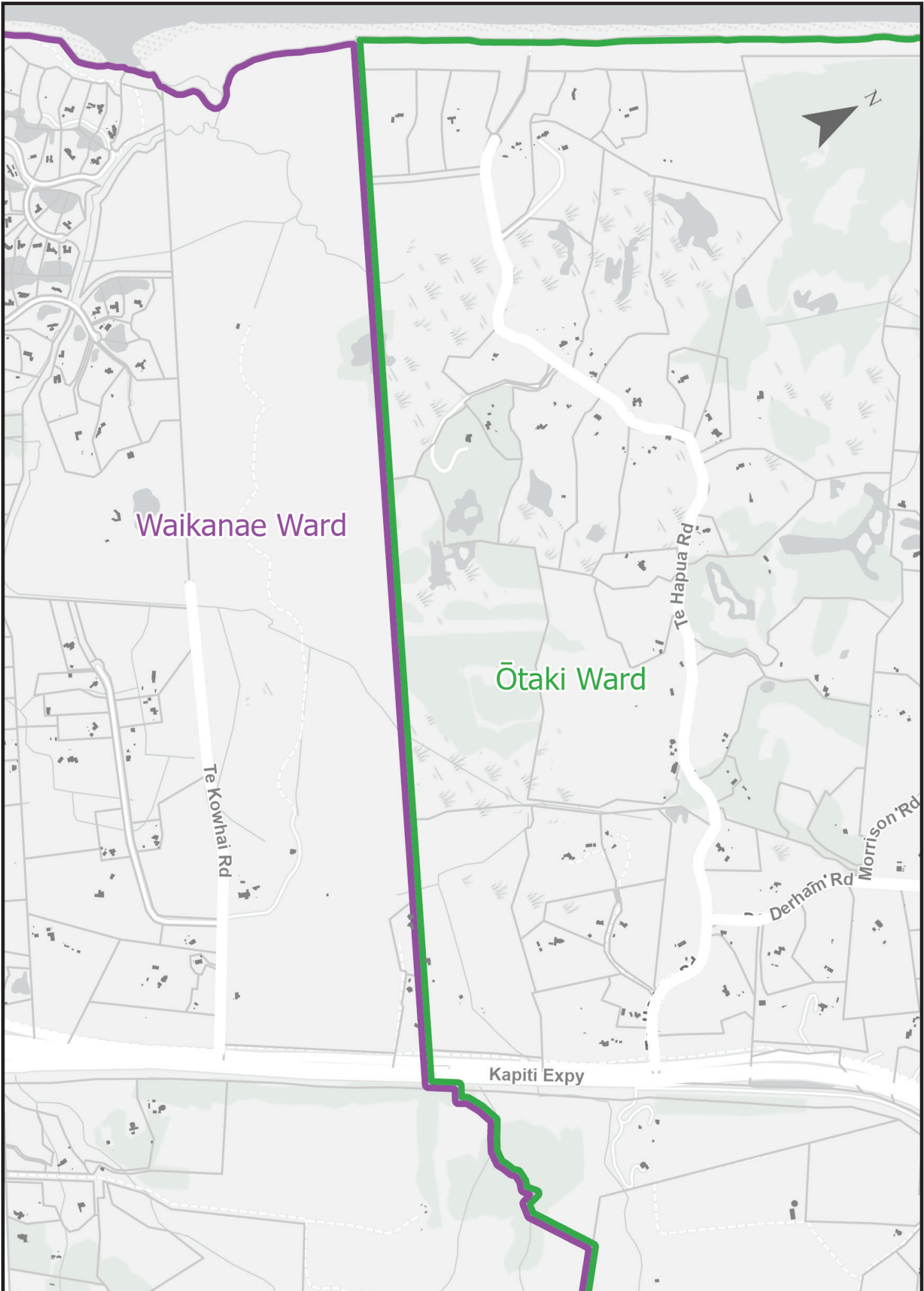
Proposed Ward and Community Board boundaries
(see pages 7 and 8 for more details)
NB: We're not proposing a change to the number or membership of community boards or number of councillors appointed to community boards.



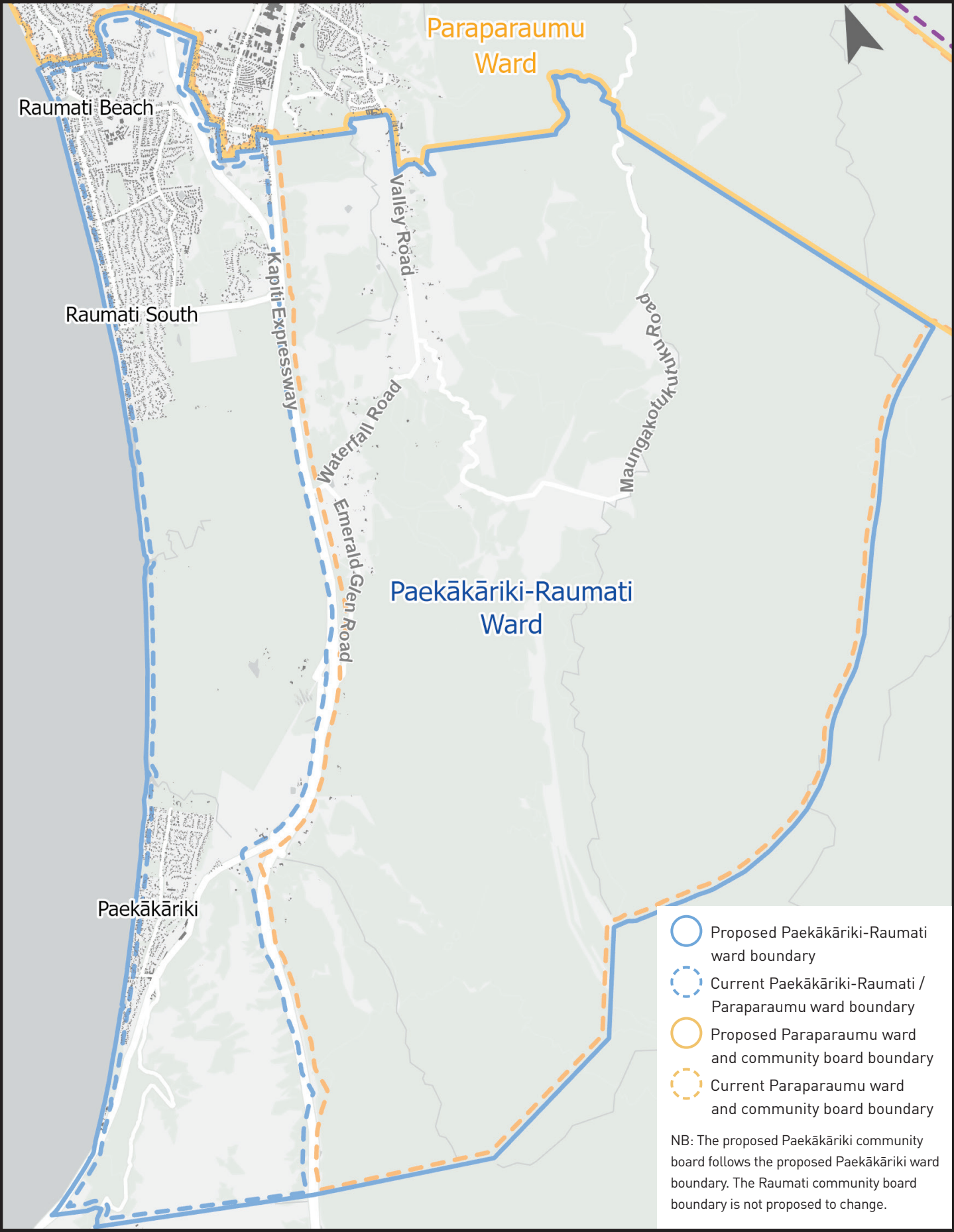
Note: We are not proposing any changes to our community boards. Community board boundaries typically align with our general ward boundaries, with the exception of Paekākāriki and Raumati which are two separate community boards. The Raumati Community Board straddles both the Paekākāriki-Raumati and the Paraparaumu general wards.

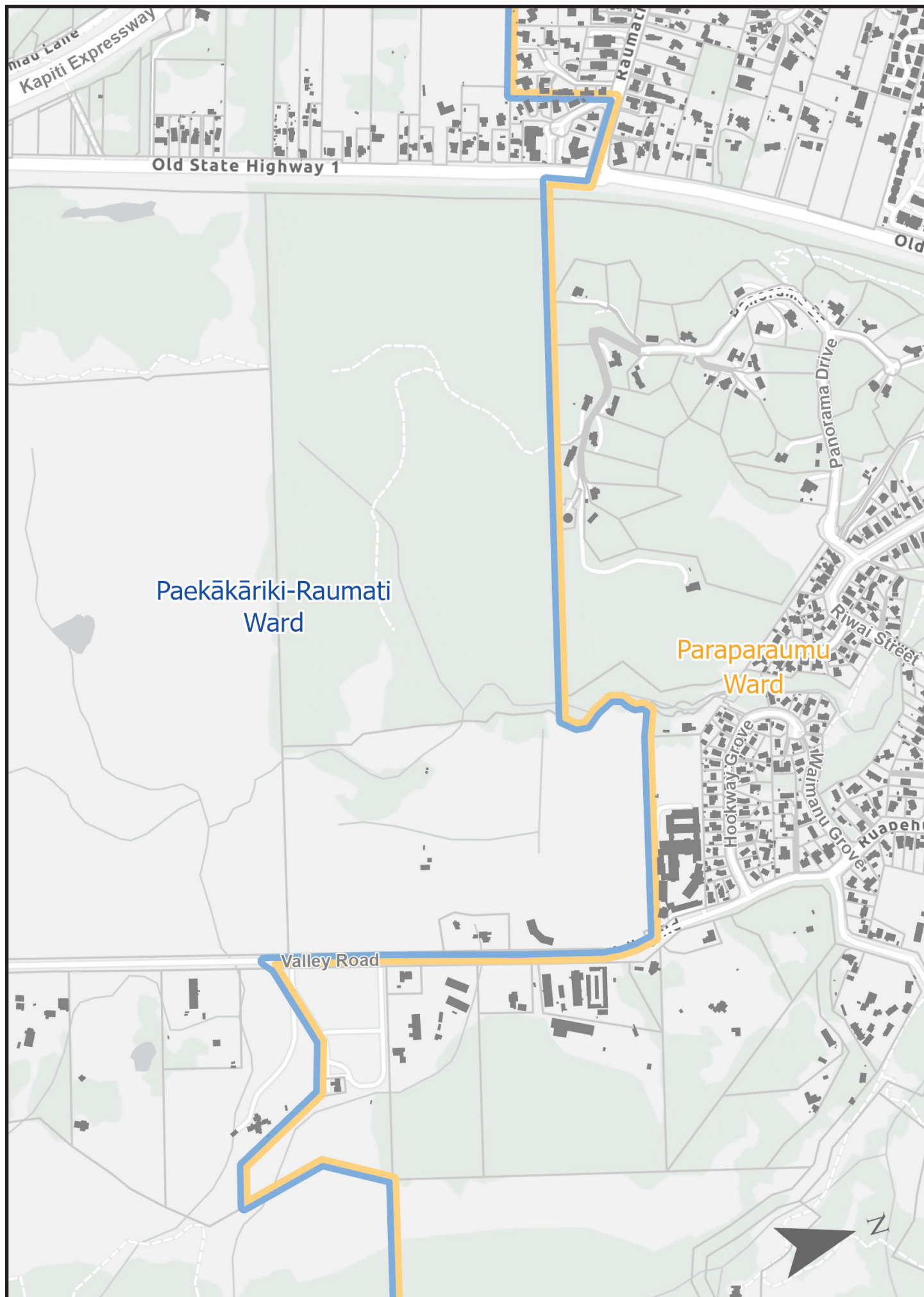
Proposed Waikanae and Ōtaki general ward and community board boundaries





Proposed Paekākāriki-Raumati and Paraparaumu general ward boundaries and Paekākāriki community board boundary





Have your say

There are several ways for you to provide your feedback on our proposed Council structure, including completing this survey and returning it to us, complete the survey on our website, or completing it at one of our libraries or service centres by Thursday 12 September 5pm.

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For more information visit
[haveyoursay.kapiticoast.govt.nz/
RepresentationReview](https://haveyoursay.kapiticoast.govt.nz/RepresentationReview)

Me pēwhea te whakakanohi i a koe anō?

How would you like to be represented?

Your feedback on the following questions will help Council make their final decision on 31 October 2024 on the representation arrangements for the 2025 local government elections. The decision to establish a Māori ward has been made and is not part of this review. Under new legislation, Council will need to hold a poll at the 2025 local government elections to determine if the Māori ward remains in place for the 2028 and 2031 local government elections.

1. Do you agree with keeping the number of councillors to 10?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Tell us more:

2. Do you agree with having seven ward councillors, two districtwide councillors and one Māori ward councillor?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Tell us more:

3. If you did not agree to 1 or 2, what changes to the initial proposed arrangements would you make?

Note: In line with legislation, arrangements must include one Māori ward councillor and at least one general ward councillor.

4. Do you agree with keeping the number and membership of community boards to five represented by four elected representatives each, and retaining the number of councillors appointed to community boards?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Tell us more:

Continued over page...

5. Do you agree with the proposed general ward and community board boundary lines for Ōtaki and Waikanae?

See page 7.

☐ Yes ☐ No

Tell us more:

6. Do you agree with the proposed general ward boundary lines for Paekākāriki-Raumati and Paraparaumu, and the Paekākāriki and Paraparaumu community boards? See page 8.

☐ Yes ☐ No

Tell us more:

7. Is there anything else you would like to say to guide councillors' thinking on the representation review?

8. Would you like to speak to your submission in person on Tuesday 24 September 2024?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Please remember to fill out your details below if you'd like to speak to your submission. We will need to be able to contact you to arrange a specific time to have your say on the district's representation arrangements.

Your details

First name:

Surname:

Email:

Phone:

Postal address:

Postcode:

What ward do you reside in?

☐ Ōtaki ☐ Waikanae ☐ Paraparaumu ☐ Paekākāriki-Raumati

Publishing feedback

Your name and feedback will be publicly available in Council reports which will be included in Council meeting agendas unless you ask for your name to be withheld.

☐ I do not want my name published with my feedback.