

Whangamata Community Strategic Plan - have we got it right?



It's your community and your future, so tell us what you want for Whangamata over the next decade.

The Whangamata Community Board has come up with five key strategic objectives and 15 critical actions that we believe will help retain everything we all love about Whangamata today; while setting it up for an even better future.

The proposed objectives and actions for Whangamata are included in the table below. We ask that you use the column provided to rank these items in order of importance to you. Please feel free to offer further comment such as why you agree or disagree with the current priorities or suggest new ideas, not currently included.

The Whangamata Community Strategic Plan will help to capture and retain your priorities, which can then be used to inform/influence Council's budgeting in the Annual Plan and/or Long Term Plan.

How do I contribute?

Submit this questionnaire. More copies are available at Whangamata Council Office 620 Port Road and on the council's website at www.tcdc.govt/whangamatacommunityplan.

All contact details are optional

First name: _____ Surname: _____

Postal address: _____

Post code: _____

Phone (daytime): _____ Mobile: _____

Email: _____

Return the completed questionnaire by 4pm on Thursday 23 April.

By hand: TCDC Area Office, Whangamata 620 Port Road

By post: Thames-Coromandel District Council, Private Bag, Thames 3540

By email: Scan it and send to customer.services@tcdc.govt.nz

Open Day - Meet Community Board members and Council staff to find out more.

Easter long weekend - Saturday 4 April

Whangamata Main street - Outside council office and library 10am-2pm

Whangamata Community Strategic Plan - Summary

Category	Strategic Objective	Key Actions	Rank Actions in priority: Highest = 1 Lowest = 16	Please provide comment (any other comments can be attached separately)
Community	✓ Ensure there is adequate housing to meet Whangamata's housing requirements for today and into the future.	Strategically review existing housing/accommodation stock to identify future development needs.		
	✓ Enhance key community facilities and reserves.	Refurbish Williamson Park by increasing the open space and improving its suitability to host events.		
	✓ Support Maori culture in Whangamata.	Progress investigations into a Community Marae.		
	✓ Continue to support the kiwi tradition of camping holidays in Whangamata.	Investigate suitable locations for a campground in Whangamata and improve Wentworth Valley Road access to DOC campground.		
	✓ Improve Whangamata's streets and retain the town's beach character.	Push an efficient two-year work programme to complete all kerb/channelling, berms and essential footpaths.		

Category	Strategic Objective	Key Actions	Rank Actions: 1 - 16	Please provide comment (any other comments can be attached separately)
Economic Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Actively pursue the objectives contained within the Whangamata 'Property Strategy'. ✓ Develop and grow our local businesses and ensure Whangamata contributes to Thames-Coromandel District Council's economic targets set out in its Economic Development Strategy, in particular for Whangamata: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support and encourage local retail, tourism, healthcare, manufacturing and fishing to contribute towards a minimum increase of 2.5% of GDP by the end of 2018. 2. Aim for 47 new houses and 110 new residents to live in Whangamata by end of 2018. 3. A 5%+ increase in visitor guest night stays annually in Whangamata. 4. Support employment opportunities and work readiness training for local people in the peak season. 	Pursue the sale of surplus assets in order to reinvest funds into key community projects.		
		Support Enterprise Whangamata and in particular the Information Centre, as the hub to facilitate employment in the service industry, work readiness and training opportunities.		
		Support Council's proposal to reduce Development Contributions to stimulate new development in Whangamata (from 1 July 2015) -proposed to be reduced from \$40,265 to \$14,977.		
		Promote and enhance sustainable events that attract a wide range of people and interests to our town, expanding into the shoulder months.		
Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Expedite the restoration of Whangamata harbours and estuaries to their original natural state. 	Actively pursue completion of consented mangrove removal by WRC, whilst also considering alternatives for efficient removal of all mangroves from Whangamata's harbours.		
		Implement actions outlined in the Eastern Seaboard Coastal Erosion Strategy, including dune restoration, planting and maintaining beach access.		
Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Pursue a local government structure which encompasses local decision making capability over infrastructure, environmental and community services. 	Support Council to influence Central Government to undertake a review and re-organisation of local government to provide a single governance structure, supporting local community decision making.		
Recreation/ Tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Position and promote Whangamata as a world class visitor destination for outdoor activities. ✓ Improve walking and cycling access to and around our harbours. ✓ Promote Whangamata as New Zealand's number one holiday and surfing destination. 	Seal Wentworth Valley Road and construct a new cycleway/ walkway with access to world class walking tracks.		
		Promote Whangamata as a premium outdoor recreation destination offering surfing, kayaking, paddle boarding, mountain biking, golfing, fishing, diving, walking, as readily accessible activities.		
		Prioritise Moanu Anu Anu Estuary and the Upper Harbour, as grade one level walkways, to complement TCDC's Coromandel Great Walks strategy.		
		Support local up and coming surfers through surf events and consider the possibility of a surfing museum.		

What happens next? The questionnaire will form the basis for further discussions and workshops with the community, so there's plenty of scope for people to get involved beyond filling out the questionnaire. Dates for these will be advertised following submissions. If you are interested in being further involved in helping to develop this plan please indicate on the questionnaire or get in touch with the Whangamata Community Board.