

# Thames Community Board Plan 2014-2015

And Indicative Direction for 2015-2025



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## 1. Your Community Board



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## 2. Thames Community Board Vision and Priorities

The Thames Community Board have expressed the following areas of focus for 2014/2015.

### Community Sporting and Recreation Facilities

- Development of an indoor dry court sports facility in Thames.
- Completion of the Thames Skate Park at Porritt Park.
- Collaborate with the Waikato Regional Council on management of the Thames Wharf and marina area, including the management and removal of mangroves.

### Delivering targeted short term priorities within the Thames Urban Development Strategy including:

- Progressing a feasibility study for the re-development of the Thames Civic Centre and WINTEC buildings.
- A visitor orientation and information hub in Grahamstown.
- Development of a walking cycling and car-parking strategy (including outcomes from Thames Accessibility Audit). Improving walking and cycling opportunities within Thames and concentrating on the east/west corridor on Cochrane Street.
- Considering development and use options for the Mackay Street Car Park development site including an Expressions of Interest for an integrated housing development.
- Working with community, Waikato Regional Council and NZTA regarding the Kopu Development Concept Plan to enable progress in stormwater management and development opportunities.
- Consider staging and implementation of place brand programmes for Thames concentrating on the four precincts of **1) Northern Gateway, 2) Grahamstown Heritage Precinct 3) Regional Hub 4) Southern Gateway**. The board emphasise the need to work closely with the Thames Community and key stakeholders through focus groups and further consultation methods when progressing the outcomes of the Thames Urban Development Strategy.

### Walking and Cycling Improvements

- Focus on the design for reconfiguration of the Cochrane Street precinct as a pedestrian and cycling friendly streetscape that links community and cultural attractions along this street together such as the museums and miniature railway and coastal walkway.
- Engage NZTA to investigate opportunities to improve east-west pedestrian and cycling movement across Queen Street. (e.g. traffic lights) at Grey, Mary and Cochrane Streets. The intent of this project is to find innovative ways to improve pedestrian cycling and walking links across Queen Street. The board will welcome community contribution to this process.
- Review road and public land use to improve movement access and public space in alignment with the Thames Urban Development Strategy

### Striving for improved living and working opportunities in Thames

- Investigate affordable housing opportunities that support current resident need as well as generate people migration to Thames.
- Consider future development and management options for the Thames Airfield.
- Collaborate with local business to improve the vitality of the town as an open, engaged environment to do business.
- Continuing to engage with Iwi to foster communication, partnering and resolution of outstanding cultural issues.
- Actively promote the Kopu Industrial Park to attract new business to the area.
- Align the planning and scheduling of infrastructure renewals and projects with community projects for cost efficiency and to leverage opportunities.

## **Priority Projects for 2014/2015**

The following projects are noted as priorities by the Community Board.

### Local Transportation

- Footpath Construction \$50k (within existing footpath construction budget) to extend the Hauraki Rail Trail into the heart of Thames.
- Rhodes Park Entrance access and safety Improvements (\$15K).
- Review the Isthmus Group southern entrance concept to consider any future works to enhance the entrance to Thames.

### District Transportation

- Hauraki Rail Trail - Stage 2 Kopu to Kaiaua \$150k plus a further potential \$1million.
- Investigation with NZTA for installation of traffic lights for improved pedestrian and cycling accessibility over Queen St (SH25). The intent of this project is to find innovative ways to improve pedestrian cycling and walking links across Queen Street. The board will welcome community contribution to this process.
- Thames coast cycling safety project.

### Harbours

- Review of Harbours in Thames for the 2014/2015 year.

### Parks and Reserves

- Community Sports Facility (\$1m).
- Thames Skate Park (\$141,151).
- Reserve Management Plans (\$5,580) - aligning with outcomes of Thames Urban Development Strategy as well as considering an upgrade of Victoria Park for 2015 Ten Year Plan.

### Community Centres and Halls

- Consideration of the Thames Civic Centre concept options for redevelopment.

### Airfields

- Review of the 2005 business plan for the Thames Airfield.

### Swimming Pools

- New renewals program for Thames Swimming Pool (\$16,000)

### Local Strategic Planning

- Precinct Planning for Grahamstown (including Cochrane Street).
- Precinct Planning for Shortland Wharf.
- Walking Cycling and Car Parking Strategy Review.
- Work with Thames market operator and the Grahamstown Business Association to consider opportunities to enhance and expand the Thames market.

### Economic Development

- Promotion of Kauaeranga Valley as part of the Coromandel Great Walks
- Promotion and support of the Scar Face and Hotoritori Mountain Bike Parks

### District Infrastructure

- Focus on alignment of infrastructure projects and programme with upgrade of Grahamstown streetscape elements in alignment with the outcomes of the Thames Urban Development Strategy.

## **Variations from the 2012-2022 Long Term Plan**

The following is a list of variations from the 2012-2022 Long Term Plan.

#### Local Transportation

- New project for Rhodes Park Entrance Improvements (\$15K).

#### Parks and Reserves

- Deferred the Thames Skate Park (\$141,151) from 2013/2014 to the 2014/2015 year.
- Possible saving of the Reserve Carpark Reseals budget for the 2014/2015 year (\$90,339).
- Possible savings Minor Reserves Projects (\$72,542)
- Savings of three budgets for the 2015/2016 year
  - 1) Review of \$67k for the Coastal Walkway- Construction of a walkway along the Burke Street Landfill site to the Croquet Club (Local Transportation).
  - 2) Review of the of Burke St landfill landscaping \$144,000 project in 2015/16 (Parks &Reserves activity).
  - 3) Removal of \$138k from the 2015/2016 year for the Rhodes Park car park seal project.

### **Priorities into the future (2015-2025)**

#### **Sports and Recreation Development**

The Board are seeking to continue to work towards delivering the outcomes of the Thames Urban Development Strategy. The Board would like to prioritise the Rhodes Park Club pavilion redevelopment for 2015-2017 followed by a longer term vision for the replacement of the Thames pool with a regional quality aquatic centre.

#### **Community Spaces, Walking and Cycling**

The Board wants to pursue opportunities for improving public space environments within the township including improving the ease and enjoyment walking and cycling opportunities. This includes developing precinct plans particularly for Grahamstown and the Shortland wharf precincts. Work packages include design detailing around Cochrane Street and improving connections for walking and cycling with a focus on connections from hills to the sea.

#### **Thames Harbours**

The Board is committed to reviewing Thames harbours with the intent to improve facilities and enhance awareness of Thames connection to the coastal environment. Addressing the issue of proactive mangrove management as well as a renewed focus on the Kopu boat ramp is a priority. Further asset and development planning for the Shortland Wharf facilities is also signalled.

#### **Economic Development**

The Board has a number of key priorities for enhancing the economic offering Thames has. This includes strengthening the visitor attraction proposition of the Hauraki Rail Trail by supporting stage two Kopu to Kaiaua. Other initiatives include working with the business community and market operators, development of a Grahamstown visitor destination hub.

### 3. Community Empowerment - Role of Local Boards

In April 2012, the Council adopted a new partnership approach to ensure greater engagement of local communities in decision making. At the core of this approach was providing greater decision making at the local level. This means that the Thames Community Board makes decisions relating to activities and services that are within the Thames area.

The role of local Boards is:

- To govern local activities (see table below).
- To ensure that your communities, through you, have an increased role in determining what happens in your local area.
- Consider all matters referred to the Board by Council, or any matter of interest of concern to the Community Board.
- Communicate with community organisations and special interest groups within the community in developing local solutions within the board area.
- To set the Board's priorities for the 2014/2015 year
- Input into the Council's budgeting and priority setting documents which includes Annual and Long Term Plans.
- Preparing and implementing work programmes for activities, consistent with the Annual and Long Term Plans.

#### Decision Making

- The Council has delegated a number of local activities to the Boards to manage, as follows:
  - Boards are also required to actively provide input into decisions on district services
  - Authority to develop budgets
  - Develop fees and charges for adoption by the Council.
  - Authority to approve additional expenditure (within limits)
  - Make decisions on leases, licences or concessions associated with all Council owned property within the Community Board Area
  - Develop and approve local activity policies including Reserve Management policies
  - Approve project definitions for all local activities
  - Recommend to Council the level of bylaw service and enforcement
  - The Board is also obliged to manage your services and expenditure within limits set by the Council and by legislation

Services the Board manages:	Services the Council manages:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Harbour Facilities</li><li>• Community Centres and Halls</li><li>• Airfields</li><li>• Public Conveniences</li><li>• Local Transportation</li><li>• Local Social Development</li><li>• Community Health and Safety (local bylaw levels of service)</li><li>• Parks and Reserves</li><li>• Libraries</li><li>• Swimming Pools</li><li>• Cemeteries</li><li>• Local Strategic Planning</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Wastewater</li><li>• Solid Waste</li><li>• District Transportation</li><li>• Community Health and Safety</li><li>• District Strategic Planning</li><li>• Emergency Management</li><li>• Hazard Management</li><li>• Water Supply</li><li>• Stormwater</li><li>• Land Drainage</li><li>• District Economic Development</li><li>• District Social Development</li><li>• Land Use Planning and Land Use Management</li></ul>

- Local Economic Development
  - District Leadership
  - Local Advocacy
  - Building Control
  - Natural & Cultural Heritage



## 4. About the Thames Community Board Area

The Thames Community Board area includes the peninsula's major commercial township of Thames and a number of coastal and rural villages offering a range of lifestyle, business and employment opportunities to its residents.

The area's dramatic natural environment hosts a diverse and attractive range of natural features including the plentiful coastal environment of the Firth of Thames, the Coromandel Forest Park and the two major Kauaeranga and Waihou rivers. The coastal environment and extensive bush clad hills and valleys of the Coromandel Forest Park provide extensive recreational opportunities to both residents and visitors. The beautiful Thames coastal edge with its classic winding coastal highway and iconic sunsets are well renowned.

Thames is one of the best places to live, work and visit in New Zealand offering a rare quality of lifestyle for its community. Its strong industrial and social heritage from the gold mining era is reflected in its unique and highly valued buildings in the town centre and surrounding area. The urban area's flat topography and grid street pattern, coupled with a wide range of community facilities including the regional Thames hospital and long running weekly markets adds to its vibrancy and attractiveness.

Thames is easily accessed from Auckland and the greater Waikato making it attractive as an industry base and potential commuter town to Auckland or Hamilton. Local industry and businesses service employment needs to the west coast of the Coromandel peninsula as well as Hauraki plains and beyond.

Thames has the potential to offer greater regional services, such as a destination for retirement aged people in close proximity to the hospital, but also as a youth and recreation/sporting hub and future employment industry and business centre including optimising potential of the Kopu industrial area.

### Key facts

- *Thames Community board area is the most populated on the peninsula with 10,221 residents (2006)*
- *71% are in full time employment in Thames, a further 25% employed part time and 4% unemployed (2006)*
- *Of all the settlements on the peninsula Thames has the largest population with 73% of its population being permanent.*
- *Most of the peninsula's residents live in Thames township - (7,542) which represents almost 30% of the entire population of the Coromandel.*
- *Thames has the most permanent residents living in the Community as only a quarter of rateable properties are owned by non-residents. By comparison Whangamata, Tairua and Pauanui have more than half their population live elsewhere.*
- *Thames and Coromandel Colville community boards have the youngest populations.*
- *Thames has a large portion of the population in the 60+ age group.*
- *Thames also has the largest youth population and the only secondary school on the peninsula*
- *The biggest employment sectors in the Coromandel was Retail trade (15%), which Thames business community contributes substantially towards, retail trade is also the third highest GDP contributor for our District.*
- *Most of the districts manufacturing and retail sectors are located in Thames and the districts health services including the hospital are located here.*
- *Manufacturing and Wholesale Trade has experienced some decline over the last few years which has the potential to impact Thames, however growth has been seen in the 'Information Media and Telecommunications' area.*
- *The largest contributing increase in number of employees from 2011 to 2012 (ending Dec) was in 'Construction', then 'Health Care and Social Assistance'.*

## 5. What We've Heard from the Thames Community

We've received a lot of input and feedback over the past few years about our communities' aspirations for the future of our area.

In the 2013 Community Perceptions survey, Thames Community Board area had the **highest level of satisfaction for stormwater and sewage services** provided by Council. However, the community was **least satisfied with footpaths, harbour facilities and public conveniences**.

In terms of what we have heard from the community over the past 10 years and what the Board and Council can deliver the common themes have included:

- The Thames Urban Development Strategy received feedback through a number of public workshops informing the development of this strategy.
- Iwi feedback during Thames facility reports commented on Maori children not swimming in the pool as it's built on an Urupa. These cultural issues need to be addressed
- Strong focus on cycle and pedestrian infrastructure in Thames
- Addressing SH25 concerns
- Enhancing Thames natural setting e.g. hills and link between the sea and the green environment.
- Development of a strong local economy
- Focus on tourism - but not the only focus
- Attract more working aged people to the area
- Affordable living for the retiree population
- More transport improvements including better walking and cycling and separation of the main street of Thames from the through traffic
- Prioritising social and health services
- Provision of reliable infrastructure
- Retaining and improving public access to open spaces (and Conservation land)
- Fit and healthy people
- Community safety in areas of crime management and emergency response

## 6. Recent Projects in the Thames Community Board Area

### **Kopu to Thames Structure Plan**

The framework for where you can build housing or businesses and subdivisions is determined by the Council's District Plan. Council is currently reviewing the District Plan which incorporates the adopted (August 2010) Kopu to Thames Structure Plan. This Structure Plan identifies growth of new residential areas between Totara and Kopu as well as new expansion of commercial and industrial area around Kopu aiming to provide for anticipated demand for industrial and residential land over the next 40 years consecutively. This growth relies on infrastructure upgrades including roading, water, storm water and wastewater and therefore will be phased in over time. The Proposed District Plan will introduce new residential land around Totara Valley, extension of industrial land around Kopu and rural-residential land east of Kopu.

### **Thames Urban Development Strategy**

The Thames Urban Development Strategy has been endorsed for consideration and consultation with the community. This is a 30 year vision which proposes a programme of enhancements and development for Thames. It aims to enhance the unique character and heritage of Thames while providing for future development in a form that will contribute to these qualities. Part of this Strategy highlights the need for a comprehensive approach to sporting facilities and improved community facilities/spaces.

The plan focuses on four main areas **1) Northern Gateway, 2) Grahamstown Heritage Precinct 3) Regional Hub 4) Southern Gateway including the Shortland wharf precinct.**

***The Board emphasise that robust consultation with the Thames Community and key stakeholders, as well as Iwi, will be undertaken as each project or programme from the Thames Urban Development Strategy comes on line.***

## **LOCAL ACTIVITIES**

## 7. Local Transportation

### What is this activity?

The local transportation activity helps enable people to move around their local settlement. It complements the provision of roads through a range of services from providing for pedestrian access and movement to contributing to vibrant and pleasant town centres. It does this through providing walkways, footpaths, street lighting, car parks, local public transport, moving of public berms and upgrading town centres.

**The local transportation activity provides for new and replacement footpaths, street lighting and street furniture.**

In the 2014/2015 year for the Thames area, the Council planned that:

- **footpaths** will be provided on one side of the street for 58% of the urban network
- **street lighting** will be provided in urban areas and major intersections, with at least 90% of outages being repaired within 1 week (excluding circuit faults)
- people can access a pleasant **town centre**
- **vegetation on urban road berms** maintained by the Council will be mowed regularly, with at least 80% of grass having a height of less than 200mm.

### Background information about this activity

- Last year the streetlight replacement budgets for Thames were increased to enable LED lanterns to be used as part of the replacement programme. These will provide a significantly lower whole of life costs resulting from approximately 50% less energy costs.
- As part of the footpath renewals programme for Thames an accessibility audit will be undertaken to improve pedestrian routes in an around the Thames township.

### Community Board priorities for the 2014/2015 year

- The Community Board want to promote Thames' existing attributes and improve Thames public roading systems to enhance and encourage walking and cycling activity for ease of access and safety.
- The Board are prioritising footpath rehabilitation and construction to align with the aims of the Thames Urban Development Strategy, particularly around Grahamstown and Cochrane Street area.
- The Board will liaise with Thames businesses, with a particular focus on adding value to the Thames markets in close partnership with the community, operators and local shop owners.
- The Board propose a new Project to extend the Hauraki Rail Trail into the heart of Thames to enhance economic development opportunities for local businesses and provide linkages with other Thames visitor attractions.

The following projects have been signalled in the 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan for 2014/2015. The Board makes the following comments:

Local Transportation 2014/2015	
Project	Community Board Comments
Footpath Rehabilitation (\$30,984)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review and revision of proposed work programmes to align with Thames Urban Development Strategy objectives. Priority Grahamstown Precinct, particularly Cochrane Street. The Board also emphasise the outcomes of the disability strategy and seek to ensure alignment of accessibility audits undertaken in Thames with the footpath construction and rehabilitation programmes. The Board request that major safety issues coming out of the</li> </ul>

Local Transportation 2014/2015	
Project	Community Board Comments
	audit should be addressed first and the remaining projects prioritised.
<b>Footpath Construction (\$73,772)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Board emphasise the outcomes of the disability strategy and seek to ensure alignment of accessibility audits undertaken in Thames with the footpath construction and rehabilitation programmes. The Board request that major safety issues coming out of the audit should be addressed first and the remaining projects prioritised.</li> <li>\$50,000 from within the existing footpath construction budget is to be prioritised to extend the Hauraki Rail Trail into the heart of Thames to enhance economic development opportunities for local businesses. Alternatively investigate whether a cycle lane into town could be added.</li> </ul>
<b>Streetlight improvements (\$11,349)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improvements are based primarily on safety issues.</li> </ul>
<b>Streetlight renewals (\$11,349)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Replacement based on condition assessments.</li> </ul>
<b>Street Furniture Renewals (\$8,172)</b>	
<b>Refresh priorities for the Thames entranceway plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review the Isthmus Group southern entrance concept to consider any future 2015-2025 works to enhance the entrance to Thames.</li> </ul>
<b>Rhodes Park entrance improvements (\$15,000)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This project is to improve traffic congestion and safety issues for right turning traffic coming out of Rhodes Park during sporting events.</li> </ul>

### Managing the Budget

- The local component of this activity is funded 100% locally
- This expenditure is 100% operating expenditure
- In 2013/2014 the Opex budget is \$317,393
- The draft 2014/2015 Opex budget is proposed to be \$333,777

Funding Sources	Amount
Fees & charges	
Local Works & Services Charge	-100,133
Local Works & Services Rate	-233,644
UAGC	
<b>Operating Expenditure</b>	333,777

### Thames Community Board priorities for the next 10 years: 2015-2025

The following projects have been signalled in the 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan:

Project	Local Transportation 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan								
	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22
Footpath Rehab	\$337k								
Footpath Construction	\$803k								
Hauraki Rail Trail Signs and Linkages	\$27k								
Coastal Walkways			\$67k						

The Board makes the following comments for the next Ten Year Plan 2015-2025.

Local Transportation 2015-2025 Ten Year Plan	
Project	Community Board Comments
15/16 Coastal Walkway (\$67K) - Construction of a walkway along the Burke Street Landfill site to the Croquet Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$82,387 was originally allocated in the 2013/2014 year for the Burke Street Landfill rehabilitation from Solid Waste Activity.</li> <li>• \$67,000 has been allocated in the 2015/2016 year for the coastal walkway completion but this is now dependant on the completion of the landfill rehabilitation works. To be discussed with the Solid Waste and Infrastructure managers.</li> <li>• The Board support a review of the coastal walkway project in 2015/2016 with a view of saving money and keeping the existing gravel path around Burke Street The Board have</li> </ul>

Local Transportation 2015-2025 Ten Year Plan	
Project	Community Board Comments
	also indicated review of the Parks & Reserves Burke St landfill landscaping \$144,000 in 2015/16 to reduce the cost of this project following the outcomes of the Burke Street capping project.
16/17 or 17/18 Cochrane Street upgrade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Board seek alignment with utilities upgrades to improve efficiencies and cost savings. Upgrade of Cochrane Street to provide for improved community space and streetscape, link existing attractions of museums with miniature railway and coastal walkway.</li> </ul>
Longer Term Grahamstown Streetscape renewal (19/20)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertaking key actions from the Thames Urban Development Strategy including any outcomes from the Grahamstown precinct plan.</li> </ul>
Footpath construction/improvements to bring visitors from cycleway to new i-site location once established.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Board would like to emphasise the connection between any new i-site and the Hauraki rail trail.</li> </ul>



## 8. District Transportation (NB: District Activity)

### What is this activity?

This activity provides for people and goods to move safely around our district. It includes the development and maintenance of the road network including district and local roads, bridges and associated infrastructure. This activity is rated across the whole of the rating base as it is a district wide service. This activity does not cover the entire roading corridor, the State Highways are managed by New Zealand Transport Agency and local transportation includes things such as footpaths and town centre upgrades.

In the 2014/2015 year the Council planned the following levels of service for District Transportation:

- 447km of roads that area sealed (excluding state highways)
- 0 road fatalities by road factors
- 3.0 kilometres of dust seals completed
- 5 road safety education campaigns delivered
- <1% of the district roads (not state highway) unavailable due to road closures
- Twice daily status updates via Council websites on unplanned road closures
- >90% potholes on sealed roads are repaired within 1 week

### Background information about this activity

\$150,000 was allocated to the Hauraki Rail Trail - Stage 2 Kopu to Kaiaua. The project is scheduled over two years commencing 2013/2014. Funding for construction works will only be granted when the total funding required has been secured by the Rail Trail Charitable Trust.

### Community Board Priorities for the 2014/2015 year

The following projects have been signalled in the 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan for 2014/2015. The Board makes the following comments:

District Transportation 2014/2015	
Project	Community Board Comments
Hauraki Rail Trail - Stage 2 Kopu to Kaiaua \$200k. Plus a further potential \$1million.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Hauraki Rail Trail stage two is an extension of the existing 82km trail connecting Thames to Paeroa, Waikino to Te Aroha and newly extended section to Waihi. Stage two proposes to add another day to the cycleway providing a visitor interface with the Firth of Thames and closer entry point to Auckland. The extension begins within the Thames Coromandel District, however the majority of the construction will be within Hauraki District Council jurisdiction. The length of the extension will be approximately 37km to Kaiaua and will include bridges, fencing, cattle stops and gates. Operations and on-going maintenance will be undertaken by the Hauraki Rail Trail Charitable Trust but may require top up funding by the Councils.</li> <li>• This project had \$150k allocated for both the 13/14 and 14/15 years. The Board request carry forward of \$50k from 13/14 to 14/15 year total of \$200k. The Hauraki Rail Trail Charitable Trust is making an application to the lotteries commission for \$2 million funding for this project. The funding application proposes a \$1.2million contribution from both TCDC and HDC equating to a total project cost of \$4million. Maintenance costs for this stage are currently unknown.</li> </ul>

District Transportation 2014/2015	
Project	Community Board Comments
Improved pedestrian and cycling access across Queen Street.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Board seek to liaise with NZTA regarding the potential installation of traffic lights for improved pedestrian and cycling accessibility across Queen St (SH25). The intent of this project is to find innovative ways to improve pedestrian cycling and walking links across Queen Street. The board will welcome community contribution to this process.</li> </ul>
Thames coast safe cycling project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Board wishes to indicate the need to actively work with NZTA on safety related projects for motorists and cyclists using the Thames Coast Road with the possibility of addition of cycle lanes.</li> </ul>

### Thames Community Board priorities for the next 10 years: 2015-2025

The following projects have been signalled in the 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan:

Project	District Transportation 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan								
	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22
Hauraki Rail Trail- Stage 2 Kopu to Kaiaua	\$300k								
Mangakeri stream bridge Kauarenga Valley road					\$187k				
Morrison's No1 Bridge						\$554K			

The Board makes the following comments to the next Ten Year Plan (2015-2025).

District Transportation 2015-2025 Ten Year Plan	
Project	Community Board Comments
Re-investigate sealing of the Kauaeranga Valley from end of seal to the DOC visitor centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A report was commissioned in May 2013 with an initial costs of \$740k. The Board would like this reviewed as part of the Ten Year Plan to align with other priorities such as the Rail Trail and the Coromandel Walks, Kauaeranga Valley to the east coast.</li> </ul>
Thames Coast Safety Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Board wishes to indicate the need to actively work with NZTA on safety related projects for motorists and</li> </ul>

District Transportation 2015-2025 Ten Year Plan	
Project	Community Board Comments
	cyclist using the Thames Coast Road with the possibility of addition of cycle lanes.

## 9. Harbour Facilities

### What is this activity?

The harbour facilities activity provides recreational and commercial facilities to support recreation, tourism-related activities, commercial fishing and aquaculture. Harbour facilities can include boat ramps, boat trailer parking, wharf facilities and channel dredging.

### Background information about this activity

- The Kopu boat ramp is Thames' only all tide boat ramp which includes the provision of at least 20 boat and trailer car-park spaces within 400 metres of the all-tide ramp.
- Thames has a public boat ramp and haul out at the southern end of Thames (access into the Kauaeranga river mouth at Shortland wharf, which is well used by larger craft, however it is not all tide).
- One of the district's most popular boat ramps at Waikawau on the Thames Coast is privately operated and ownership of the reserve is being vested to Iwi.
- Commercial wharfage facilities are restricted to Shortland wharf in the Thames Community Board area.
- The Kopu boatramp is potentially underutilised commercially.

### Community Board priorities for the 2014/2015 year

- The Community Board may consider a harbours portfolio or formal committee to increase the Board's activity in harbours and wharfing activities in Thames.
- A work programme will be developed for Thames harbours to help with the district wide review of harbour renewals.

The following projects have been signalled in the 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan for 2014/2015. The Board makes the following comments:

Harbour Facilities 2014/2015	
Project	Community Board Comments
Renewals (\$13,392)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Board wish to undertake a review of Harbour facilities in Thames. This is to include Shortland Wharf as well as the all tide ramp at Kopu. This will inform future year's budgets.</li> </ul>

### Managing the Budget

- The local component of this activity is funded 100% locally
- This expenditure is a mix of opex and capex
- In 2013/2014 the opex budget is \$58,765
- The draft 2014/2015 opex budget is proposed to be \$66,497

Funding Sources	Amount
Fees & charges	-25,110
Local Works & Services Charge	-18,113
Local Works & Services Rate	-23,274
UAGC	
<b>Operating Expenditure</b>	66,497

## Thames Community Priorities for the next 10 years: 2015-2025

The following projects have been signalled in the 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan:

Harbour Facilities 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan									
Project	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22
Renewals		\$13k		\$36k					

The Board makes the following comments for the next 10 years 2015-2025:

Harbour Facilities 2015-2025 Ten Year Plan	
Project	Community Board Comments
Shortland Wharf precinct development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhancement of the existing wharfing precinct, including improved access to the wharf and linkages with visitor attractions around the rail trail and coastal walkway.</li> </ul>
Investigation into Thames's role for aquaculture operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thames role in the Commercial Aquaculture industry to be investigated and promoted.</li> </ul>
Mangrove removal investigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigation into the proactive management of mangroves annually including potential removals. Certain key areas could be addressed to improve visual connection with the harbour such as the end of Cochrane Street and Victoria Park.</li> </ul>
Improvements of the Kopu Boat ramp	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This is to be addressed through the planning work as part of Kopu development concept plan and better utilisation of Kopu as an all tide boat ramp.</li> </ul>
Harbour portfolio holders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Board have discussed the possibility of Sandra Goudie and Craig Cassidy to manage the harbours portfolio.</li> </ul>

## 10. Parks & Reserves

### What is this activity?

This activity maintains an open space network to provide spaces for a variety of recreational and leisure purposes. We are not the only significant provider of parks and reserves. The Council's focus is on providing access to parks, reserves and playgrounds which (for the most part) can be used for recreational purposes. Open spaces include district community spaces, neighbourhood reserves, active recreation parks, indoor sports facilities, conservation areas and playgrounds, as well as supporting facilities such as signage and events booking processes.

In the 2014/2015 year, the Council planned that:

- the Thames community board area will have 30m<sup>2</sup> of **reserve per rating unit**, and the district as a whole will have 48m<sup>2</sup> (no change from current)
- **9 children's playgrounds** will also be provided in the Thames community board area (no change from current)
- 85% of users of these reserves will be fairly/very **satisfied** with the parks and reserves
- at least 85% of urgent customer enquiries will be resolved within 48 hours

### Background information about this activity

- The Community Board and the Community Development Officer have been working with users in the community including Zoom Zone as an identified community trust to help raise funding for the new Thames Skatepark (Council allocated \$141,154 for the 2013/2014 year).
- \$139,571 was allocated in the 13/14 year for development of a business case and detailed design and planning for a community sports facility in Thames.
- While locally managed, parks and reserves also form part of a district and regional open space network.

### Community Board Priorities for the 2014/2015 year

The following projects have been signalled in the 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan for 2014/2015. The Board makes the following comments:

Parks and Reserves 2014/2015	
Project	Community Board Comments
Renewals (\$13,950)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These are determined based on asset condition assessments.</li> </ul>
Reserve Management Plans (\$5,580)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$10,000 has been budgeted in 2013/2014 for a reserve management plan which may continue into the 2014/2015 year. This plan will inform the project priority and budgets for the 2015-2025 Ten Year Plan. The Board have indicated a priority for this plan to include a focus on Victoria Park.</li> </ul>
Community Sports Facility - Indoor Court Development (\$445k) (New Indoor Court) (total costs will be \$4.4 million with Council contribution to be approximately two thirds \$2.83m). This budget will be split with \$445k for the 2014/2015 year)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Thames Sports Facilities Review recommends staging of sports facility builds commencing with stage one - indoor gymnasium planning and funding 2013/2014, and project delivery commencing 2015/2016 through to 2015/2016. The development includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 full sized netball court, community amenities, on existing gym dedicated 100m<sup>2</sup> space for permanent gymnastic equipment set-up plus 50m<sup>2</sup> walk in storage.</li> <li>• To consolidate indoor sports activity at 1 location, discontinue sports booking at Thames Civic Centre.</li> <li>• To be based on a total budget of \$4.4million with Council's contribution to be approximately two-thirds of this amount</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Parks and Reserves 2014/2015	
Project	Community Board Comments
	(about \$2.83million). This is premised on Council meeting the insurance and long term maintenance costs for the new gym (all existing costs to continue to be met by the school) and provides an annual operating grant of approximately \$10,000) - Note this future pricing model is based on \$25 per court hour)
<b>Community Steering Committee, Project Groups and funding committee for Thames community Sporting facilities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Board will seek to facilitate an integrated community funding programme, with a Steering Committee to oversee the Community projects. Project Groups will be formed for each project i.e. indoor court, Rhodes Park and Skate Park. A funding committee would also be formed, which would take the leadership role on major funders and drive the development and implementation of an overall integrated funding and communications strategy, with actively supported by each Project Group.</li> <li>To utilise Zoom Zone Charitable Trust as a recipient for individual donations and for these donations to receive tax benefits.</li> </ul>
<b>Thames Skate Park (\$220,500)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is likely that confirmation of a secure site and consenting will take longer than expected, therefore construction is probable in the 2014/2015 year. The Board aim to have the skate park open in 2014. Funding profile is to be confirmed. Based on a budget of \$220,500, and a total contribution by the Thames Community board towards the Skate Park cost of \$80,500 (including feasibility and preparatory design work to date).</li> </ul>
<b>Minor Reserves Projects (\$72,542)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Possible savings, seating for Coastal walkway is considered a priority for the Board with potential for them to be made locally free of charge. This will also include any projects identified from the Reserve Management Plan.</li> </ul>
<b>Reserve Carpark Reseals (\$90,339)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Possible savings could be achieved. Rhodes Park reseal is a separate budgeted item. The Board needs clarification with the list of projects that have informed the budget so that priority projects can be identified.</li> </ul>

#### Managing the Budget

- The local component of this activity is funded 100% locally
- This expenditure is a mix of opex and capex
- In 2013/2014 the opex budget is \$1,076,182
- The draft 2014/2015 opex budget is proposed to be \$1,128,121

Funding Sources	Amount
Fees & charges	-39,419
Local Works & Services Charge	-355,424
Local Works & Services Rate	-733,279
UAGC	
<b>Operating Expenditure</b>	<b>1,128,121</b>

## Thames Community Board priorities for the next 10 years: 2015-2025

The following projects have been signalled in the 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan:

Project	Parks and Reserves 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan								
	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22
New Thames Skatepark	\$108K								
Community sports facility	\$1m	\$1m			\$2m				
Rhodes Park car park seal			\$138K						
Burke St landfill landscape			\$144K						



The Board makes the comments to the next 2015-2025 Ten Year Plan:

Parks and Reserves 2015-2025 Ten Year Plan	
Project	Community Board Comments
Rhodes Park carpark seal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This project is for the re-sealing of the Rhodes Park carpark. The Board have indicated that there is a potential to defer or remove this project into later years, however this dependant on outcome of the Rhodes Park Clubrooms redevelopment project.</li> </ul>
Burke St landfill landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Board recommend a review of this project with potential for the removal or re-allocation of the funding to save money. The Board would like to progress options for community led landscaping following the outcomes of the Burke Street capping project in the Solid Waste Activity for the 2013/2014 year. The Board have indicated that the whole area review as part of the Reserve Management Plan project.</li> </ul>
Rhodes Park Clubroom redevelopment (2015/2016 onwards- \$2.6million total costs of which Council's contribution is \$1.67million)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This project considered further consolidation of the outdoor grass fields with a new participation venue and clubroom redevelopment including</li> <li>An elevated, single storey, multi-purpose clubroom catering for all grass field users of the park, with uncovered seating and changing rooms.</li> <li>To be based on a total budget of \$2.6 million with Council contribution to be approximately two-thirds of this amount (\$1.67million).</li> <li>The Thames Rugby and Sports Club to be the future owner/manager of the new clubrooms, but as part of receiving significant Council and public capital funding, that one of its primary objectives will be to provide clubroom facilities for all users at Rhodes Park on an equitable and fair basis.</li> <li>The club is encouraged to set aside approximately \$30,000 per year (50% of its depreciation cost) into a long-term maintenance/capital improvement fund.</li> </ul>
Aquatic Centre for Thames (\$12m-\$15m)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Replacement of the Thames Swimming Pool (\$5m) proposed for 2020-2021 in current TYP. A new Aquatic centre is needed for Thames as the existing pool is nearing its capacity. A national review of aquatic centres is being undertaken and Thames is well placed to provide a sub-regional facility servicing the district and greater Thames Valley. It is anticipated that a regional quality aquatic centre will cost \$12m-\$15m.</li> </ul>
Work with Iwi on potential for Crawford Drive Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential for historic interpretive signage working with local Iwi from heritage funding or minor reserves project funding.</li> </ul>

## 11. Community Centres & Halls

### What is this activity?

This activity ensures that a range of community centres and halls are provided to meet local community needs. They provide facilities for people to get together and take part in a range of activities such as recreation and cultural events. Community centres and halls are used for public purposes as well as private social events.

In the 2014/2015 year, the Council planned that:

- it will continue to own and manage the **civic centre** in Thames (as the area's major centre)
- the Thames civic centre would be **available for use** at least 14 hours every day, and it will be used at least 37% of the time that it is available
- it will provide **funding support** to community managed halls in Te Puru, Tapu and Kauaeranga Valley

### Background information about this activity

- In 2013/2014 grants were provided to Te Puru Hall (\$3,117) with a three year service level agreement in place. Council also provided grants to the following halls: Tapu Hall (\$10,909), Puriri (\$2,598) Kauaeranga Valley Hall (\$3,117).
- A number of halls have been affected by new insurance requirements following the Christchurch earthquake.
- The Ten Year Plan budgeted on the sale of the WINTEC building in Thames for the 2012/13 year, however options for this building are still being discussed. Maintenance and commercial revenue are included in the 2013/2014 year.
- The Thames Community Board has signalled that it intends to review the management of the Thames Civic Centre with a view to increasing usage and potentially creating a cultural hub for the town.

### Community Board priorities for the 2014/2015 year

The Board have signalled the halls activity needs to be reviewed for consistency and clarity and to address issues around insurance and operations (this review will be undertaken through the 2015-2025 Ten Year Plan).

Spatial concept design options and a feasibility assessment is currently underway to test the concept of a Civic Centre, WINTEC Community Hub.

There are no projects signalled in the 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan for 2014/2015. The Board makes the following comments:

Community Centres and Halls 2014/2015	
Project	Community Board Comments
Thames Civic Centre spatial concept options.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• \$20K has been allocated in 2013/2014 year for architectural review of the Civic Centre and WINTEC facilities. The outcomes to be considered by the Board. The Board have signalled that they would like to review the revenue for this building once the review is completed with potential to add value to local economic development for the next Ten Year Plan 2015-2025.</li></ul>

**The local component of this activity is funded 100% locally**

- This expenditure is a mix of opex and capex
- In 2013/2014 the opex budget was \$348,769
- The draft 2014/2015 opex budget is \$344,422
- There is a furniture & fittings capex budget for this activity.

<b>Funding Sources</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Fees & charges	-44,690
Local Works & Services Charge	-233,125
Local Works & Services Rate	-66,607
UAGC	
<b>Operating Expenditure</b>	344,422

**Thames Community Board priorities for the next 10 years: 2015-2025**

There are no forward projects signalled in the 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan. The Board makes no further comments to the Ten Year Plan, at this stage.

## 12. Airfields

### What is this activity?

The Council provides two airfields in the District – one in Pauanui and the other in Thames. They are primarily provided for recreational use and some commercial flights, so may benefit the local economy. The Thames airfield consists of a grass strip airfield with other facilities that are privately owned.

In the 2014/2015 year, the Council planned that there will be a safe airfield for small aircraft in Thames, and the airfield will:

- be open for no less than 320 days of the year
- comply with the Civil Aviation Authority safety requirements 100% of the time.

### Background information about this activity

Thames Community Board has committed to undertaking a review of the review of the 2005 business plan for the Thames Airfield (addresses future development at the airport) with the outcomes of this review to be presented to the Council for further consideration. This will occur in the 2013/2014 year.

### Community Board priorities for the 2014/2015 year

There are no projects signalled in the 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan for 2014/2015. The Board makes the following comments:

Airfields 2014/2015	
Project	Community Board Comments
Review of the 2005 business plan for the Thames Airfield	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Board to review the business plan for the existing airport activity to seek a more sustainable operating model. Master planning for future use of the airport needs to be commercially viable and be tested with the community before taken out for expressions of interest. The amount which the airfield is being subsidised by the ratepayer to be made clearer in the Annual Plan.</li> </ul>

The local component of this activity is funded 100% locally

- This expenditure is a 100% opex
- In 2013/2014 the opex budget is \$116,774
- The draft 2014/2015 opex budget is proposed to be \$146,468

Funding Sources	Amount
Fees & Charges	-78,602
Local Works & Services Charge	
Local Works & Services Rate	-67,865
Uniform Annual General Charge	
<b>Total Operating Expenditure</b>	146,468

## Thames Community Board priorities for the next 10 years: 2015-2025

There are no forward projects signalled in the 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan. The Community Board make the following comments:

Airfields priorities 2015-2025 Ten Year Plan	
Project	Community Board Comments
Level of service review for airfields	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The Board have indicated that they would like to review the levels of service and options for how this activity is funded.</li></ul>

## 13. Libraries

### What is this activity?

The Council provides and supports a range of library services in the District. There are three Council owned libraries and there are other libraries in our District that are supported but not owned or managed by the Council, and their service levels vary.

In the 2014/2015 year, the Council planned that it will provide the following library facilities in the Thames community board area:

- a **Thames library** providing an **integrated and district wide service** (operating in accordance with national library guidelines, open 42.5 hours per week, children's programmes, housebound delivery service, postal delivery service, adult reading forum, interlibrary loan service and free internet)
- as a district library, the Thames library will provide **access to a range of information** in digital and printed format, including at least 90% of the collection meeting 3-3.5 items per local resident and internet and WIFI sessions increasing by at least 5% from the previous year for the district libraries as a whole.
- as a district library, the Thames library will provide a **constant choice** of new materials and current information throughout the year, including 300-330 new items per 1000 of the local resident population per year
- as a district library, programmes will be provide for people to **improve reading and literacy skills**, with at least 72% of participants to be satisfied

### Background information about this activity

- Council carried over \$500,000 to the 2013/2014 financial year for building repairs. At the time of writing this project has not occurred and awaits outcomes on the Thames Urban Development Strategy.

### Community Board priorities for the 2014/2015 year

- The outcomes of the feasibility study for the Civic Centre and WINTEC building will inform the option around repair of the Thames Library. There is the potential for significant savings following a review of the building repairs quote.
- The Board would like a review of the library operations and levels of service provided.

The following projects have been signalled in the 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan for 2014/2015. The Board makes the following comments:

Libraries 2014/2015	
Project	Community Board Comments
Library Books (\$87,000)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The budget has been revised down to \$87K from \$115K</li> </ul>
Furniture & Fittings (\$8,175)	

#### Managing the Budget

- Just under 20% of the cost of this activity is funded by the district (UAGC)
- The remainder is funded locally.
- In 2013/2014 the opex budget is \$574,123
- The draft 2014/2015 opex budget is proposed to be \$640,582

<b>Funding Sources</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Fees & charges	-60,073
Local Works & Services Charge	-452,393
Local Works & Services Rate	
UAGC	-128,116
<b>Operating Expenditure</b>	640,582

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### **Thames Community Board priorities for the next 10 years: 2015-2025**

There are no forward projects signalled in the 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan other than on-going books and furniture annual costs. The Board make no further comments for the next 10 years at this stage.

## 14. Swimming Pools

### What is this activity?

The Council's key operations in this activity are located in Thames at the Centennial Pool. In the 2014/2015 year, the Council planned that the Thames pool will:

- provide **year round access** (6 hours a day for 7 days in summer, and 5 hours a day for 6 days in winter)
- provide a **range of programmes** including 4 learn to swim programmes each school year and 60 aqua-aerobic programmes each year
- be a **clean, safe and enjoyable place to visit**, with achievement of ACC Poolsafe accreditation each year.

### Background information about this activity

In 2013/2014 pool maintenance budget increased from \$1,597 to \$10,000 to allow for the Thames Pool floor to be repainted.

The Council did not provide for any major projects related to this activity. However the Ten Year Plan has budgeted for a replacement swimming pool in 2020/2021 subject to further community consultation and community fund raising of approximately \$10 million as a contribution to the project. The Board will consider the programming and funding of the pool as part of the 2015-2025 Ten Year Plan.

The current pool is situated on an Urupa and Ngati Maru has requested that it be resited when the pool is replaced. Many Maori families are disadvantaged as they will not allow their children to swim at the pool. Thames is a region of high water based activity and the need for learn to swim programs is essential. Thames has a high participation in learn to swim programs and health activity programs for all ages. A swim academy is also planned to provide a framework and development pathway for competitive swimmers.

### Community Board priorities for the 2014/2015 year

There are no projects signalled in the 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan for 2014/2015. The Board makes the following comments:

Swimming Pool 2014/2015	
Project	Community Board Comments
Renewals (\$16,000)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A renewals budget is needed for the 2014/2015 year for the following replacements: \$6K for pool vacuum, \$6k for three new learn to swim platforms, \$3k for play equipment for school holiday programme, \$1k to concrete the short servicing driveway.</li></ul>



### Managing the Budget

- This activity is funded 100% locally.
- In 2013/2014 the opex budget is \$506,144
- The draft 2014/2015 opex budget is proposed to be \$535,310

Funding Sources	Amount
Fees & charges	-149,240
Local Works & Services Charge	-279,008
Local Works & Services Rate	-107,062
UAGC	
<b>Operating Expenditure</b>	535,310

### Thames Community Board priorities for the next 10 years: 2015-2025

The following projects have been signalled in the 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan.

Swimming Pool 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan									
Project	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22
Replacement swimming pool for Thames								\$5m	

The Board makes the following comments to the next 10 Year Plan 2015-2025:

Swimming Pool 2015-2025 Ten Year Plan	
Project	Community Board Comments
Thames Aquatic Centre (\$10m)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The existing swimming pool is well utilised and services people from all over the district and across the Thames Valley. A new aquatic centre is needed as the pool is at capacity and the new centre will help to achieve a positive outcome for Iwi by relocating the facility off the historical Urupa. Planning and business case needs to be confirmed prior to the 18/19 year. A national review of aquatic centres is being undertaken and Thames is well placed to provide a sub-regional facility. It is anticipated that a new aquatic centre will cost \$12m-\$15m.</li> </ul>

## 15. Local Social Development

### What is this activity?

The social development activity is a broad one, and the Council currently supports a range of social development initiatives including advocacy, social service co-ordination, health education, physical health through sports, creative arts, pensioner housing, positive ageing, community patrols, rates remissions, funding for community pools and other community grants.

In the 2014/2015 year, the Council has also planned a broad range of other activities at the district level, including supporting:

- the development and strengthening of **social service networks** (with 8 programmes covering funding advice, relationship building and crisis management to be delivered by Social Services Waikato)
- the provision of **health education** and **physical health** (with 2 life education programmes and 8 physical activity programmes to be delivered)
- opportunities for people to participate in, experience and enjoy the **arts** (with 2 creative communities funding rounds held per year)
- the provision of **residential housing for older persons** (with 58 pensioner housing units provided by CILT across Thames, Coromandel and Whitianga)
- funding provision to **seasonal community swimming pools** in other settlements
- **crime minimisation initiatives** within communities, including financially supporting community night patrols in Thames (\$12,790) and other areas.

### Background information about this activity

- Council has adopted Positive Ageing, Disability and Youth strategies. These guide local action and outcomes.
- The Board allocated \$28,000 for roof replacement or repair of the Thames Citizens Band Hall in the 2013/2014 financial year.

In August 2012 the Council adopted new Community Board delegations in line with its Community Governance framework. These delegations provided for (amongst other things) a \$20,000 discretionary fund for each of the five Community Boards.

In addition to funding agreements to deliver the service level above and the community grants scheme, grants will also provided to the following organisations in the Thames area (in the 2014/2015 year):

- Citizens Advice Bureau - \$818
- Tapu Fire Brigade - \$3,273
- Puriri Fire Brigade - \$3,273
- Thames Youth Centre - \$3,273
- Thames Museum - \$2,182
- Bella Street Pumphouse - \$2,182
- Thames Citizen Band - \$2,182
- Thames Mineralogical Museum - \$2,182
- Community Grants Contestable fund (\$25,000)
- Contestable Events - \$15,000

### Community Board priorities for the 2014/2015 year

There are no projects signalled in the 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan for 2014/2015. The Board makes the following comments:

Project	Community Board Comments
CCTV cameras	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Board are considering nominating a liaison Board member to progress CCTV cameras in liaison with the Business Association of Thames and the Thames After Five</li></ul>

Project	Community Board Comments
	group.
Thames Citizens Band	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of the ownership model and the asset is needed to ensure best use of the building and to encourage greater use of the Civic Centre.</li> </ul>
Thames Market	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with Grahamstown market operator and the Grahamstown Business Association to consider opportunities to enhance and expand the Thames market for increased visitor attraction. Examine the possibility of bringing the market into the centre of the street to be trialled for summer. Future options could include Council provision of stall marquees to enable all seasons operation.</li> </ul>

### Managing the Budget

- The local component of this activity is funded 100% locally
- In 2013/2014 the opex budget is \$237,627
- The draft 2014/2015 opex budget is projected to be \$169,818

Funding Sources	Amount
Fees & charges	
Local Works & Services Charge	
Local Works & Services Rate	-169,818
UAGC	
<b>Operating Expenditure</b>	169,818

## Thames Community Board priorities for the next 10 years: 2015-2025

There are no forward projects signalled in the 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan. The Board makes the following comments:

Local Social Development 2015-2025 Ten Year Plan	
Project	Community Board Comments
Community Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Board will consider future options for the development of affordable housing and pensioner housing in Thames. Link with disposal strategy for Council's surplus property.</li> </ul>
Contestable events fund review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Board have signalled a review of the contestable events fund to be increased to \$25k (from \$15K) from local economic development. As there is no local economic development funding mechanism this needs to be addressed as part of the next ten year plan (2015-2025).</li> </ul>

## 16. Local Strategic Planning

### What is this activity?

- This activity is about planning for a sustainable future, making more informed decisions, balancing our responsibilities to our communities and legislative requirements.
- In 2014/2015 Council will continue to monitor progress towards achieving the District's goals, including updating our information on demographics after the national census and contributing to the Hauraki Gulf State of the Environment report

### Background information about this activity

The Thames Urban Development Strategy has been prepared and identifies future opportunities for Thames and a timeline for projects and actions focusing on four main areas: 1) The Northern Gateway, 2) Grahamstown Heritage Precinct, 3) The Regional Cultural and Commercial Hub and 4) The Southern Gateway.

### Community Board priorities for the 2014/2015 year

There were no projects signalled in the 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan for 2014/2015, however the Board makes the following comments:

Local Strategic Planning 2014/2015	
Project	Community Board Comments
Precinct Planning for Grahamstown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of a precinct plan and more comprehensive action schedule for Grahamstown Precinct which considers the aims of the Thames Urban Development Strategy. This will also include a focus on Cochrane Street.</li> </ul>
Walking Cycling and Car Parking Strategy Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of the walking cycling and car parking strategies to align with the aims of the Thames Urban Development Strategy and Accessibility Audit as well as infrastructure renewals programs.</li> </ul>
Precinct Planning for Shortland Wharf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undertake precinct planning to improve pedestrian access, seek economic development and recreational opportunities.</li> </ul>

### Managing the Budget

The local component of this activity is funded 100% locally. In 2013/2014 the opex budget is \$36,138. The draft 2014/2015 opex budget is proposed to be \$28,716

Funding Sources	Amount
Fees & charges	
Local Works & Services Charge	-28,716
Local Works & Services Rate	
UAGC	
<b>Operating Expenditure</b>	28,716

### Thames Community priorities for the next 10 years: 2015-2025

There are no forward projects signalled in the 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan. The Board makes no further comment to the next Ten Year Plan 2015-2025 at this stage.

## 17. Community Health & Safety

### What is this activity?

This activity provides a range of services to ensure that our communities are clean, safe and healthy places to live. This includes minimising public nuisances and offensive behaviour as well as helping ensure public places are safe.

Community Boards have the ability to recommend to Council the level of bylaw service and enforcement but must have regard to the need to maintain consistency across the District.

In the 2014/2015 year, the Council planned that:

- all **food premises** will be inspected at least once to assess whether they are compliant with food safety regulatory requirements
- **animal control** services will continue to be provided, including carrying out all property inspections on dogs classified as menacing or dangerous, and responding to urgent animal control issues within 2 hours
- the **supply of liquor** will be controlled, including inspecting all premises to check for display of appropriate signage relating to underage and intoxicated persons
- at least 98% of **noise** callouts will be responded to
- random and programmed **parking patrols** will be undertaken in Thames, and freedom camping patrols will be carried out at least 35 days per year, and
- it will limit **gaming machine** numbers in the district to 306 or less.

### Background information about this activity

- In 2013/2014 a new fee of \$25 per dog has been introduced for costs associated with impounding dogs to cover SPCA contributions and new micro chipping.
- In December 2012 Parliament passed the Alcohol Reform Bill 2010 which has significant impacts on the way that we administer liquor licence functions, for which we are required to establish a District Licensing Committee and adopt a Local Alcohol Policy which addresses concentration, location and hours of licenced premises by December 2013.
- Freedom camping still remains a hot issue across the district, in 2013/2014 Council increased staff resources for monitoring and enforcement of freedom camping and other bylaws.
- In the Council's 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan there were no major projects however Council is looking to undertake bylaw reviews on the following:
  - Freedom camping
  - Parking
  - Consolidated bylaw

### Community Board priorities for the 2014/2015 year

There are no projects signalled in the 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan for 2014/2015. The Board have no further comments.

### About the Budget

- This activity is a District funded activity, the responsibility for which lies with the Council.
- This expenditure is 100% operating expenditure.
- Different components of this activity are funded from different types of rates and fees and charges.

### Thames Community Board priorities for the next 10 years: 2015-2025

There are no forward projects signalled in the 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan. The Board has no further comments to the 2015-2025 Ten Year Plan at this stage.

## 18. Cemeteries

### What is this activity?

Cemeteries provide memorial spaces for those wishing to remember people that have passed on. This activity involves ensuring that there are adequate burial facilities throughout the District and also includes ensuring that all Council cemeteries are well presented.

In the 2014/2015 year, the Council planned

- that cemeteries will be available in each community board, and
- all cemetery interment requests made are responded to within one day.
- In the Thames Community Board area, the 'open' cemetery is located in Totara.

### Community Board priorities for the 2014/2015 year

There are no projects signalled in the 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan for 2014/2015. The Board makes the following priorities.

Cemeteries 2014/2015	
Project	Community Board Comments
Renewals (\$14k)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Relocation of the war memorial monument within the Totara Cemetery.</li></ul>
Minor works (\$3.5k)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Review the minor works budget to ensure the Cemetery Records Project is adequately funded.</li></ul>

### Managing the Budget

- This activity is currently funded by the District.
  - The expenditure for this activity is a mix of opex and capex, mainly opex.
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### Thames Community Board priorities for the next 10 years: 2015-2025

There are no forward projects signalled in the 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan. The Board makes no further comment to the 2015-2025 Ten Year Plan at this stage.

## 19. Public Conveniences

### What is this activity?

The Council owns and maintains public toilets, changing facilities and showers throughout the District for the convenience of the community, visitors and tourists. The Council provides three types of conveniences: urban toilets, toilets in remote rural areas, and beach toilets which may include changing facilities and showers. Most facilities are provided in areas of high use.

In the 2014/2015 year, the Council planned that

- the public conveniences will be kept cleaned, including resolving at least 85% of urgent toilet related customer enquiries within 48 hours.
- The Council is also considering closing some public conveniences for parts of the year to save on costs.
- It will also target the refurbishment or replacement of public conveniences that are appropriately located for usage demands.
- The Council has directed each individual community board to consider the appropriateness of these matters further for their areas.

### Community Board Priorities for the 2014/2015 year

The Council has provided for the replacement or renewal of at least two public conveniences per year in the District as a whole. The priorities have been identified by staff initially through an engineering and condition rating that assessed overall ambience (lighting, ventilation) and engineering (septic system and water provision).

Public Conveniences 2014/2015	
Project	Community Board Comments
Public Convenience Renewals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Condition assessments prioritise the Grahamstown and Kauaeranga public toilets for replacement.</li></ul>

### Managing the Budget

- This activity is currently funded by the District.
- The expenditure for this activity is a mix of opex and capex, mainly opex.

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### Thames Community Board priorities for the next 10 years: 2015-2025

There are no forward projects signalled in the 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan. There are no further comments for the Board on the next 2015-2025 Ten Year Plan at this stage.

## 20. Economic Development

### What is this activity?

The Council considers that economic development is a priority now more than ever and seeks to make sure that all the planning and activities that we deliver are conducive to and support, our economy wherever possible. In the meantime, this activity continues to support tourism and aquaculture growth as well as partnerships to support diverse economic development opportunities.

In the 2013/2014 year, the Council planned to support and facilitate:

- the promotion of the Peninsula as a national and international **tourism destination**, and expects that:
  - the Thames visitor information centre will be open 364 days of the year, and
  - visitor guest nights will increase by at least 5% from the previous year (currently 600,000)
- **sustainable business development** and **new business investment** on the Peninsula:
  - Destination Coromandel will achieve at least 85% of its key performance indicators
  - at least 75% of the district's business community will be satisfied/more than satisfied with the Council's overall performance in this activity
  - the total number of businesses will increase by at least 1% per annum (currently 4,121)
  - the Council will demonstrate a maintained or increased involvement in economic development initiatives.

'Local economic development' as a component of this activity has not yet been specifically defined or confirmed by the Council.

### Projects included in 2013/2014

- Council adopted the Major Event Strategy in July 2013 and has committed \$75,000 as a contestable fund for major events.
- A regional partnership programme (\$50,000) including participation in the regional economic development strategy and regional aquaculture strategy and marine farming project
- A feasibility study is being undertaken for Coromandel Great Walks looking at creating a network of walks across the peninsular as a tourist and economic development driver (\$50,000).
- TCDC Economic Development and Investment Strategy implementation (\$40,000). Includes funds for implementation of the TCDC Economic Development Strategy due for adoption by the end of 2013 calendar year. This budget will also be used to promote economic development opportunities using the 'Opportunity Coromandel' marketing programme.
- The Council plans to fund local economic development agencies (including visitor i-Sites) at a total cost of \$345,000 per annum.
- Council is reviewing funding structure of this activity particularly i-Sites and has determined that from 2015 the district will fund two i-Sites (Thames and Whitianga) with the other i-Sites funded by local economic development funds.

### About the Budget

- This activity is a District funded activity, the responsibility for which lies with the Council.
- The expenditure for this activity is a mix of opex and capex, mainly opex.
- Different components of this activity are funded from different types of rates and fees and charges.



## Community Board priorities for the 2014/2015 year

There are no projects signalled in the 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan for 2014/2015. The Board makes the following comments:

Local Economic Development 2014/2015	
Project	Community Board Comments
Thames Urban Development Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The strategy proposes short to medium term projects for consideration and consultation.</li> </ul>
Coromandel Great Walks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote the Kauaeranga Valley as a key destination and link to support the Great Walks project. Promote as East West walking link. Re-investigate sealing of the Kauaeranga Valley from end of seal to the DOC visitor centre will be undertaken in the 2015-2025 Ten Year Plan.</li> </ul>
Thames as a Mountain Bike Destination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promotion and support of the Scar Face and Hotoritori mountain bike parks.</li> </ul>

## Thames Community Board priorities for the next 10 years: 2015-2025

In the Council's 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan it states that there is a \$345,000 Grant per annum for local economic development agencies. Destination Coromandel also receive a grant of \$375,000 annually. The 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan also set out major projects for selling of surplus property holdings.

Project	Economic Development 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan								
	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22
Selling of surplus property holdings	We will be considering the selling of surplus property holding that we do not require in future. Proposal will be identified in the draft 2015-2025 ten year plan								
Campervan Dump Stations	\$44k								

The Board makes the following comments on the next Ten Year Plan 2015-2025.

Economic Development 2015-2025 Ten Year Plan	
Project	Community Board Comments
Thames Urban Development Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Further consideration of proposals.</li> </ul>
Water Race Walk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Examine linking the walks in the Kauaeranga Valley with the rail trail by creation of a walkway which follows the location of the old water race line.</li> </ul>
Safe Cycling up the Kauaeranga Valley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provision of safe walking / cycling track up the Kauaeranga Valley to link great walks and the Hauraki Rail Trail</li> </ul>
Contestable events fund review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Board have signalled a review of the contestable events fund to be increased to \$25k (from \$15K) from local</li> </ul>

Economic Development 2015-2025 Ten Year Plan	
Project	Community Board Comments
	economic development. As there is no local economic development funding mechanism this needs to be addressed as part of the next Ten Year Plan (2015-2025)

## **DISTRICT ACTIVITIES**

## 21. District Activities

### Community Board priorities for the 2014/2015 year

Through the Community Board delegations, the Council will give consideration to all recommendations from community boards regarding District activities.

Please refer to the 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan for descriptions of these activities, the levels of service and their major projects - for the District.

Projects included in 2014/2015 for the Thames Community Board Area were:

Activity / Project	Community Board Comments
WASTEWATER ACTIVITY	
Thames Renewals (\$894,365)	
Thames Pumpstation Upgrade (\$32,805)	
WATER ACTIVITY	
Thames Valley Renewals (\$172,197)	
Thames Valley New Supply & Reticulation (\$688,247)	
Matatoki Renewals (\$70,099)	
Matatoki New Supply & Reticulation (\$294,963)	
Thames Urban Renewals (\$733,563)	
Thames Systems Improvements (\$337,603)	
STORMWATER ACTIVITY	
Renewals (\$672,558)	
Kopu Stormwater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Board request a review of Stormwater activity for Kopu in light of future activity and re-zoning identified through the District Plan review for the area.</li> </ul>
SOLID WASTE	
N/A	

#### About the Budget

- These activities are partly or wholly funded by the District community.
- Therefore what happens in one community board area has an impact on the rates in all other community board areas.

The Board makes the following comments regarding infrastructure for the 2014/2015 year:

- Focus on alignment of infrastructure projects and programme with upgrade of Grahamstown in alignment with the outcomes of the Thames Urban Development Strategy.
- The Board seek savings on infrastructure where possible to minimise rating impacts and allow achievement of community projects.

## Thames Community Board priorities for the next 10 years: 2015-2025

The following projects have been signalled in the 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan:

	Water 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan								
Project	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22
Thames water system improvements	\$4m								
Thames Valley and Matatoki new supplies and reticulation	Thames Valley \$3.759m								
Area benefit extension - Totara Valley									\$341k
	Wastewater 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan								
Thames Renewals	\$862k	\$894k	\$927k	\$962k	\$997k	\$1.032m	\$1.070m	\$1.112m	\$1.158m
Thames Pump Station Upgrades		\$33k		\$35k		\$38k		\$41k	
Thames Consent Renewals						\$116k			
Thames AOB Extension							\$510k	\$530k	
	Stormwater 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan								
Renewals	\$649k	\$673k	\$697k	\$723k	\$750k	\$776k	\$805k	\$836k	\$871k
System improvement			\$456k		\$491k		\$26k		\$570k
Thames area of benefit extension							\$214k		
Parawai Road Upgrade			\$570k	\$818k					
	Solid Waste 2012-2022 Ten Year Plan								
Joint Procurement of Solid Waste Service provider	\$20k								