

Local Area Plan for Te Henga (Bethells Beach) and the Waitākere River Valley

Discussion document

January 2014

Working towards a long term vision

An exceptional, thriving natural environment

A place rich in character, cultural heritage and history

Our lifestyles foster our native ecosystems and our beautiful natural, rural and coastal landscapes

Our remote and inspiring environment nurtures our well-being and creativity

Our community is peaceful, diverse, strong and well-connected

The community, Auckland Council and iwi work productively with each other and with other partners

In this version of the discussion document, we have taken into consideration the comments received from members of the community in writing in November and at the workshop on 20 November 2014. The document also received feedback from the Waitākere Ranges Local Board and Auckland Council departments. The changes proposed to the actions are shown in ~~striketrough~~ (deleted) and underline (added).

Please send your feedback by Monday 16 February 2015 to claire.liousse@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz, or by mail to Auckland Council, Private Bag 92300, Auckland 1142, Attention: Claire Liousse, Principal Planner, Plans and Places.

Auckland Council staff will be at the Te Henga/Bethells Beach Community Day on 25 January 2015 to answer your questions and receive your comments. After considering feedback to this discussion document, we will proceed to preparing the draft Local Area Plan (LAP), which we expect to be available for public submission in April 2015.

For more information, please contact Claire Liousse on 301 0101 or 021 951 749.

List of abbreviations:

AC	Auckland Council
AT	Auckland Transport
ATEED	Auckland Tourism, Events and Economic Development

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Note of explanation on the table of actions:

The information about 'support' and 'priority' in the 'Notes on community support and priority, means of implementation, resources required' column were obtained from community feedback on the draft discussion document in November 2014. The following scale has been applied:

- Support (percentage of 'yes' received for the actions):
 - o Greater than 90% - nearly everyone supports
 - o 80 to 90% - strong support
 - o 60 to 80% - some support
- Priority (average score on a scale of 1 to 5; 1 is the highest priority):
 - o Up to 2 - high
 - o Greater than 2 up to 3 - medium
 - o Greater than 3 - low

Cultural Heritage - Our goals for the area

	What could we do?	Who would lead? Who else may be involved?	When could it start? (subject to resources being available)	Notes on community support and priority, means of implementation, resources required	Your comments
1. People know about the history of the place and its cultural landscape					
1.1	Locate an information board or kiosk at the beach with interpretation of Maori cultural landscape (e.g. significant pa and kainga sites) and European history of the area (e.g. farming families, flax milling, logging) <i>See also related proposed action #2.2 in Visitor Management and Parks</i>	Led by Local and Sports Parks unit of AC with local people and iwi involved in the design and making	Further consultation in 2015 through LAP process. Could be implemented in 1-3 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some support (76% of 34 respondents) Priority: Medium (2.5/5) Not a structure, but possibly a sheltered information board, designed and located to be low key and fit in with the area Combine all information into one area Further consultation is required to determine the design and location of the structure, and content of the information Funding is required to design and construct the information board, Local Board decision through the annual plan 	
1.2	Document the history of the area. This could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> summary for the community website <u>collation of existing resources</u> historical thematic study recording of local stories recording of old tramline sites 	Led by the community and iwi, with support from the Heritage Unit of AC. May require funding support for historical research. Involve local historians, West Auckland Historical Society and West Auckland Research Centre	Summary for the community website is under development. Further initiatives could be implemented in 1-3 years and beyond	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong support (88% of 34 respondents) Priority: Medium (2.6/5) A review of the historical thematic study in the background report may be undertaken this year as part of the LAP process Further research may require Local Board decisions through annual plan or community grants Requires further consultation with local historians, knowledgeable members of the community, iwi, Waitākere Ranges Protection Society (oral history project) 	
2. Wahi tapu, archaeological sites and other taonga are adequately and proactively protected					
2.1	Implement a programme of archaeological surveys, site management plans and monitoring for <u>selected</u> cultural heritage sites	Led by Heritage Unit of AC in collaboration with iwi and land owners	This year and on-going	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong support (82% of 34 respondents) Priority: Medium (2.5/5) Budget is assigned for 2014/15 as part of monitoring work under the Waitākere Ranges Heritage Area Programme. The desk top review of recorded cultural heritage sites in the Heritage Area was completed in November 2014. Field work to verify the location and condition of prioritised sites will start in 2015 Continuation of this work will require a Local Board decision through annual plan Support to individual land owners for the protection of heritage sites is available through the Environmental Initiatives and Waitākere Heritage funds of the AC. Visit www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz for details. AC is developing a policy that will provide incentives for good heritage management (expected to be finalised by mid-2015) 	
2.2	Map the Maori cultural landscape of the area	Led by iwi, in collaboration with AC and land owners	1-3 years and beyond	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong support (87% of 34 respondents) Priority: Medium (2.4/5) Requires further consultation with iwi Linked with monitoring work under the Waitākere Ranges Heritage Area Programme (see above) 	
3. The Maori and European heritage of the area is interpreted and celebrated					
3.1	Celebrate Te Kawerau's relationship with the area and its community	Led by iwi, in collaboration with community	1-3 years or beyond	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some support (69% of 29 respondents) Priority: Medium (2.8/5) One way to realise this could be with a pou whenua at the beach entrance, or linked with the future marae and papakainga site Requires further consultation with iwi and the community 	

	What could we do?	Who would lead? Who else may be involved?	When could it start? (subject to resources being available)	Notes on community support and priority, means of implementation, resources required	Your comments
3.2	Celebrate people's cultural and spiritual connection to nature. Raise awareness of the natural cycles in the valley (migrations of eel and fish, movements of birds, bats, insects)	Led by the community in collaboration with iwi	May start soon if led by the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong support (87% of 31 respondents) • Priority: Medium (2.9/5) • May require funding support through Local Board, community fundraising or grant 	
3.3	Interpret sites of significance to Maori along the Hillary trail	Led by iwi, in collaboration with Regional and Specialist Parks unit of AC and land owners	1-3 years or beyond	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong support (87% of 31 respondents) • Priority: Medium (2.6/5) • To be considered by Regional and Specialist Parks unit of AC and Department of Conservation • Further consultation required with iwi • Need to consider the best ways to do this: on the community or AC website, on a map, on other media • Pou whenua, accompanied by interpretation on-site, are currently installed at the following locations on the Hillary Trail: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Arataki Visitor Centre ○ Karamatura ○ Whatipu ○ Karekare ○ Te Ahua Point (end of Log Race Rd) ○ Lion Rock ○ Cascade Kauri ○ Lake Wainamu 	

Visitor Management and Parks - Our goals for the area

	What could we do?	Who would lead? Who else may be involved?	When could it start? (subject to resources being available)	Notes on community support and priority, means of implementation, resources required	Your comments
1. A wild, remote place, home to a hospitable community					
1.1	<u>Advocate for the area not to be</u> actively promoted by the Council or its CCOs as a tourism destination <u>because of its environmental sensitivity and infrastructure constraints</u>	Led by the Local Board, in collaboration with the community	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nearly everyone supports (93% of 33 respondents) • High priority (average 1.9/5) • Advocacy role of the Local Board • The AC website mentions about Karekare that "It is a geographically contained area with constrained vehicle access and limited parking capacity". Similar information could be added for Bethells Beach and Lake Wainamu. 	
1.2	Accommodation options in the area are listed on the Hillary trail webpage of Auckland Council	Led by individual businesses offering accommodation close to the Hillary trail	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nearly everyone supports (93% of 30 respondents) • Low priority (average 3.1/5) • Individual business decision, minimal cost to the Council. • The webpage and Facebook page are already in place, contact Regional and Specialist Parks regionalparks@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz 	
1.3	A campground within the Regional Park provides a low-cost, low impact accommodation option	Led by Regional and Specialist Parks unit of AC	2 to 5 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some support (69% of 29 respondents) • Medium priority (average 2.8/5) • In accordance with the Regional Parks Management Plan 2010 (Policy 109d: Investigation and potential development of a campground in the Bethells/Te Henga area) • The location of this campground is being investigated by the Regional and Specialist Parks unit, approximately 1 hour walk from Lake Wainamu towards Anawhata. • Low key, no infrastructure other than toilet • Note that Pae o Te Rangī already has a camp ground that can accommodate 30 people, however a few kilometres off the Hillary trail route. 	
2. Visitors recognise and respect the unique natural features of the area, and places treasured by the local community and iwi					
2.1	Review the dog rules at Te Henga/Bethells Beach to protect wildlife and accommodate visitors and dog owners' needs. Educate people about the rules	Led by Social Policy and Bylaws unit of AC, in collaboration with Local and Sports Parks unit of AC	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong support (87% of 30 respondents) • Medium priority (average 2.4/5) • Most comments in support to ensure that wildlife is protected, and also to retain off-leash areas • A review of the Dog Access By-law review is underway. Feedback through the LAP will feed into this review. Further consultation will take place and proposed changes to the by-law will be publicly notified in 2015. • A wildlife management plan for the beach will be undertaken by Local and Sports Parks unit of AC to manage other activities on the beach (e.g. filming) 	
2.2	Investigate options for a kiosk <u>an information board</u> , with essential information on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the natural and cultural heritage of the area • dog access rules • safety messages This will be <u>located and designed</u> to fit the character of the place and reduce the need for <u>number of signs</u> at the beach as much as possible. <i>See related proposed action #1.1 in Cultural Heritage</i>	Led by Local and Sports Parks unit of AC. Local people and iwi involved in the design and making	Further consultation in 2015 through the LAP process. Could be implemented in 1-3 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some support (63% of 30 respondents) • Medium priority (average 3/5) • Not a structure, but a sheltered information board, designed and located to be low key and fit in with the area • Combine all information into one area so that there is no need for other signs (although water safety signs may need to be retained) • Implementation would require a decision by the Local Board through the annual plan process 	
2.3	Place markers or signage to direct people along the Hillary trail as <u>where</u> required, to avoid them getting lost (e.g. around Lake Wainamu, <u>near Roberts' farm</u>)	Led by Regional and Specialist Parks unit of AC with input from community and land owners	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong support (85% of 34 respondents) • Medium priority (average 3/5) • Need to be low key and discreet, and only if/where necessary to keep people on the right track, away from sensitive environment and private property. 	
2.4	Place <u>appropriate, low key signage</u> at Waitoru Reserve <u>and other significant areas</u> (e.g. <u>names of the river and streams at bridges</u>)	Led by Regional and Specialist Parks unit of AC with design input from community and iwi	1-3 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some support (61% of 31 respondents), mostly for Waitoru Reserve • Medium priority (average 3/5) • Minimise signage. Look for other ways for interpretation, e.g. a map of the area at the beach, on the website. Any signage has to be low key, unobtrusive. 	

	What could we do?	Who would lead? Who else may be involved?	When could it start? (subject to resources being available)	Notes on community support and priority, means of implementation, resources required	Your comments
3. The community contributes to making the area safe and welcoming					
3.1	Involve skilled people in the local community in the design and the making of park or road infrastructure (e.g. signs, seating, play elements), if and when these are necessary. Use a uniquely Te Henga/Bethells Beach design element/theme for public infrastructure. Skilled people in the community input into the design, and whenever possible contribute to the making of new infrastructure (e.g. structures, signs, seating, play equipment, etc.) <i>See also proposed related action #1.3 in Roads and Walkways</i>	Led by Local Parks, Regional Parks, AT	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some support (66% of 33 respondents) Opposition to new infrastructure, but not to local design and consultation Medium priority (average 3/5) This policy has been reworded to be more clearly stated: it is about ensuring community and local artist input, if and when new infrastructure is required Also considered for renewals of existing infrastructure Subject to Auckland Council's procurement procedures 	
3.2	Local residents, Parks rangers, Rural Fire Force, Surf Club and Auckland Transport work together to monitor visitor impact on the area and address issues (annual debrief before/after the summer season?)	Led by Auckland Council in collaboration with local stakeholders	1-3 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nearly everyone supports (97% of 33 respondents) Medium priority (2.3/5) Could be tied in with Operation Speedo activities – need further discussions with Operation Speedo partners Monitor operational issues, incidents, traffic issues and how they are resolved 	
3.3	Investigate if there is a need for enhance water safety facilities at Lake Wainamu (e.g. emergency communication equipment, flotation device)	Led by Bethells Surf Life Saving Club and community in collaboration with Local and Regional Parks units	1-3 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong support (85% of 27 respondents) Medium priority (2.1/5) The need for such facilities has to be discussed with the Surf Club and Local and Regional Parks rangers. A report on enhancing aquatic safety at Lake Wainamu was produced in 2008 by Surf Life Saving Northern Region. This report did not identify the need for additional facilities or equipment at the lake. Any structure (if needed) has to be low key and with minimal visual impact. May require funding support through Local Board 	
3.4	Investigate opportunities for local contracts for the maintenance of local services (e.g. cleaning and locking of facilities, mowing, weed control, water quality monitoring) <i>See also related proposed action #5.3 below</i>	Led by Local and Sports Parks with input from community	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nearly everyone supports (97% of 32 respondents), provided it improves efficiency and responsiveness Medium priority (2.1/5) Current Summer Park Ranger is a local resident This may be achieved in some cases, but is subject to Auckland Council's procurement procedures 	
4. Local parks cater for the social and recreational needs of the community, including its children and young people, while remaining low key and maintaining the rural and natural character of the area					
4.1	Review the Concept Plan for Te Henga Park, considering options for new planting and a natural playscape catering for different age groups	Led by Local and Sports Parks unit of AC or by the community	Consultation may take place in 1-3 years. Implementation in 3-10 years (sooner if led by community)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some support (77% of 31 respondents) Low priority (3.1/5) Divided responses around the need for man-made play equipment. Further consultation with community, including children and youth is required on the needs for new facilities, location and design Strong support for new planting, regeneration, weed management, wildlife monitoring Pruning of vegetation in the parking area is planned this year to improve safety Approval of Concept Plan by Local Board. Funding of improvements through the annual plan process, fundraising or community grants 	
5. Public services are maintained to a high level and are sufficiently flexible to adapt to the fluctuating visitor demand					
5.1	Provide a recycling facility at the beach linked with the Bethells Café operation	Led by Local and Sports Parks unit of AC in collaboration with Bethells Café owners	This summer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some support (73% of 33 respondents) Medium priority (2.3/5) Trial of a recycling bin near the café operation in the Summer 2015 	
5.2	Provide temporary additional rubbish bins at the beach on busy days	Led by Local and Sports Parks unit of AC	This summer if necessary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nearly everyone supports (97% of 33 respondents) High priority (1.9/5) Trial better location for existing bins this summer, as some bins overflow while other are empty 	
5.3	Continue to employ Summer Rangers to manage operational issues at the beach and at Lake Wainamu during the summer holidays and week-ends	Led by Local and Sports Parks unit of AC	This summer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nearly everyone supports (97% of 34 respondents) High priority (2/5) The Summer Ranger is employed until the end of April. His role includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensuring that Parks services at Te Henga (Bethells Beach) and Lake 	

	What could we do?	Who would lead? Who else may be involved?	When could it start? (subject to resources being available)	Notes on community support and priority, means of implementation, resources required	Your comments
				<p>Wainamu continue to be provided at an adequate level during peak visitor times. This include monitoring the water level in the toilet's sanitary water tank to ensure it is replenished in time, checking that the toilets are operating properly and that the rubbish is promptly collected.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ educating people about Parks by-laws and policies, including rules around dog access at Lake Wainamu and the beach, use of vehicles and machineries, etc ○ liaising with the Regional Parks rangers and the police if/when there are enforcement issues with the public ○ helping with traffic management, including placement of temporary sandwich boards to direct vehicles to spill-over parking areas, placement of cones to protect private property, etc ○ participating in Operation Speedo with the Rural Fire brigade, the Surf Life Saving Club, the Police and Regional Parks rangers. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● If you notice a problem that needs to be dealt with promptly, please report it to Auckland Council Call Centre on 301 0101. 	
5.4	Continue Operation Speedo (Rangers + Police + Emergency services + Surf Club) to improve safety and security in the summer period	Led by several units of AC, NZ Police, Surf Life Saving Club, Rural Fire Brigade	This summer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Everyone supports (100% of 34 respondents) ● High priority (1.4/5) ● Already in place 	
6. New infrastructure is designed in harmony with this wild and remote environment. We are cautious about providing new infrastructure to meet increasing visitor demand and will collaborate to monitor impacts and find other solutions					
6.1	<p>Implement a package of measures to manage peak visitor demand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Improve the operation of make efficient use of existing areas of car-parking (no increase)-better signage to alternative parking areas, better design, maintenance and operation of car parking areas, better operation of over flow parking areas, drop off area. ● Provide temporary traffic management services on busy days around the Lake Wainamu parking area (Summer Ranger or another paid person?) ● Encourage visitors to turn away when the car parks are full on busy days <p><i>See also related proposed action #1.1 in Roads and Walkways</i></p>	Led by Local and Sports Parks and Regional Parks units of AC and AT, in collaboration with Rural Fire Brigade	Some measures and monitoring this summer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Strong support (86% of 36 respondents) ● High priority (average score 2/5) ● On-going monitoring and trial of traffic management measures ● Maintenance work is scheduled by Local and Sports Parks unit on the beach car-parking ● New no-parking lines between Lake Wainamu car-park and the beach being trialled by AT this summer ● The Summer Ranger is tasked with placing sandwich boards to indicate over-flow car parking areas ● To report parking infringements, call AT on 355 3553 ● To be investigated further: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ temporary signs at the intersections of Scenic Drive/Te Henga Road, Waitākere Road/Bethells Road or Te Henga Road/Bethells Road ○ a web-based application to inform people of parking conditions 	

Notes:

The following actions have been removed or included in other actions:

- Former 2.2: "Increase awareness of no dogs rule" and 2.4:"increase awareness of no-machinery and pollutant rules" are now part of 5.3. One of the role of the Summer Ranger and Local and Regional Park rangers is to educate people about parks rules and bylaws.
- Former 4.2: "Prepare and implement a Reserve Concept Plan for the Waitakere Quarry land", and 2.3: "review the opportunities for off-leash dog-walking places, e.g. Waitakere Quarry" have been removed from this document. The comments received through this LAP consultation have been passed on to the Local and Sports Parks team of Auckland Council and Auckland Council Property Limited (ACPL), who will be working on the preparation of a quarry restoration plan that is separate to this LAP process.
- Former 5.3: "Review the operation of the gate and toilet block at the beach" has been removed. Operational adjustments have been made to better meet people's needs around café opening hours on Friday evenings. The sanitary water tank level for the toilets is monitored by the Summer Ranger. To report malfunctions or other problems, please call 301 0101.
- Former 5.4: "Manage vegetation to improve safety in the car parking area" is now included 4.1 "Review the Concept Plan for Te Henga Park", as the car-park area is part of Te Henga Park. Vegetation management to improve sightlines and safety is scheduled to take place in the coming months by the Local and Sports Parks unit.
- Former 6.1: "Make efficient use of existing parking areas" has been moved to 6.1 "Implement a package of measures to manage peak visitor demand", as it fits in this wider action statement.

Community and economic development - Our goals for the area

	What could we do?	Who would lead? Who else may be involved?	When could it start? (subject to resources being available)	Notes on community support and priority, means of implementation, resources required	Your comments
1. A hub of low key economic activity, that includes small local businesses, farming, food production, filming, arts and creative industries					
1.1	Continue to enable low-key economic activities in the Unitary Plan while controlling <u>managing</u> their effects on the environment.	Led by Auckland Council (as consent authority)	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nearly everyone supports (94% of 34 respondents) • Priority: medium (2.4/5) • Currently implemented through rules in the Operative Auckland Council District Plan (Waitākere Section) and the Proposed Auckland Unitary Plan. For details on the rules that would apply to economic activities on your land, visit www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz or call 301 0101 and ask to speak to a resource consent planner. • A summary of existing rules could be communicated through the community website • A change to the Unitary Plan, if it is required, will require resources, public consultation and time before it becomes operative 	
1.2	Promote sustainable farming and food production practices. Develop the market for local produce. <i>(See also related proposed action #2.1 in Ecology and Ecosystems)</i>	Led by local land-based businesses	1 to 3 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nearly everyone supports (94% of 33 of respondents) • Priority: medium (2.6/5) • More consultation is required on ways to implement • The community website can be a vehicle for information, promotion and education 	
1.3	Help showcase the creative talent of local artists and grow the market for local art work. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinstate Open Art Studio events • Community Day pop-up gallery 	Led by local artists, Auckland Council Art and Events teams	1 to 3 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nearly everyone supports (97% of 34 respondents) • Priority: medium (3/5) • More consultation is required on ways to implement • The community website can be a vehicle for information and promotion. Visit www.tehengabethells.co.nz for more details • The Local Board makes decisions on its support for events through the annual plan process. 	
1.4	Support managed access to filming locations in the area.	Led by Auckland Council (as consent authority) in collaboration with Film Auckland	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong support (85% of 34 respondents) • Priority: High (1.8/5) • High level of support from the Auckland film industry, for whom the area is of great importance • The impact of filming is mostly controlled by AC through rules in the Operative District Plan, the Proposed Unitary Plan, the Regional Parks Management Plan and Te Henga Park Management Plan. • The Local and Sports Parks unit of Council is considering a wildlife management plan for the foreshore area of the beach to manage the impact of vehicle and other activities on native birds. 	
1.5	Support small scale renewable energy generation.	Led by Auckland Council (as consent authority)	1 to 3 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nearly everyone supports (96% of 31 respondents) • Priority: Medium (2.4/5) • Currently implemented through rules in the Operative District Plan and the Proposed Unitary Plan. For details on the rules that would apply on your land, visit www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz or call 301 0101 and ask to speak to a resource consent planner. • A summary of existing rules could be communicated through the community website • A change to the Unitary Plan, if it is required, will require resources, public consultation and time before it becomes operative 	
1.6	Promote business networking, with a list of local businesses on the community website, <u>and Provide</u> access to local business support, services and business advice <u>to the local businesses</u> .	Led by the community and local businesses, supported by AC and ATEED	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nearly everyone supports (96% of 31 respondents) • Priority: Medium (2.3/5) • The community website is up and running with information on local businesses, visit www.tehengabethells.co.nz for more details. • For information on business support services from ATEED, visit www.aucklandnz.com. 	

	What could we do?	Who would lead? Who else may be involved?	When could it start? (subject to resources being available)	Notes on community support and priority, means of implementation, resources required	Your comments
2. Well connected area with adequate telecommunication and transport infrastructure					
2.1	Advocate for fibre optic cable extension to the Tasman View Road cabinet for improved broadband services.	Led by the community, with support from Local Board and AC	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nearly everyone supports (97% of 33 respondents) • Priority: High (1.4/5) • Advocacy work • May require developing a business case and fundraising • For more information, contact the Community Internet Group 	
2.2	Advocate for community consultation to be undertaken across the area for any proposal to install new cellular/wireless network infrastructure.	Led by the community, with support from Local Board	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nearly everyone supports (93% of 30 respondents) • Priority: High (1.7/5) • The requirements (or not) for consultation are in the rules in the Operative District Plan and the Proposed Unitary Plan. For more details, visit www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz or call 301 0101 and ask to speak to a resource consent planner. • A summary of existing rules could be communicated through the community website • A change to the Unitary Plan, if it is required, will require resources, public consultation and time before it becomes operative 	
2.3	Promote car-pooling. Advocate for dedicated car-pooling spaces at the park and ride at Swanson Station.	Led by the community and Local Board	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong support (86% of 29 respondents) • Priority: Medium (2.7/5) • The community website has a dedicated page to facilitate car-pooling • Advocacy to Auckland Transport for dedicated car-pooling spaces 	
2.4	Advocate for continued bus service between Waitākere Station and Swanson Station	Led by Local Board	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong support (87% of 30 respondents) • Priority: Medium (2.2/5) • The proposed new network plan for West Auckland shows a connector bus service between Waitākere Station, Swanson, Lincoln Road and Henderson to replace the train service. A connector service is "At least every 30 minutes, 7am – 7pm, 7 days a week. Generally 20 minutes at peak. Lower frequencies early morning and evenings." • For more details on the proposed new network, visit www.at.govt.nz 	
2.6	Advocate to maintain capability of Swanson/Waitākere rail line for potential future reinstatement of service	Led by Local Board	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong support (88% of 33 respondents) • Priority: High (2/5) • Advocacy to Auckland Transport 	
2.7	Investigate options for a community-based transport, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A shuttle service for residents and visitors between Bethells Beach and Swanson station • Use of school buses by residents for transport between Te Henga (Bethells Beach) and Waitākere or Swanson in morning and afternoon 	Led by the community with support from Local Board	1 to 3 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nearly everyone supports (92% of 26 respondents) • Priority: Medium (2.6/5) • Requires a business case before a community-based scheme is considered by AT for funding support • Community may need funding support to prepare a business case, may be considered by the Local Board as part of the Annual Plan process or community grant. • Further consultation with families and whanau of children using the school bus would be required to gauge support for the school bus option • Advocacy to Ministry of Education and AT would be required 	
3. A community with tools to communicate and network effectively across the area and engage with its youth and children					
3.1	<p><u>Provide advice and support if and as required to strengthen leadership skills and capacity of local residents engaged in community led action.</u></p> <p>Foster a thriving community by strengthening leadership, skills and capacity; enabling resident and community led action.</p>	Led by the community, with support from Community Development and Safety unit of AC if required	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some support (76% of 25 respondents) • Priority: Medium (3/5) • Capacity building, community grants if required for projects 	
3.2	Maintain a community website with access to information of relevance to the community.	Led by the community	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nearly everyone supports (96% of 29 respondents) • Priority: Medium (2.5/5) • The community website administrated by local volunteers is in operation since October 2014. Visit www.tehengabethells.co.nz 	

	What could we do?	Who would lead? Who else may be involved?	When could it start? (subject to resources being available)	Notes on community support and priority, means of implementation, resources required	Your comments
3.3	Maintain a community social media site for sharing information, trading goods, discussing local issues.	Led by the community	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong support (83% of 24 respondents) • Priority: Medium (2.5/5) • The Bethells Bongo and Bethells Talking Sticks Facebook pages, administered by local volunteers, are already in operation 	
3.4	Prepare a Community Response Plan for emergency management.	Led by the community, with support from AC Civil Defence	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nearly everyone supports (90% of 30 respondents) • Priority: High (1.9/5) • The preparation of a Community Response Plan started in August 2014, led by local volunteers. 	
4. The community and iwi nurture good relationships and cooperate to exercise kaitiakitanga and stewardship of the area					
4.1	Use Community Day, local events and local projects as opportunities to strengthen relationships between the community and iwi.	Led by the community and iwi	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong support (84% of 32 respondents) • Priority: Medium (2.1/5) • Facilitated and supported by AC as required 	
5. Well-informed and involved community that works productively with the council					
5.1	Assess progress in the implementation of the LAP on a regular basis.	Led by the Local Board, in collaboration with the community	1 to 3 years and beyond	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nearly everyone supports (93% of 30 respondents) • Priority: Medium (2.8/5) • Currently implemented through an annual progress report to the Local Board on LAP implementation and 5-yearly monitoring report of the Waitākere Ranges Heritage Area (for which baseline data is collected) • Requires good communication between Auckland Council, the community and iwi • Could include a community-led assessment 	-
5.2	Keep the community website up to date with <u>relevant</u> information from Auckland Council, Auckland Transport, Watercare and Auckland Tourism, Events and Economic Development.	Led by the community, in collaboration with AC, AT, ATEED and Watercare	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Everyone supports (100% of 29 respondents) • Priority: Medium (2.6/5) • Requires good communication between Auckland Council and its CCOs, and the community website administrators 	
5.3	Investigate opportunities for increased <u>Continue and enhance</u> collaboration with and support to Waitākere Primary School <u>for programmes that promote sustainability and stewardship</u> , (e.g. Enviro-school programme, Trees for Survival programme), or water safety (e.g. upgrades of the school pool)	Led by the community, with support from Environmental Services Unit of AC, Waicare, Ecomatters	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong support (85% of 27 respondents) • Priority: Medium (2.3/5) • Some programmes are already in place: Trees for Survival, Enviro-school programmes • Learning Through Experience programme at Arataki Visitor Centre and Cascade Kauri • The Facility Partnership Fund provides financial support to schools and not-for-profit organisations undertaking asset development work, or a feasibility study for a facility. 	

Note:

The following action has been removed:

Former 2.3: “Advocate for improved park and ride facilities at Swanson Station”. The park and ride is under construction, expected to be completed by March 2015.

Roads and Walkways - Our goals for the area

	What could we do?	Who would lead? Who else may be involved?	When could it start? (subject to resources being available)	Notes on community support and priority, means of implementation, resources required	Your comments
1. Our winding and narrow rural roads become safer for vehicles, pedestrian, cyclists and horse riders					
1.1	Parking at Lake Wainamu and Bethells Beach along Bethells Road is managed so that safe vehicle and pedestrian access is maintained at all times. <i>See related proposed action #6.1 in the Visitor Management and Parks section.</i>	Led by AT, Local and Sports Parks unit (Summer Ranger), Fire Brigade	Trial and monitoring this summer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong support (88%) High priority (average score 1.7/5) Trial and assess no-parking lines and temporary traffic management measures in Summer period of 2014/15 No-parking lines in place in December 2014 To report parking infringements, call AT on 355 3553 	
1.2	Undertake a safety assessment and report to the community on possible improvements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> intersections of Bethells Road with its side roads: investigate ways to improve sightlines, reduce speed and/or raise awareness along Bethells Road chevron signs at Miti Point: visual impact on some people (blinding) at night Waiti Bridge (should the giveaway sign be moved to the other side of the bridge?) Sight distances when approaching the bridges near Pae-o-te-rangi double yellow lines (changes required in some portions) <u>crossing of Bethells Road at Mosquito Lane</u> <u>portions of Bethells Rd near the wetland and of Tasman View Road where subsidence is creating a safety issue</u> 	Led by Auckland Transport	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nearly everyone supports (97%) High priority Request for investigation to AT through the Local Board Intersections which have been identified as presenting safety problems along Bethells Road include: Te Aute Ridge Road (East and West), Long Rd, Falls Rd, Erangi Place and Tasman View Road 	-
1.3	Signs (designed by local residents) placed along the road to acknowledge other road users: pedestrians, horses and cyclists.	Led by the community, in collaboration with Auckland Transport	3-10 years, earlier if led by the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some support (75%) Medium Priority (2.1/5) The 'Free range children' surf board sign is a good example Minimise the number of signs, only if considered necessary and designed to fit in with the area and contribute to its character 	-
1.4	Advocate a reduced speed limit for the whole length of Te Henga Rd and Bethells Rd (70km/h?)	Led by the community	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some support (79%) High Priority (1.8/5) Underway, advocacy to NZTA and Auckland Transport 	
1.5	Retain vegetation on the sides of the road to create a sense of enclosure and narrowness and promote low speeds	Auckland Transport and community	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some support (70%) Medium priority (2.1/5) Vegetation is cut or trimmed back if it presents a hazard to vehicles (including buses and trucks), or phone and electricity utilities The new Auckland Transport Code of Practice is currently being prepared. 	
1.6	Investigate improvements required on Te Henga Road and Bethells Road to create walkable berms on the roadside As a priority, form a walkable berm between Mosquito Lane and Waiti Bridge	Led by the community with technical support from AT	Could start this year if led by the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Everyone supports (100%) High priority (2/5) Continue consultation on ways of implement this action and appropriate design Need to ensure these berms are not be used for parking May be implemented through community working bees, funding support through AT, Local Board Transport fund or other sources of community grants 	

	What could we do?	Who would lead? Who else may be involved?	When could it start? (subject to resources being available)	Notes on community support and priority, means of implementation, resources required	Your comments
2. We are cautious about providing new infrastructure and will collaborate to find other solutions where possible. New infrastructure will be designed in harmony with this wild and remote environment					
2.1	Undertake community engagement whenever new roading infrastructure or change to services is planned.	Led by Auckland Transport and the Local Board	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Everyone supports (100%) • Medium priority • Influence Auckland Transport's community engagement plans for projects 	
3. Off-road tracks create connections across the area					
3.1	<p>Investigate opportunities for off-road walkway connections in the valley, <u>taking into particular consideration impacts on vegetation and wildlife, and through consultation with local land owners.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • from Waiti Bridge to the beach along an unformed paper road and the old Bethells Rd track • from Te Aute Ridge to the beach • <u>along parts of</u> the Waitākere River/Te Henga wetland (possibly linked with the route of the old steam hauler/tramline), 	Investigation led by the community, with technical support from AC	<p>Investigation into a connection between Waiti Bridge and the beach could start in 1-3 years, or earlier if led by the community</p> <p>Other walkways unlikely to be funded by AC within next Long Term Plan period (10 years).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong support (81%), particularly for the connection from Waiti Bridge to the beach • High priority (1.9/5) particularly for the connection from Waiti Bridge to the beach • Other off-road walkways could be considered as future priorities where there is no feasible option for walkable berms along Bethells Road • Potential impacts on wildlife in the wetland would need to be investigated for any proposal for a walkway on the edge of the wetland • Engagement with and support from affected land owners would be required • May be implemented through working bees, funding support through Annual Plan, incentives to land owners 	

Ecology and Ecosystems - Our goals for the area

	What could we do?	Who would lead? Who else may be involved?	When could it start? (subject to resources being available)	Notes on community support and priority, means of implementation, resources required	Your comments
1. The biodiversity of the area is enhanced. Its different ecosystems (forests, farmland, river, streams, lake, wetland, dunes and beach), linked by ecological corridors, provide a sanctuary for endangered and rare native wild life.					
1.1	<p>Increase community knowledge of the ecological values of the area, and of tools for ecological management on private land</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> raise awareness of rare and endangered species, environmental weeds, animal pests <u>and kauri die-back disease</u>. provide information on best practice (through community and other websites, workshops, Council and local resource people, Waitākere Primary School) 	Led by skilled local people involved in restoration and agri-ecological practices and AC	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nearly everyone supports (97% of 31 respondents) High priority (average score 1.7/5) Some activities may require funding through Annual Plan process, Environmental Initiatives Fund or community grants Community website is a good vehicle for information Also include information on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> species: little blue penguins, Maui's dolphins, eels, seabird nesting colonies and reintroduced species such as pateke water quality in the lagoon, river and lakes and ways to minimise pollution from identified sources Ark in the Park and other local ecological restoration initiatives Link to advocacy work of the Kauri Die-back Coordinator for the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area 	
1.2	<p>Continue practical work by landowners and community groups, Council and other agencies, aimed at increasing the viability of existing habitats by increasing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> their safety (e.g. from predation), their health and resilience (e.g. improving habitat structure) their connectivity (e.g. through extending or linking through ecological corridors) 	Led by land owners, community groups, AC, AT, Watercare, DoC	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nearly everyone supports (97% of 29 respondents) High priority (Average score 1.6/5) Advocacy and/or funding of the Local Board to monitor, maintain or improve operational work by AC, Watercare and AT in the area 	
1.3	<p>Continue to support the initiatives of land owners and community groups (such as Waitākere Rivercare, Bethells Beach Care, Habitat Te Henga, Ark in the Park) that enhance the ecology of the area.</p>	Led by AC and other support agencies	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Everyone supports (100% of 31 respondents) High priority (average score 1.7/5) Implemented through grants, technical advice, material support and facilitation support Advocacy and/or funding of the Local Board to maintain or enhance programmes that promote and support stewardship of the area 	
1.4	<p>Plan and coordinate restoration activities in the catchment to make them more effective.</p>	Led by community groups or AC	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong support (89% of 27 respondents) Medium priority (Average score 2.4/5) Website and facebook are a good medium for informing people on activities and progress Organise a six-monthly or annual meeting of community groups, land owners, land-based businesses, Auckland Council and CCO's to assess the progress made, discuss problems and coordinate future work. This can start this year as part of the LAP process Connect to the Waitākere Ranges Conservation Network. 	
1.5	<p>Organise an annual symposium on the ecology of the area to exchange information on current research, monitoring and best practice.</p>	Led by community or AC in collaboration with residents, land-based businesses, community groups, universities	First event could be in 1-3 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nearly everyone supports (92% of 27 respondents) Medium priority (Average score 2.7/5) This symposium would bring together the community, Auckland Council, university researchers, Department of Conservation and other organisations. Explore ways to organise: either a symposium focused on Te Henga, or as part of a wider Waitākere Ranges Heritage Area symposium (first one planned in 2015) May require resourcing through Annual Plan process (venue and facilitation) Link to Waitākere Ranges Conservation Network Website is a good way to spread information, scientific papers, etc about the area 	

	What could we do?	Who would lead? Who else may be involved?	When could it start? (subject to resources being available)	Notes on community support and priority, means of implementation, resources required	Your comments
1.6	Promote land owners, land-based businesses and community groups monitoring of the ecology of the area	Led by community	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nearly everyone supports (96% of 27 responses) • Medium priority (average score 2.5/5) • Monitoring work is already being undertaken by land owners and volunteers, for example in the Ark in the Park buffer zone, Habitat Te Henga trap lines, Steam Hauler Track and Forest Ridge Rd areas and in the sand dunes at Te Henga (Bethells Beach). • Opportunity to involve Waitākere Primary School in water quality monitoring through Waicare and programme • Ecological restoration activities can be recorded through Nature Space website. Visit www.naturespace.org.nz • Observations of species can be recorded through Nature Watch website. Visit www.naturewatch.org.nz • Identify and manage the spread Kauri die-back disease. Visit www.kauridieback.co.nz for information • Communicate results of monitoring by landowners and community groups and the Council to the rest of the community. 	
2. Local farms, orchards and food producing businesses continue to contribute to the rich ecological systems and functional landscapes of the area.					
2.1	Promote the sustainable management of the land and landscape in a way that enhances its food-producing and life-sustaining capacity, and also its contribution to people's wellbeing and creativity <i>See also related proposed action #1.2 in Community and Economic Development</i>	Led by land owners and land-based businesses, in collaboration with AC and other partners	Could start in 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Everyone supports (100% of 29 responses) • Medium priority (Average score 2.7/5) • Develop a guide for sustainable land management, which takes into account the characteristics of the area, gives examples of best practice and links people with skills and knowledge across the area. • The community website could be a good vehicle for information. 	
2.2	Encourage and support land owners undertaking land management practices that protect or enhance the ecology of the area.	Led by land owners with support/incentives from AC	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Everyone supports (100% of 28 people) • Medium priority (Average score 2.6/5) • Some support is already available: Environmental Initiatives Fund, support for fencing of waterways, covenants, technical advice, traps and baits in some areas, Sustainable Neighbourhood programme, weed bin • A policy which may provide alternative incentive tools is currently being developed by Auckland Council 	
