

What do you want, Waihi Beach?

A Community Board Discussion.

The next 10 years and beyond



Information for this community response was collected from three sources: Waihi Beach Information Facebook discussions, emails from respondents, and the "What Do You Want Waihi Beach" exercise facilitated by the Waihi Beach Community Board on 8 July. There were signs in the village and posters in places where public and holiday makers gather, and promotion in the Waihi Beach RSA newsletters.

The information was collated under three parts:

A) Parks and Reserves

B) Cycleways and Walking Tracks

C) A-Z – integrating all other relevant areas of feedback.

This is what you (the respondents) have said. Under each heading the Board has expressed in bold font what they understand as key threads. All comments and post-it notes have been transcribed as written by the respondent.

Have we got it right? Contact Community Board members if we haven't.

Part A Parks and Reserves

ANZAC Bay

Many valid suggestions were offered. Due to the historic nature of this area, consultation is required between Iwi and Heritage New Zealand before any projects are initiated. The Board is seeking more information as to what specific consultation is needed.

- Seating in front of bollards. At present nowhere to sit except in shade under trees.
- Connect ANZAC Bay toilets to Council sewer.
- Memorial for the Wars. Use the area to Honour the Fallen.

- Remove all freedom camping in ANZAC Bay. More picnic tables in ANZAC Bay in is such a beautiful spot and does not need freedom camping.

Broadlands

We hear that the majority of residents/ratepayers want progress on the enhancement of this area. As well as progressing with a golf facility of some type you have also stated that you would like to see it as an area for all, including our four legged friends, to enjoy. Naturally any development needs to consider flood water management and urban wetland restoration.

- Is golf course on wetlands still on the cards? Could work in with Waihi Golf Club.
- Golf course, super golf, something for families to do.
- Upgrade path through Broadlands still low parts underwater.
- Build a similar walkway to New Plymouth around park, connecting to the shops, community centre.
- Development of Broadlands Block – chip n putt, fishing ponds for children, is improved with being mown & track but continue.
- Planning and contouring of Broadlands Block to mitigate flood events and protect inundation of Two Mile Creek.
- Plantings, walkway improved, picnic tables, bench seats.
- Mobility scooter pathway and walkway upgrade.
- Wetland upgrade and protection needed for native flora and fauna.
- Create a native wetland area on Broadlands block. Plant native 'wetland' plantings to enhance this area. Ensure no commercial development is allowed in this reserve area. This is a natural wetland and should remain as this for all the community to enjoy. At the moment it is just weeds, non-native grasses. It would be a really amazing area for people to walk and enjoy Great for the -/Primary school nearby, elderly people-everyone. Would be able to be planted by volunteers. And there are many that would do this. Beautify Waihi Beach.
- The walkway behind the pub gets flooded when it is wet... needs to be built up higher.
- Eradicate the purple/blue flowered nasty vine that grows off the back corner of Broadlands Block strangling everything growing in our back yards. This also grows just up from the roundabout before beach contractors.
- Council attempted to get rid of it several years ago when I complained but it needs to be sorted at least biannually to keep it at bay.
- The walkway behind the pub gets flooded when it is wet. Needs to be built up higher.
- Properly maintain the walking park around the Broadlands so you don't have to deal with flood zones across it 95% of the year.
- Fill the space behind the pub with native plantings. This is an excellent site for a natural water filtration system as it's at the bottom of the catchment and is already doing this naturally but some additional plantings & planning etc. would help. And a walkway through there which is NOT in the lowest laying area (as it is currently).
- Do something with the area behind the pub. Plant in trees and put in a nice walkway that is high enough to not be too wet to walk on. Waiaatarua Reserve in Auckland would be a good example. This is a NZ's biggest urban wetland restoration project –

it is a water treatment system. Also this area would be a good area for dog walkers when they can't use the beach.

- A board walk over the dips on the path behind the pub (what a waste of money when they recently regraded it - still gets muddy).

Playgrounds

You would like to see improvement, extensions and upgrades to existing playgrounds to provide for all ages. In some areas you ask for new playgrounds.

- Children's playgrounds fenced in order to keep dogs out and safe for children.
- Not too many playgrounds – beach is a huge playground.
- Playground in Island View.
- Another age appropriate park for our children. Or upgrade existing ones we have.
- Some simple upgrades to the playground at Brighton Park would be fabulous. Or adding to the swings in Seaforth Road Reserve, or a whole new playground in Island View Reserve
- Another playground at Seaforth Road would be good – and planting all that grassed area in tussocks and natural dune plants to save the cost of mowing that huge areas that no one ever sees.
- New playground in area beside the Bowentown Beach Holiday Park partnered between Council and the Holiday Park.
- Outdoor Gym fitness playground.
- Outdoor gym equipment at Brighton Park Reserve.
- A dedicated building for the fabulous Waihi Beach Gymnastics!!!
- There is a Council owned section of land up for sale on the corner of Edinburgh and Dillon street. I would like to see that taken off the market and the Council turn it into a small recreation area instead of it going into more housing development. The less developed the better, but a few picnic table type items and some appropriate native trees around the outside, so that it can technically be considered a park or recreation area under Council, would be good. Waihi Beach is losing grass space fast and it would be nice to keep some plain grass space for people to lay on and kids to play on etc. not to overdevelop it.

Pohutukawa Park and Soundshell

You are asking that Soundshell be upgraded. This means there is a strong public call to keep and upgrade the existing toilet facilities in the park. Waihi Beach Events and Promotions (the guardians of the Soundshell) have taken on board the feedback and are continuing a consultative process with you.

Some information was gathered from a Facebook discussion and some from the "What Do You want Waihi Beach?" exercise. Respondents were a collection of younger and older residents indicating across-the board demographical spread.

Q: THE SOUNDSHELL: We have been asked to make some decisions about the Soundshell (Pohutukawa Park). We would appreciate your feedback: Tidy up and keep, upgrade, remove, something else? Your thoughts most appreciated!

- It's such an awesome place for community events so would be amazing if we are able to tidy it up, upgrade it or replace it with a new building.

- I remember having some really good times there. We need to do some more concerts etc. My thoughts are the same as [name].
- Upgrade, tidy up and definitely keep, we have already lost too many area icons .
- Working bee maybe?
- Great idea.
- Upgrade it to an actual shell shaped sound shell or a giant wave would be kinda cool.
- Must keep sound she'll lots good times there for generations.
- Keep it and upgrade it then have a huge concert of previous artist play there.
- Didn't even know it was there.
- Keep and upgrade.
- Keep it and use it.
- Keep & upgrade. 👍
- Please keep & upgrade. ❤️
- Keep upgrade great venue.
- Like the idea of preservation. Maybe a cute retro 50s paint job? Anything you can do to lighten the interior without changing the roofline, might make it easier to see performer, unless you had lighting. Beautiful location-one in a million.
- Keep it! It/s an awesome place. Just love it up there.
- This is fab, keep it coming .
- Gotta keep it! So many amazing memories made there! Upgrade and hold more events there.
- Keep it!!!
- Please keep it and have more summer action there. Wonderful spot on a summer evening. More please.
- Keep it / upgrade it. Let's get some good concerts going there again. Anyone else remember the great concerts there years ago? Great nights raising funds for various organisations – and always an ice-cream at Kingsfords Store on the way home, along with hundreds of other people!
- Upgrade!
- Would love to see it upgraded and being used again. I remember going there as a kid to concerts, talent quests and the Miss Waihi Beach and it was magical!
- Keep it...if it needs a clean Beach Time Property Care and House Washing is happy to donate the cleaning of it. 😊👍
- That's really good of you. I think it's too easy to say upgrade...including me but where does the money come from? Super to see someone with practical help.
- Thanks for that....we believe that as the fantastic community that we are there must be a lot of talent, donations and time that can be given to assist with keeping and upgrading the sound shell.
- Upgrade and make bigger.
- Gotta keep it, it's a bit of history and can't be replaced, many memories.
- Forget it. Sadly nobody wants to go anywhere without alcohol these days and we have a liquor ban at the beach.
- Well when the Christmas concerts were on people were with their bottles of wine!!
- Keep and upgrade.
- Keep and restore so more events can be held there. Perhaps local Brigid from Heritage Rescue could help with restoration and renewal ideas.
- Keep and upgrade as it is a great venue for community shows, concerts etc.

- And the view is pretty spectacular.
- If we keep it, it will need to be utilised more as upgrades might mean costs to ratepayers instead of upgrading other facilities.
- Tidy up and keep. The area holds so many fond memories to many, let's continue to make more.
- Keep it and use it.
- Fence off park, upgrade and put bands up there.
- Napier's Soundshell was going to be demolished some years ago but still is in existence. The first gold winning roller skater learnt everything here (<https://www.teara.govt.nz/.../champion-figure-skater...>) so I suspect there are loads of memories and magic at Waihi Beach! Perhaps we should build on this rather than neglecting something! We organised every year an opera in the park which was a free event and alcohol free – it became so big the likes of Lesley Garrett and Dame Kiri attended (ok 20 years in but still cool) Think big and save the Soundshell. It's not hard with a small great idea .
- Keep and do up.
- I'll MC again if you want Des.
- Upgrade and USE more.
- Keep upgrade and actually use it yay!!
- The Soundshell is the epitome of family friendly Waihi Beach, such a lovely feel to it, it would be great to do it up and utilise it more.
- Absolutely KEEP IT. Too much history to let it go.
- Upgrade, monument to music and theatre in western bop, iconic place for this....complement to pubs reputation for music...waihi music and theatre icon.
- Retain some unique history, some things are priceless. Definitely do it up and use it for more local events.
- Keep the history and give it a future.
- Upgrade! Locals are vibrant and creative bunch up for all challenges.
- Yes please (that's to upgrade).
- Upgrade Chris Mchardy great musician to open cut the riband.
- Upgrade (15x mentions) – ranging from upgrade definitely, upgrade and keep, upgrade and use it more.
- Keep and upgrade I done one of my first talent quests there.
- Definitely keep and paint and have more events.
- It's the best location in the Bay. It has a wonderful history. It must be saved. Let's upgrade.
- I agree.
- Keep, upgrade and utilise more! Wonderful memories.
- Tidy up and keep. The Soundshell is history and a big part of Beach culture. Has been there for many generations. Keep the fond memories going.
- A decent overhaul is needed, not just a facelift. Redesign to enhance acoustics and accommodate performers as well improved amenities for the audience. And then of course ensure it gets plenty of ongoing use and doesn't just gather dust for 11.5 months of the year.
- Tidy up and keep. Do we have an estimate on costs to upgrade?
- *[Name]* you are the first one to mention cost.
- Depending on what kind of upgrade. A tidy up will be a lot. big overhaul will be heaps.

- Do some fundraising.
- Student volunteer army project?
- That would work well to be part of the tidy up with our class, possible with the another class *[name]?*
- Keep upgrade use.
- Keep it, it's iconic, a breath of the old New Zealand. Upgrade the stage area, but keep the seating informal. Love the soundshell. I agree, it should be used more.
- Before you decided what to do with it maybe you should consider future opportunities for its use on a regular basis. If this can be done then look to see if a clean-up or u grade fits the bill. Keep it on memories with no future plan for use, means it will just go to waste
- Maybe they should upgrade it and use it more in summer bands etc.
- Na, too small now. Time to upgrade somewhere else, so we can have bigger events. I love my holidays at Waihi Beach, and more and more people have discovered our little secret.
- Has a builder looked at it to see if it is able to be upgraded? Another question – If and when you ask for quotes to upgrade it someone has to decide if the cost of the upgrade is worth it and will the community get value for money, Also, how often will it be used? Just a few questions to ponder?
- Definitely. Cost will probably be more than we could guess! The one in Kati was over \$100k. No roof, walls either!
- I expect it will cost less than a rock wall and benefit a lot more of the community.
- Totally agree!
- Absolutely agree!!
- Cool outdoor community venue, upgrade!
- Upgrade for sure. This spot has awesome potential for future community events.
- Upgrade and keep for sure just don't knock it down.
- Just a wee thought. This could be an ongoing Inquiry Unit for the Senior classes at Beach School and bring the Children into some form of ownership.
- We'd be keen to look at it - who would we contact?
- Will try and find out.
- Give me a call ladies and I'll try to answer your questions.
- Far far too much history and memories for many of us who have been regular and loyal to the community for years.
- Angle the sides out, angle the roof up, make both these alterations have clear 'cladding', increasing the stage and bringing audience and performers together for minimal cost, get a local Iwi to dress it up and - bada bing, everyone is included.
- Awesome idea exactly.
- Definitely keep it. It's part of history.
- It has to stay but if you don't use it you lose it!!
- We should have our own Waihitian Twilight concerts there. Would be amazing.
- Definitely keep it. It's an icon of Waihi Beach. We used to have some awesome concerts there. Upgrade and keep.
- Please don't remove! It's an iconic part of the Waihi Beach I know and love.
- Well that was easy. Will brb with more info. I hope you guys can eat a lot of sausies bcos we are going to need to fundraise!
- Bring back Annie Crummer and more, those were the days.
- Upgrade and bring back it's in the Bag and a summer talent quest.

- I think it could real asset to the beach if it was upgraded in a way that could be a unique music / theatrical experience! How many people do you think the 'venue' could hold [Kali Moz](#). Thinking like a smaller version of Bowl of Brooklands in Taranaki and events like 'a day on the green' where buses come from Auck / Ham for unique music / show experiences. Even foodtrucks etc. Could be all part of the contemporary charm of the events at soundshell! Some might not like the idea, but I reckon you'd be able to secure funding to help with the upgrade through the corporate sector x.
- I'd say it could hold under 500pax easily. Over that might be tricky. These venues also have a use restriction of 6 times per year. Which means it's unlikely we can make it pay for itself in a reasonable amount of time.
- I wonder if dispensation can be given through neighbour support for increased use? 6x events really doesn't justify a big spend.
- Upgrade and continue to use. Holds too many special long time memories. The sound shell WAS Waihi Beach, long before Wilson Rd and the pub etc. Can we attract some concerts back there?!
- Doing nothing for the moment is the best solution Let it be until we get organised as a community.
- After looking at the site today it has limited potential e.g. not enough parking for crowds –what about relocating to Island View.
- Yes, this is an issue. I think it's perfect for smaller crowds i.e. 500pax. There's also the esplanade car parking which is usually utilised. It just means events have to be tailored for the site.
- Not many NZ venues have enough parking anyways, I reckon let's just focus on getting some gigs for Pohutakawa sorted then maybe put that money into more shelter at the park.
- Well how did we all get on years ago when the Soundshell was running? I don't remember there ever being parking issues. You just parked on the streets where you could find a park and then walk if you had to.
- We need to put all decisions on hold for a year and come up with a plan.

Part 2 Post-it responses 8 July

- Keep the Soundshell. You don't know what you've got till it's gone.
- Beautiful setting Totally under-utilised. Not user friendly. Upgrade for concert venue, etc.
- Keep existing building and renovate. Improve and shape terracing. Fix stormwater pipes.
- More events at the Soundshell. Movie theatre.
- Retain Waihi Beach and history – upgrade and bk.
- Upgrade Soundshell and use it as a base for events and starting point for walks – with info.
- Soundshell needs renovation.
- Retain the toilets in Pohutukawa Park and the Soundshell.
- Leave public toilets. Perhaps a petanque rink behind tennis pavillon. Take Soundshell away and replace new one in Wilson Park utilising terrace bank for audiences.
- Retain present Soundshell and toilets and encourage more family events there.
- Upgrading of Soundshell. More events on Reserves.

- Upgrading of Pohutukawa Park as a base for information on walks as well as entertainment.
- Please keep toilet block in PP Very convenient for park and tennis court users.

Skate Park behind Waihi Beach Community Hall

Our younger people and families are asking for extensive upgrades of this very popular and well used facility.

- "Skatepark would be chur and not just an extension. A touch up on the old concrete would be great as its declining condition is proving to be causing a fair few injuries.
- Couldn't agree more.
- That skate park has been there 11 years.
- Yeah bro that was part of the plan....mellow out the pyramid, repour over all the upper level half pipes with new coping, knock out the double stairs and put a spine at the top so all the lower level is transitioned and the upper level so allows for transfers from upper to lower over the spine, etc,
- Closer to 20 years, I think mid 90s, so well due for an update...plus original construction was piss poor to begin with.
- Trees, benches, toilet, drinking fountain,
- Definitely need skate park developed. Better, bigger, more room for growing number of scooters and skaters,
- Shade and toilets at Skate Park This is well used,
- Toilets by Skate Park and shade seats or tree planting,
- Skate and bicycle area,
- Toilets by Skate Park please. Please. Children have no facilities at present.
- Better skate park. Locally designed.
- Skate park (4 mentions)
- Skate parks needs to be extended. Not enough room to fit all the kids that are using it.

Signage

You have asked for improved signage around Waihi Beach in general.

- People counter for walking tracks.
- More signage – at the walks, historical info, no dogs.
- Better signage on walks.
- Signs at every entrance way to the beach.
- Clearly define walkways through to beach e.g. loop from Seaforth Road and from Ian Place
- **Display boards**, inc old photos of what the North End used to look like 30.50.75 years ago...i.e. to promote a historical perspective of Waihi Beach.

Wilson Park

Numerous people commented on Wilson Park. The Community Board hears that it needs to be developed for the use of all people. This includes sporting facilities and upgrading the toilets.

- Village green, toilets Soundshell.

- Put aside northern half of flat and all hill. Good pasture grasses. This should bring in \$1500/year in rent plus save extra mowing costs (Council staff have no revegerend skills in maintaining this park).
- Any development of Wilson park should be left until Council's finances are in better shape.
- To be developed – cricket pitch, outdoor gym for all, Concert venue, more toilets.
- Cricket pitch, kids playground, village green.
- Keep Wilson park as a flat sports area with a natural grandstand (not development).
- Council to help community garden /orchard to be developed into a "Food Forest" for all to enjoy and partake of.
- Upgrade toilets in Wilson Park.

Other comments you made

- I support leaving the area between Broadway and Pio Shores in its rustic state with gorse control.
- Don't touch Island Review Reserve. Great as it is exceptionally well maintained 10/10.
- To take kids fishing off Shelly Bay, or Pios, or Taupiro Take a kid fishing.
- Extend the dam to the west where Waihi Stream enters it. It may be possible to create a bund. The cleared base material could be used to strengthen the bank.

Part B Cycleways and Walking Tracks

You are telling us that you support our walking tracks and cycleways. We hear that we need to protect the environment when this project is undertaken.

- Better signage on walks (in signage bag).
- More cycle ways, walkways, as many as possible (2 mentions).
- Join them up so not on too many roads.
- Bicycle track complete from Waihi to Waihi Beach.
- Cycle ways along our beautiful beach.
- Signs notifying distance/grade of difficulty.
- The side of Beach Road up the hill is terrible for cyclists please get them to tidy the road sides to make it safer.
- Long term plan for provisions for a cycle bridge over Three Mile Creek.
- How steep is the cycle way down from Waihi town to Waihi beach? Will the incline be too steep for cyclists to do the return trip back to Waihi Town?
- Cycle ways /walkways to have distance markers at beginning and as cycle way proceeds...
- Clearly define walkways through the beach e.g. loop from Seaforth Road and from Ian Place
- Pedestrian and cycle link from Emerton Road to Kotunui Drive.
- Have separate cycle ways/walking lanes on shared tracks Have seen this done well elsewhere.
- Cycle ways/walkways separation where possible.
- No cycle tracks on sand dunes (4 mentions).
- Definitely no boardwalks or cycle trails on fragile planted unstable sand dunes.

- Definitely no cycle way or board walk on the crest of the dune or Brighton Park. Where did this idea come from?
- The proposed cycleway way on Bowentown will cause erosion and danger for the walkers.
- The proposed cycle trail can't go on Pios dune walkway will cause erosion locals want walking there not cycleway.
- Extend inner harbor cycle trial through Bowentown Park then over to Tatei Road and roundabout.
- Horses on cycleway along estuary is dangerous.
- Keep horses off our bike tracks.
- Horses on Bowentown cycleway from Waiiti Road are a danger to cyclists.
- Re length of beach cycleway (Council should stick to the locals draft they were supplied with not change it).
- Connect WB to Athenree cycle/walking.
- Cycle way Athenree to Waihi Beach (2 mentions).
- A walkway/ biking track to Athenree.
- Walkway/cycleway from Athenree to the Beach The road feels unsafe to cycle.
- Walkway /bridge to Athenree and a shop /café please.
- Walkway to Athenree so we can reduce our reliance on our vehicle and can ride/walk to work/ school Athenree is full of permanent residents and young families so it would be well used.
- Cool – a walk bridge to Athenree. Was thinking of that the other day but it was pie in the sky kinda thing.
- A cycle way from the surf shack across the mangroves up to Athenree heights so all the children in Athenree can cycle to school....please.
- Boardwalks through wetlands at Athenree.
- Definitely walk/cycle way to Athenree.

Part Three A – Z

Communications

The Community Board hears that communication is not reaching everyone.

- Council website is good but this meeting is not there. Can we please have a regular update on it?
- More communication form WBOPDC. Only notice of today's meeting was through note in the Waihi Leader.
- Help form a group at Waihi Beach to liaise with the people.
- Communication with the community – poor public notice of this community LTP meeting – went into website WBODC could not find it anywhere! Surely there could have been a link between face book page. Found it on Waihi Beach noticeboard. Key matters affecting Waihi Beach Community should be communicated better – I know there is much apathy but these are people who are interested in its development which has been proposed for our reserve areas. Consultation is poor.

Culture

You would like to see a wider display of arts of cultural significance.

- An overall streetscape plan for the area to include murals seats historic info, sculptures, playgrounds rubbish, outdoor gym Bins.
- The beautified toilet blocks help immensely our village and beach.
- Encourage street art and statutory.

DOC

You would like a stronger relationship between DOC and Community Board/ Council for maintaining and improving DOC facilities

- Better vehicle access to Athenree Wetlands. It is boggy and road parking is very limited.
- Mow around Athenree Wetlands more frequently.
- Bird Sanctuary at Wetlands.
- Proper and regular maintenance of the Orakawa walking track.
- Surely DOC and the Council can work together to improve the track and preserve the wildlife.
- I would also like someone to approach DOC about how fast Orokawa is turning into a tourist hot spot. The numbers of tourists to the bay has exploded in the last few years and it needs to be better monitored. It is dirty now but was pristine ten years ago. Tourists camp frequently on the beach leaving rubbish and I have encountered human and dog excrement on the track. Huge numbers of people don't follow signage guidelines and take their dogs on the track. There is a sign saying No dogs and No camping. I have personally approached DOC but I think a member of Council needs to make sure things are happening.
- Better vehicle access to Athenree Wetlands It is boggy and road parking is very limited.
- Mow around Athenree Wetlands more frequently.
- Bird Sanctuary at Wetlands.

Dogs

Adherence to dog regulations is a big issue.

- Need to bring back a dog warden that spends a greater % walking the beat than sitting in the car (bring back Mike).
- Doggy doo bag posts. Some sort of mesh type bin to put in all the small bags from shopping to use for doggy doo pickups.
- Dog bags at the bottom of Oceanview, Brighton reserves and Surf Club area.
- Bags for dog litter designed rubbish bin (2 mentions).
- Pick up dog litter or instant fine and police it.
- Employ dog warden from Waihi Beach.
- Dogs on beach and roaming streets getting worse. Out of control dogs bad in summer
- A far better system of dog control and enforcement (fines!). After one or two warnings as to allow for first time visitors to the beach, signs at beach entry advising an instant fine and where dogs are not permitted without leashes.
- Last summer Council paid for policing of the beach I walked most mornings and always saw that person in a car- never on the beach- so not much policing on the beach was done. Another example of Council wasting our money.

Economy/Growth

You are asking that residential and business growth be managed carefully. You have also pointed out a rapidly growing area (Athenree) which will need more localised facilities in the near future.

- Inclusive in our local development planning, a cap on development. We need to make some tough decisions and plan sustainably for our future.
- Encourage building of rest home/hospital facilities.
- Retirement village complex (2 mentions).
- Please keep working on the existing stormwater issues.
- We need to focus on what we have at Waihi Beach – family friendly beach destination gives a unique character so preserve the beach and walks and keep it family friendly.
- Why do we need emphasis on growth? Learn from Auckland which has overcrowding, gridlock traffic cramped housing and facilities.
- Do we keep needing growth? Does it reduce our rates? Care needed to not destroy the qualities people come here for.
- Reduce development costs to encourage growth. Assist with new ventures that will benefit the community e.g. movie theatre.
- I've made a previous submission for a community centre at Athenree. A record made that when Athenree population reached say 1,000 the idea would be considered. Only land available alongside tennis courts. Could be more suitable land and be zoned for this. The community centre to be multipurpose.
- Athenree housing population is souring Need facilities.
- Council needs to give more support to businesses that pay rates, like Caravan Parks.
- We need jobs for people. Any chance of manufacturers, large employers setting up in Waihi or surrounds?
- Is there somewhere that could be a business hub like rent a space on a temp basis Wifi and Secretarial services?
- When subdividing the council needs to make the minimum width wide enough to allow parking on both sides of the road. Do we really need a grass berm and a footpath down each side of the street and then have no parking for the houses on the street?

Freedom Camping

We hear that the Freedom Camping bylaws are not meeting the needs of both local residents and campers.

- Also suggest establishment of large freedom camping area midway along. This will spread visitors along the Beach. Also a dump station can be easily connected to existing sewerage pipe.
- Freedom campers should pay for use of dump stations.
- Stop freedom camping at ANZAC Bay.
- Develop more campervan parks with toilets.
- Charge freedom campers.
- Freedom Camping NOT inside 50 kmh areas. Develop an area within Doc Reserve between Albacore Ave and Bowentown – provides good beach access and not under noses of residents. MCVA should contribute to the cost.

- Restrict to one night at any one site.
- Freedom campers need rule to stop freedom campers occupying sites before 9.00 am and require them to leave by 4.00 pm so that times can be more easily policed.
- I would like to see the amount of freedom campers better monitored at all main areas of Waihi beach as well, especially Anzac bay, which I don't even go to anymore because of the amount of camper vans. But all areas of Waihi beach are frequented by freedom campers in camper vans, vans and cars.

Roading

A major concern is parking availability in the village and at the same time a need to review speed restrictions, and road safety.

- Less footpaths, less urbanisation, more care and respect for why people want to live here and not for newbies who want to change it... take time to smell the flowers and put some effort into what we have.
- Onehunga weed spraying on all parks and reserves where no footpaths.
- Carparks in Seaview Road outside tennis courts.
- A pedestrian crossing between the school and the garage.
- Finish kerbing in Edinborough to Shaw Road.
- Finish kerbing in Edwards St to butt up to Ian Place.
- Speed reduced to 30 km through the main shopping area. Speed limit increased to 60 km along Seaforth Road by island view to roundabout in Emerton Road.
- Some lighting in the walkways around the streets maybe.
- Maintain roads especially gutters regularly buildup of silt in gutters contributes to flooding.
- Roadside rubbish ugly from Waihi beach to Waihi.
- Speed reduced to 30 km through the village.
- Welcome to Waihi sign.
- A safety rail on bridge by pub - the footpath is narrow and elevated above the road awaiting someone tumbling into the path of passing vehicle.
- Bridge footpath (on Wilson Road) – wanting a safety rail as many young children and mothers with prams feel unsafe going across as it is (3 mentions).
- Footpath levelling on Seaforth Rd Island View.
- Footpath from RSA to Petrol Station on left hand side and a pedestrian crossing.
- Concrete footpaths in all roads running from Seaforth Road to Island View would be nice. Or spray for the thistles as a minimum.
- A footpath on Shaw Road (2 mentions).
- Footpath between Seaview Road and Pacific Road. People at the moment walk on the road
- Improve the footpaths.
- Big sign 50 on Emerton Road please.
- SLOW Down Traffic coming around Island View roundabout heading out of town People speeding doing 80km instead of 50km.
- Speed humps on Hillview and Queen St corner – it has become a safety issue with children (school) and speed of cars.
- Slow down the traffic from the roundabout past RSA towards Pensioner Flats people speeding through.
- Give Way sign or speed bumps on corner of the Crescent /Farm Road corner. We have a lot of young children in that area now.

- Farm Road /The Crescent intersection. Needs something to slow down traffic at this corner. Suggest give way sign for traffic travelling north on the Crescent.
- Beach Road up the hill is often very messy this is an embarrassment to us residents. Encourage a clean up before the holidays.
- Roadside rubbish ugly from Waihi beach to Waihi.
- Please improve car park at back of the Porch.
- Provide and increase proper car parking behind the Porch.
- Seal car park area behind Wilson Road Shops.
- More parking in the village (3 mentions).
- Develop promised car park behind the Porch to provide parking, drainage protect properties form flooding (i.e. Oho Rei).
- There was a plan submitted for a one -way street system through the village.
- No need for one – way. Encourage walking and bikes.

Public Transport

We are hearing that there is a need for public transport.

- A bus-shelter down from the pub where over the years I've seen many saturated school kids awaiting the bus in the mornings - can't be a fun way to start the school day – cold and wet.
- Public transport from beach to Waihi on a regular basis would be great.
- A more suitable timetable for buses to Tauranga.
- Encourage Intercity and Manabus to travel to Auckland to Tauranaga via Waihi beach (at least in the summer) e.g. Labour Weekend, Easter to end of April Non drivers have no service options (2 mentions).
- Provide minibus for transport to Tauranga and Waihi rather than empty large bus.
- Encourage and support taxi service.
- Electronic update boards on bus arrivals at pick up (like Christchurch systems).
- Transport Service within beach community e.g. shuttle connecting existing services.
- Shuttle service circulating the Waihi Beach area, Athenree and Bowentown connecting up existing services Waihi and Katikati.
- Connect up Waihi Beach to Athenree with shuttle/van transport daily.

Rock wall

You have told us that there are still issues surrounding the rock wall

- The rock wall is an eyesore and does not enhance the look of the beach Focus on natural solutions not walls.
- Council needs to look at long term solution that is 90% funded by beach front owners.

Rubbish

We are hearing that waste management needs serious ongoing discussion. There appears to be an emphasis on recycling as well as improved systems and increasing public rubbish bins.

- More rubbish bins at popular positions.
- A rubbish bin needed in the vicinity of the hotel for all the empty bottles and cans.

- Rubbish bins are few and far between outside the CBD! There need to be a couple around the hotel/ market area for a start. There needs to be a better refuse system than holiday makers having to hang bags on nails or leave them at the kerb until Monday rolls around...and it's the gulls, not dogs who break them open.
- Public place recycling bins – the bins in the village are hodge podge. We can probably get a grant to install compacting waste bins (like Hauraki has) and co-mingled recycling bins.
- Recycle bins.
- Rubbish bins at all beach access points would be great.
- Some way to encourage dog owners to pick up after their dogs. The ocean does Not clean up after dogs.
- Get rid of green plastic bags (Council ones) provide 2x bins per household, small one for rubbish, larger one for recyclables.
- Recycling bins for soft plastics that aren't taken by recycle centre.
- Encourage development of Plastic Free Waihi beach. Boomerang Bags are a great start.
- Recycling at the Beach Needed now. Rubbish Bag drop off point for holiday people.
- Kerbside recycling collected in bins (paper, cardboard, glass, plastic include din rates as in TCDC and Hauraki District Council.
- Recycling please please. We need recycling for glass at holiday times before Christmas till mid- January at Brighton Road, Surfclub and Bowentown.
- Plastic free Waihi beach.
- Recycling to take all plastics.
- Provide a recycling centre near the town.
- Recycling especially during the busy season.
- Council need to take the lead on a policy to reduce plastics and encourage local areas/retailers to implement.
- Kerbside recycling bins needed for householders.
- Can we encourage Beach Clean ups before Labour weekend and holiday times? Including Beach Road. It is terrible going up and coming down the hill at times.
- Roadside rubbish ugly from Waihi beach to Waihi.
- Recycling station needed that is easily accessible especially for visitors Hooks on lampposts for rubbish bags to hang on.
- Disposing of soft plastic-your recycling depot at Athenree very enjoyable to visit-efficient and pleasant.
- Look at Opotiki and Raglan for recycling solutions, and have recycling pods in Wilson Road by carpark Police Station.
- Public place recycling bins-the bins in the village are hodge-podge. We can probably get a grant to install compacting waste bins (like Hauraki has) and co-mingled recycling bins.
- Designed rubbish bins at entrances to beach.
- Please make the rubbish bags more durable Birds spread rubbish.
- Petition signed by 10 that want weekly kerbside collections of recyclables (although later the group said that fortnightly would suffice.)

Social

- More family friendly community events!!
- Annual fair on the reserve end of Kotonui Road?

- Support Waihi Beach Community Events and Promotions.

Two Mile Creek

- Complete stabilisation of Two Mile Creek urgently.

Security

You are suggesting the community needs to take a larger responsibility in ensuring that they and their neighbours are safe and assets secure.

- New Neighbourhood Watch group – there has been so many burglaries, etc, lately that I think we all need to be a lot more vigilant and maybe have "village tree' type system where information can pass through the village via phone in regards to suspicious behaviour. I know we have the night owls but I think we all need to take some responsibility in assuring our town is safe.

Village

You have indicated a desire for the enhancement of our Central Business District as well as improvements for safety.

- A plan was submitted for a one-way system through the village which would slow down traffic and improve the parking problems.
- A pedestrian crossing in the village so cars slow down and our children learn about road safety.
- How about a 30 km/hr speed limit through the Wilson Road shops? Very busy pedestrian and cyclist area with a lot of children and dogs, especially in summer (2 mentions).
- Speed reduction through the shops in Wilson Rd.
- Reduce speed limit through the village to 20 kph.
- An overall streetscape plan for the area to include murals seats historic info, sculptures, playgrounds rubbish, outdoor gym Bins.
- More seating in the village.
- More parking (2 mentions).
- Provide free Wifi for village (2 mentions) (and also near Surf Club).
- Assist with seasonal celebrations e.g. Christmas lights.
- Please encourage all businesses to keep their frontage or footpath or garden tidy and weeded. Embarrassing when they are a mess. We are proud of our village.
- Clean up our footpaths in town.
- Light up the crossing areas.
- And electric charge station in the village at Surf Club and RSA.
- Remove and relocate bike rack on road outside Ava Lee. Not used much and we need the carpark (3 mentions).
- Relocate (not remove) bike stand to a site not on the main road.
- Currently about 600 carparks at the beach only 17 at Wilson Road shops.
- No need for one way. Encourage walking and bikes.
- No high rise buildings in shopping area (shadows across the street).
- NO MORE RETAIL Keep our village a village.
- Council erected a barrier to parking near police station.
- Employ a caretaker for Waihi beach A local person who would be responsible for fixing problems as they arise. A Johnny on the spot.

- Bike park in area behind Porch.

Zoning for future land use

We hear that there is a need to take a review of land zoning to consider these valid suggestions.

- Flat land on Emerton Road opposite Capamagian Road ideal industrial land.
- More commercial zoning near village – Citrus Ave.
- Commercial land needed at Athenree.
- Possum and vermin trapping needed.
- Sort out rat plague from the beach to Bowentown.
- More showers along popular beach accesses.
- Make Waihi Beach area unique by painting all toilets as per north End and Wilson Road.

Some of the suggestions are not of our governance and we have referred them on to the appropriate authorities.

Civil Defence

- The Civil Defence alert was a fizzer – never heard a siren, etc. Neighbours – many I spoke to didn't know about it – the loud hailer for those who heard it was not clear
- Civil defence worked. Received text and heard loud hailer clearly.
- Civil defence worked got the text and heard the warning vehicle.