

AHURIRI REGIONAL PARK JOINT COMMITTEE Open Minutes

Meeting Date: Monday 17 February 2025

Time: 9.30am – 11.15am

Venue Large Exhibition Hall
War Memorial Centre
Marine Parade
Napier

Present: **Chair:** Deputy Mayor Brosnan (NCC)
Councillor Price (NCC)
Councillor Ormsby (HBRC)
Councillor Williams (HBRC)
Peter Eden (MAT)
Joseph Reti (Deputy Chair) (MAT)

In Attendance: **Napier City Council**

- Executive Director City Strategies (Rachael Bailey)
- Strategic Planning Lead (Connie Mills)
- Manager Water Strategy (Phil Kelsen)
- Project Manager (Antony Rewcastle)
- Councillor Browne (alternate) [via Zoom]

Hawke's Bay Regional Council:

- Regional Park Planner (Bart Leslie)
- Team Leader Asset Planner (Johan Kirsten) [via Zoom]

Mana Ahuiriri Trust:

- Environmental Manager (Gareth Boyt)
- Chief Executive (Parris Greening)

Consultants:

- Cameron Drury (Stradegy)
- William Hatton (Boffa Miskell) [via Zoom]
- Greig Wilson (Beca) [via Zoom]
- Gabe Ross (Boffa Miskell) [via Zoom]
- Rebecca Ryder (Boffa Miskell) [via Zoom]

Administration Governance Advisor (Carolyn Hunt)

AHURIRI REGIONAL PARK JOINT COMMITTEE – Open Minutes

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Order of Business	Page No.
Karakia.....	3
Apologies	3
Conflicts of interest.....	3
Public forum.....	3
Nil.....	3
Announcements by the Chairperson.....	3
Announcements by the management	3
Confirmation of minutes	3
Agenda Items	
1. Ahuriri Regional Park - Project Manager's Update	4
2. Concept Design Endorsement	5
Minor matters.....	8

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Karakia

Mr Reti gave the opening karakia for the meeting.

Apologies

Councillor Price / Councillor Ormsby

That the apology for absence from Evelyn Ratima (MAT) be accepted.

Carried

Councillor Tareha was not present at the meeting.

Conflicts of interest

N/A

Public forum

Nil

Announcements by the Chairperson

Nil

Announcements by the management

Nil

Confirmation of minutes

Joseph Reti / Councillor Ormsby

That the Minutes of the Ahuriri Regional Park Joint Committee meeting held on 9 December 2024 were taken as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Carried

AGENDA ITEMS

1. AHURIRI REGIONAL PARK - PROJECT MANAGER'S UPDATE

<i>Type of Report:</i>	Information
<i>Legal Reference:</i>	N/A
<i>Document ID:</i>	1829161
<i>Reporting Officer/s & Unit:</i>	Connie Mills, Strategic Planning Lead

1.1 Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to provide a Project Managers update.

At the meeting

The Project Manager, Mr Drury spoke to the report providing a summary and overview of the progress made over the period December 2024 to January 2025.

He noted that the risk area remained unchanged with the issue of birdstrike at the Hawke's Bay Airport remaining the primary risk. A meeting is to be held with the avifauna specialist on the project this week with the vision to provide a project status update to the Airport's Board in the coming month

The Strategic Planning Lead, Ms Mills advised that rescheduling the second wānanga with Mana Ahuriri Trust (MAT) had not occurred and it was intended that what the Committee endorsed at this meeting would be circulated to MAT for feedback prior to any public feedback.

It was noted that as the project was a collaboration with Napier City Council (NCC), Hawke's Bay Regional Council (HBRC) and MAT, all design aspects were from the results of working together. Briefing the MAT Board to get their feedback and encouraging whanau to go along to the open day on site, walk the land, and see the vision, would assist in getting the message out.

In response to questions the following was clarified:

- The Taiapo Stream had not been included in the draft masterplan as it is not within the scope of the Lagoon Farm Stormwater Diversion Project which is the stormwater treatment design to this Park (being delivered through wetlands).
 - The Taiapo Stream has not been included in the project as it does not form part of the jointly held resource consent for stormwater discharge, there are hydraulic limitations, and the volume of water through the Taiapo Stream is far larger than the combined other urban stormwater drains.
 - Achieving the existing jointly held stormwater discharge consent is being investigated as the design progresses.
 - The Technical Advisory Group team are not involved in the Lagoon Farm Diversion Project, instead received this project's outputs.
-

-
- Mr Kelsen advised that strategic catch-ups with HBRC is held six weekly in regard to all stormwater issues across Napier. Any new information could be included in a routine agenda item.
 - During an emergency event, wastewater that has been directed into the urban stormwater network through the drains incorporated into the Lagoon Farm Stormwater Diversion Project will go through treatment in the wetlands, if capacity is available. The specific volume of the wetlands is to be determined as part of the Lagoon Farm Stormwater Diversion Project, early investigations consider that the “first flush” of stormwater during a severe weather event will be treated through the wetlands.
-

**COMMITTEE
RESOLUTION**

Peter Eden / Councillor Ormsby

The Ahuriri Regional Park Joint Committee:

- a) **Receive** the report titled “Ahuriri Regional Park - Project Manager’s Update” dated 17 February 2025.

ACTION: *Officers to provide a report in relation to the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) on the following:*

- *Current workstreams and their progress;*
- *Avifauna and relationship with Hawke’s Bay Airport*
- *Stormwater treatment project*
- *Fish passage in the park*
- *Include understanding interaction with NCC’s Water Strategy Group to ensure working to the same output.*

Carried

2. CONCEPT DESIGN ENDORSEMENT

Type of Report: Procedural

Legal Reference: N/A

Document ID: 1829162

Reporting Officer/s & Unit: Connie Mills, Strategic Planning Lead

2.1 Purpose of Report

This report seeks endorsement of the Concept Design of the Ahuriri Regional Park Masterplan for public feedback.

At the meeting

The Strategic Planning Lead, Ms Mills spoke to the report and displayed a PowerPoint presentation (Doc Id 1832625) on the Master Plan.

Mr Hatton, Consultant with Boffa Miskell, spoke to the PowerPoint presentation and provided the Committee with a summary of the key elements within the Masterplan

Concept Core Park Programmes that are proposed, being stormwater, water quality, mauri (life spark), ecological excellence, natural environment and significant infrastructure.

A framework had been developed on how to work with the Masterplan with the centre of everything being the concept around mahinga kai (traditional value of natural resources including food etc), which has driven a lot of stakeholder meetings, community, TAG and committee workshops. The primary principles are centred around environmental well-being activation, cultivation and economic prosperity and healthy communities.

A map of the park was displayed to show the extent of the park that would be developed over time. Mr Hatton highlighted and spoke to the core programmes and the potential future programmes for the park. This is the plan package that would be informing the community and seeking feedback to “tell us what you think” and picking up any potential changes that may result. The full design of the whole process will be reported back to the Committee after community feedback.

In response to questions on the Masterplan the following was clarified:

- The wetland facility is a treatment facility before water enters the Estuary and at the current level of information is not showing any notable benefits for retention. There will be some natural retention in the north western area of the park that will operate like a “sponge” as it currently does.
 - Feedback following the site visit with elected members and workshop has been incorporated into this version of the plan.
 - Key changes have been prioritisation of work around the core function of the park and some potential future workstreams that may require partnerships with other organisations.
 - In regard to Item 6, preparation for plantings in the nursery could be commenced earlier rather than later, noting that indigenous plants would be used.
 - On the layout of the park any built form in the north western area had been avoided to enable worst case scenario in heavy rainfall events to enable this space to operate as a “sponge”. However, consideration is given to what is released into the park to ensure that it does not go back up the Puririmu Stream and accidentally flood residential areas.
 - In terms of urban stormwater treatment, the project seeks to treat approximately 70% of the urban stormwater currently discharging through the Puririmu Stream catchment.
 - A lot of the core programmes were discussed as part of the workshops and definitely the first part of the programmes considered the key views from stakeholders and community in regard to what could be implemented as part of the early staging of work.
 - To assist in public feedback, the Committee directed that a separate plan be provided showing the core business works including stormwater treatment and biodiversity opportunities. The second plan would include the partnership opportunities.
 - No. 8 – Woolshed Multiuse Community Events on the plan is where the walk on the site visit ended and the feedback received was that it would be great to keep the woolshed as an event space because of the recreational interaction with the park and have an open amphitheatre that has been included in the plan. It was situated away from habitat outside of the airport’s mapped flight path and this would probably be the best location and fit for an event space.
 - The potential to have a restaurant may result out of community feedback but would not be something run by Council. The Committee encouraged that this be considered as an “event space” and that this element could be included in future potential programmes with partnership opportunities.
-

-
- Ms Mills advised that in relation to the cost of the project HBRC had included approximately \$9m in their LTP and NCC had allocated \$13m over an eight year period from year four in the LTP. In the next ARP workshop costings will be provided.
 - The Chair advised water quality testing that happens at managed discharges when the wastewater is overwhelmed with stormwater, shows there is a very low level of contamination due to the volume of fresh water mixing. The long term goal of interventions is that every discharge into the Estuary receives treatment through the network, which is not the case currently.
 - As the number of birds increase in the locality the avifauna specialist can provide comment and information on their effects on water quality in the environment.

Councillor Price withdrew from the meeting at 10.50am and rejoined at 10.53am.

It was noted more information would be provided following community consultation and more detailed work at TAG level around how the water will come in and out of the park, quantities and inlet areas, and what the effect on infrastructure will be. As part of the consideration of the consenting framework a complete assessment of environmental effects, including what habitat or environment are affected and what mitigation would be required to inform a consent application.

Engagement Plan

The Strategic Planning Lead, Ms Mills provided a summary of the Engagement Plan Overview which reflected the previously endorsed Engagement Plan at the beginning of the Masterplan planning process. Feedback has been received from key stakeholders and those really interested in the Park and are now moving to the general public for their views.

The key message is that it is a stormwater facility and there is an infrastructure driver for a resource consent solution. There is a need to clean up the water before discharging into the Estuary. Secondary messaging is that there are more benefits than just stormwater and this is an opportunity to consider multiple council and community functions within the park.

It is proposed to promote the Park in the NCC Neighbourhood newsletter, have a public open day to walk on the site, open day at either the urban market or along Emerson Street and have social media campaign.

In response to questions on the Engagement Plan the following was clarified:

- An overview of the project and the process-to-date be presented to Councils and partners prior to community consultation.
- The information would be provided to public on 12 March 2025 seeking feedback with a community workshop in May, prior to progressing to final endorsement in June 2025.
- The meeting agreed to the suggestion to have one plan showing the core programmes as the focus and a second plan overlaid with the potential future programmes, which may be aspirational.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

Deputy Mayor Brosnan / Councillor Williams

The Ahuriri Regional Park Joint Committee:

- a) **Endorse** the Ahuriri Regional Park Concept Design for public consultation with the following amendments to:
-

-
- key map reflecting the prioritisation of projects to the principles;
and
 - splitting potential future programmes into a second map.
-

Carried

Attachments

- 1 PowerPoint Presentation Ahuriri Master Plan (Doc Id 1832625)
-

Minor matters

There were no minor matters to discuss.

*Mr Reti gave the closing karakia
The meeting closed at 11.15am*

Approved and adopted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Chairperson

Date of approval