

TAWA COMMUNITY BOARD

ADVOCACY PLAN 2008—2011



Our Vision

Enhance and maintain pride and place

Our Mission

Working with the community to achieve the vision



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Vision

Content

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About the community

The Borough of Tawa takes its name from the native Tawa tree (*Beilschmiedia tawa*) that once covered the area. The name Tawa Flat was first used in 1854 in the Wellington Provincial Gazette. In the 1941 Local Body elections, Tawa Flat was part of Makara County, which also included Porirua and Titahi Bay. In 1953 Tawa Flat and Linden became an independent borough. After rapid housing expansion in the 1950s outside the Tawa Flat area, the name was changed (on Feb 23, 1959) to the Borough of Tawa. The Tawa Borough Council negotiated for its own water and sewage system to accommodate its expansion into Redwood and Linden. On the 3 October 1988 the Local Government Commission indicated the Borough of Tawa would be amalgamated with Wellington City.

What is a community advocacy plan?

Community advocacy plans respond to the needs of a particular area by identifying a range of local issues through community consultations. The plan identifies issues, actions and activities that are unique to Tawa and contributes to Tawa vision for the future.

The aim of the plan is to clarify which actions and outcomes the community wants to see happen in Tawa, and what assistance the community needs from the council or other agencies to achieve these goals.

The Local Government Act (2002) states that the role of a community board is to represent and advocate for the interests of its community. So the purpose of the plan is to support the role of the board to advocate effectively for the interests of its community by:

- Identifying and prioritising important issues within Tawa
- Developing a vision for Tawa's future
- Providing direction and guidance for board members and the community to effect positive change for the future
- Ensuring limited resources are targeted to priority areas
- Identifying specific actions that the council, government and community agencies will contribute to in achieving the vision for Tawa.



What the board hopes to achieve

We hope to:

- Provide a means of identifying and addressing local issues
- Help the council, central government agencies, non-government organisations and other providers to work together with the community to achieve goals
- Guide the allocation of funds and resources to achieve community goals
- Enable progress in Tawa
- Contribute to achieving a vibrant, healthy and participating community

Monitoring the community advocacy plan

The actions stated in the plan will be monitored and pursued by the Tawa Community Board.

- Sections of the plan may be adopted by the individual board members as portfolios.
- An annual status report on the plan and actions will be prepared by the chairperson of the board and presented to the board, council's strategic committee and the Tawa community by holding forums.
- The board may change or add to the plan from time to time.

Further Information

For further information on this project please contact Dennis Sharman, Tawa Community Board.



Tawa Tomorrow

Vibrant and strong Community

- Marketing Tawa as a good place to live and to do business
- Continue to promote and support community activities such as, Spring into Tawa, Tawa Community Pot Luck Dinners, Christmas Lights
- Implement and fund community and cultural projects such as Tawa Community Awards

Safer Communities

- Ensure a visible police presence in Tawa to reduce crime
- Community approach to the reduction and removal of graffiti
- Providing support for the Tawa Community Patrols

Moving Tawa

- Ensure public transport networks are integrated and connected
- Ensure that traffic planning and design is reviewed and that it is efficient and effective

Thriving Economy

- Promote Tawa as a friendly place to do business
- Encourage the redevelopment of the main shopping centre

Sustainable Environments

- Encourage pride in Tawa
- Support for the development and construction of the Porirua Stream Walkway
- Support Tawa Historical Society
- Support Friends of the Bush



Residents of the Future

We envisage that the future population will continue to develop as a multicultural community. With different cultures, languages, and traditions that will include a high percent of immigrants. We want to make Tawa a desirable place for people to live and work and we will continue to improve the community infrastructure and community safety. We believe that Tawa will continue to be one of the first place choice for families to bring up their children.

Business District

Main Road and Shopping Area

Over the years the Main Road has slowly been developed to make it more pedestrian and business friendly. It has had the walking paths widened and pedestrian crossing have been enlarged to increase the safety.

The through traffic on the Main Road is very high and with the parking on both sides of the road there is significant traffic congestions for much of day. An overall long term traffic strategy needs to be completed to look at the current and future traffic flows.

Most of the Main Road buildings are single story older type buildings with retail shopping. The Main Road has a mixture of retail shops.

Over the next few year the Tawa Community Board would like to see the Main Road and shopping areas become more of a village type shopping community.

Board Actions

The Board will discuss with the Wellington City Council the redevelopment of the area, and it will use the district plan through which it will try and influence the redevelopment and upgrading of the Main Road shopping centre.

Residential

Tawa is a family community that has a full range of schools, good public amenities , and has a good public transport hub north and south. Significant number of Tawa people commute to work in Wellington and Porirua.

Tawa has a growing older population with a number of residential developments.

The Wellington City Council has been looking at the residential development of Tawa through the district plan changes.

Board Action

The Board will continue to work with the Wellington City Council on the development of the District Plan so that the residents of Tawa have a say on any plan changes.

The Board will continue to review the community services, swimming complex, library, numerous sporting facilities so that these facilities continue to meet the needs of the residents.

Community Facilities

The Tawa community has excellent facilities, including the Tawa College Recreation Centre, Tawa Swimming Pool, Mervin Kemp Library, Tawa Community Centre. In addition there are many facilities that are provided by the sports clubs and special interest groups.

Public Transport

The Board will encourage a review of the transport requirements within the community. The review will look at future traffic flows, the residents public transport requirements and how these interact.

Parks and Reserves

Tawa has a large number of parks within the community including; Arthur Carmen, Brasenose Park, Brian Webb Rose Garden, Coronation Park, Duncan Park, Grasslees Park, Linden Park, Lyndhurst Park, Wilf Mexted Scenic Reserve, Pikitangi Park, Raroa Park, Redwood Park, Willowbank Park. Many of the parks contain play equipment or open spaces. Some of the parks are setup up for specific sports eg Lyndhurst—Rugby and Linden—Cricket

Community groups like Friends of the Bush work in partnership with the Wellington City Council to protect the local bush environment.

The Board would like to see the development and construction of the Porirua Stream Walkway connecting Kenepuri with Willowbank Reserve.

Board Action

The Board will continue to monitor the development of the parks and reserves within the community.

The Board will continue to encourage the development and construction of the Porirua Stream Walkway.

Safer Communities

Crime, violence and graffiti prevention measures are top priorities for the Tawa Community Board. The Tawa Board will continue to work closely with the Police and the Tawa Community Patrols.

Community Board Discretionary Grants Funding

To be completed

Issues and Actions

The Board will advocate for the following projects.

1. Reduction of crime and graffiti
2. Development and construction of Tawa Stream Walkway
3. Discuss and develop a strategy for the redevelopment of the Town Centre into a village type environment
4. Discuss and develop a strategy to look at traffic design so that it is efficient and effective.
5. Increased discussion on the long term district plan for Tawa with Wellington City Council
6. Discussion on the option of implement public forums as a means of community consultation.



Community Board Roles and Responsibility

Community boards

Internationally, local authorities are moving to put people and communities first, while communities themselves are demanding an improvement in the services that councils provide and that their councils become more accountable and efficient.

To meet these demands and lead their communities, councils are constantly seeking more effective ways to meet these needs. In England, the government has recently created a Department for Communities and Local Government and has appointed a Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government. For New Zealand, one mechanism that enables a council to conduct a two-way conversation with its community is the community board which is comprised of locally elected community representatives who represent the local needs and aspirations of their communities. Elected members by contrast are primarily required to act in the best interests of the city and the council nominates elected members to community boards.

Status of community boards

Community boards are unincorporated bodies, not local authorities and not committees of the local authority.

Role of the community board

The role of a community board is to:

1. Represent, and act as an advocate for the interests of its community
2. Consider and report on all matters referred to it by the territorial authority, or any matter of interest of concern to the community board
3. Maintain and overview of services provided by the territorial authority within the community
4. Prepare and annual submission to the territorial authority for expenditure within the community
5. Communicate with community organisations and special interest groups within the community
6. Undertake any other responsibilities that are delegated to it by the territorial authority.

Duty to consider delegations

Under the current legislation the Council has the power to, but is not obligated to, make any delegations to the Community Board. This is a matter of ongoing discussion with Wellington City Council.

Community engagement

With some of the recent changes in Auckland, it seems likely that community board's will play a greater role in engagement with their communities.

Community boards can play a key role in interfacing with the community. Often individual and resident representatives bring community concerns to the board's public forums.

Boards add value to the council's overall decision-making processes through their local knowledge.

Public forums

Public forums generally last for 20 minutes and provide time for residents to raise community concerns with their community board.

Community board chairperson

The role of the board's chairperson is to provide leadership to the board, chair meetings and lead and direct the board in a manner consistent with the powers delegated by the council.

Specific accountabilities include:

- Co-ordinating and directing all activities of the community board
- Providing guidance and direction to board members
- Calling meetings and liaising with board members and council officers in setting the content and priorities of meeting agendas
- Speaking on behalf of the community board and acting as an advocate for it
- Establishing community consultation processes by scheduling, planning and chairing public meetings to seek input into community issues and council's planning and strategy development processes
- Reporting to the council (or its committees) on local community issues, any board recommendations and on the work being undertaken by the community board
- Presiding over the meetings of the community board, ensuring meetings are conducted in an orderly manner and enforcing standing orders as required
- Participating in the board and working party meetings by being fully prepared and up to date on issues under consideration
- Representing the board and local community interests as an appointed member of external committees, agencies or boards as requested
- Ensuring effective and efficient communications between the community board, the council and the public.

Community board member

The role of the community board member is to represent interests of the local community by contributing to its ongoing community and economic development. Effective stewardship of existing assets, sustainable management of the environment and the prudent management of the communities' delegated financial resources also form part of this role.

Specific accountabilities include:

- Consultation with stakeholders in the community
- Co-ordination and assistance in the running of public meetings
- Representing the board and the council as an appointed member of external committees/agencies/boards as requested
- Supporting the community board chairperson and fellow board members in the promotion of the community
- Developing positive working relationships with community stakeholders and counterparts in other authorities
- Being accessible to the community.

Community Board Members

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Image	Malcolm Sparrow	Address	Phone: (04) Mobile: Email:

Member Responsibilities

Working Parties—To be confirmed

Representation and Liaison—To be confirmed

- **Territorial Local Authorities**
(Ngaire Best / Robert Tredger)
- **Capital and Coast District Health Board**
- **Tawa Progressive and Ratepayers Association**
(Robert Tredger / Dennis Sharman)
- **Business association**
(Graeme Hansen / Chris Reading)
- **Service and sports clubs**
(Dennis Sharman / Robert Tredger)
- **Church and community groups**
(David Darrock/ Hayley Wain)
- **Educational providers**
(Dennis Sharman / Hayley Wain)
- **Emergency Management Services**
(Robert Tredger / Graeme Hansen)



Community Organisations

Schools, colleges and kindergartens

- Tawa College
- Tawa School
- Redwood School
- Tawa Intermediate School
- Greenacres School
- Linden School
- Hampton Hill School
- St Francis Xavier School
- Tawa Kindergarten
- Tawa-Linden Playcentre
- Tawa Montessori Preschool
- Brian Webb Kindergarten
- Beanstalk Kindergarten
- Tui Park Kindergarten
- Tawa Central Kindergarten

Sports clubs

- Tawa Rugby Football Club
- Tawa Junior Rugby Football Club
- Tawa Cricket Club
- Tawa Soccer and Softball Clubs
- Tawa Squash Club
- Tawa Bowling Club
- Tawa Services Bowling Club
- Tawa Gymfun Gymnastics Club
- Tawa Hockey Club
- Tawa-Lyndhurst Tennis Club
- Linden Tennis Club
- Tawa Badminton Club
- Tawa Swimming Club

Churches

- Tawa Baptist Church
- Tawa Gospel Hall
- Tawa New Life Church
- Tawa Union Parish – St Stephen's
- Tawa-Linden Anglican Churches – St Christopher's and St Peter's
- Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church
- Salvation Army

Residents associations and residential communities of interest

- Tawa Progressive Association and Ratepayers
- Tawa business association
- Friends of Tawa Bush Reserves
- Tawa RSA
- Lions club of Tawa
- Rotary club of Tawa
- Linden
- Lindenvale
- Westhaven
- Greenacres
- Tawa
- Redwood
- Sundale
- Grenada North Takapu Valley
- Grenada North Industrial Community

Other

- Police (Tawa community constable)
- Tawa historical society
- NZ Fire service
- WEMO
- Wellington City Council
- Greater Wellington Regional Council
- Local Government New Zealand
- Porirua City Council
- Hutt City Council
- Ministry for the Environment
- Department of Conservation
- Federated Farmers
- Individual farmers
- Positively Wellington Tourism
- Tourism operators
- Bus and Coach Association
- Tranz Metro
- Transit New Zealand
- Tawa – Linden Plunket
- U3A – Tawa
- Tawa Senior Citizens
- Probus
- Arohata Prison
- Tawa Medical Centre
- Greypower
- Kapi Mana Bridge Club
- Tawa Community Theatre

Tawa Statistics—To be added by Democratic Services



