

Horokiwi Rural Community Plan

Summary of Key Proposals

Combined Community Association and Wellington City Council Projects

1. Wellington City Council (WCC) and the Horokiwi Community Association (HCA) will work together to investigate a rural heritage district or similar concept and best implementation methods (including subdivision rules) for Horokiwi. This work will underpin any future district plan change (see also district plan methods, below), and will be progressed in close consultation with the Horokiwi community and other affected parties, including neighbouring communities.
2. WCC will support the HCA and Horokiwi landowners in the protection of existing bush and stream areas, the revegetation of new areas, and other similar initiatives. In facilitating these methods, the council will have regard to the efforts and interests of neighbouring communities and the ecological priorities of the wider area.
3. WCC and the HCA will work together to assess the feasibility of options to improve existing community facilities.
4. WCC and HCA will develop and maintain a Civil Defence Plan for Horokiwi.

Provision of Wellington City Council Services

5. In consultation with the Horokiwi community, the Council will investigate initiatives to extend ecological and open space protection and recreation opportunities, particularly track options, in the Horokiwi area. This work will be undertaken in close consultation with the Horokiwi community and other affected parties.
6. Traffic safety and some views would be enhanced by the removal of vegetation, including trees, from areas of road reserve adjoining the Horokiwi Road. This work will be done in consultation with adjoining landowners.

Community Association and WCC Advocacy, Facilitation and/or Education

7. Support the accurate identification of important cultural and historic sites and make this information easily accessible, in consultation with the Horokiwi community, Iwi and other interested parties.
8. The Horokiwi Community Association will establish a "Horokiwi Bush and Streams" subcommittee to support bush and stream protection, revegetation and other similar efforts.
9. WCC and HCA will work with Transit NZ to explore options to improve the safety of the existing exit from Horokiwi Road onto SH2.

District Plan Methods

10. Provide new objectives and policies to recognise and protect the special rural character of Horokiwi, and assess the subdivision and other rules needed to protect the special rural character of Horokiwi. Any changes to the district plan will be progressed in close consultation with the Horokiwi community, Iwi and other affected parties, including neighbouring communities.
11. Provide appropriate levels of protection for important cultural, historic and natural sites using district plan methods, including rules where needed.

Relationship with Other WCC Processes

12. Effective management of the relationship between the Horokiwi Rural Community Plan and other WCC planning processes, including the Northern Growth Management Plan, through good communication and providing opportunities for ongoing involvement in the future implementation of both processes.

1. INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Rural Community Plan for the Horokiwi area. This plan has been developed jointly by the Horokiwi Community Association and Wellington City Council, and follows extensive community consultation with people interested in the future management of the Horokiwi rural area.

The purpose of the Rural Community Plan is:

- To spell out important Horokiwi issues
- To provide a vision for the area's future
- To identify steps to achieve that vision.

This is the fourth rural plan to be prepared within the Wellington rural area. The Council and the Makara/Ohariu Community Board have completed similar plans for South Karori, Makara and Ohariu Valley. This work has been undertaken as part of the Wellington City Council's 'Rural Area Review'. It has identified useful steps to address significant issues within the rural area, including a better working relationship between the resident community and the Council, and in some instances, changes to Rural Zone provisions in the Wellington City District Plan.

At the same time, it is recognised that Wellington's rural areas have distinct characteristics, and the management issues within each area can often be quite different. The way towards improved management in each of these places may therefore be quite different.

This plan seeks to provide a meaningful summary of the issues in Horokiwi, and some practical steps to address these issues, where necessary. The proposals contained within the plan are therefore based on the views expressed by the Horokiwi community and other stakeholders, in particular:

- (i) the community feedback received at the Horokiwi Rural Community Open Day held at the Horokiwi Quarry on 24 March 2002; and
- (ii) input received through direct consultation with the Horokiwi Community Association, other interested Horokiwi residents, and other stakeholders, including a period for written submissions in mid-2002.

A summary of the submissions received is available separately from the Wellington City Council.¹

Lessons learned through the other Rural Community Plan processes have also been incorporated where they are relevant to Horokiwi.

The plan development process has also given significant regard to the direction signalled in the Rural Area Objectives (RAO) adopted by the Council's City Development & Business and Environment & Recreation Committees in January 2001. These objectives have helped guide the plan process. They are identified, with some amendment, in the sections that follow. It is intended that these objectives will assist achievement of the "Vision" proposed for Horokiwi. A full set of the original WCC Rural Area Objectives is provided in Appendix One.

¹ Wellington City Council (2002), Horokiwi Rural Community Plan – submission summary, 18p.

The process followed to develop the Horokiwi Rural Community plan is summarised in Figure 1.

The development of the Horokiwi Plan is distinct from the Northern Growth Management Plan process (NGMP), currently being delivered by Wellington City Council. The two plans have been run in parallel although have different objectives. The Rural Community Plans seek to enable communities within unique rural or rural-residential environments to develop a vision for the future which sustains that environment. The Northern Growth Management Plan is a complex process and is attempting to deal with the range of land uses and market demands that will contribute to the overall viability of the City over the next 20 years. However, the relationship between the NGMP and the Horokiwi Rural Community Plan does require careful management. The relationship between the two processes is further discussed in [Section 2: Defining the Horokiwi area](#), with a proposal to manage that relationship then described in [Section 5.2: Horokiwi’s rural character](#).

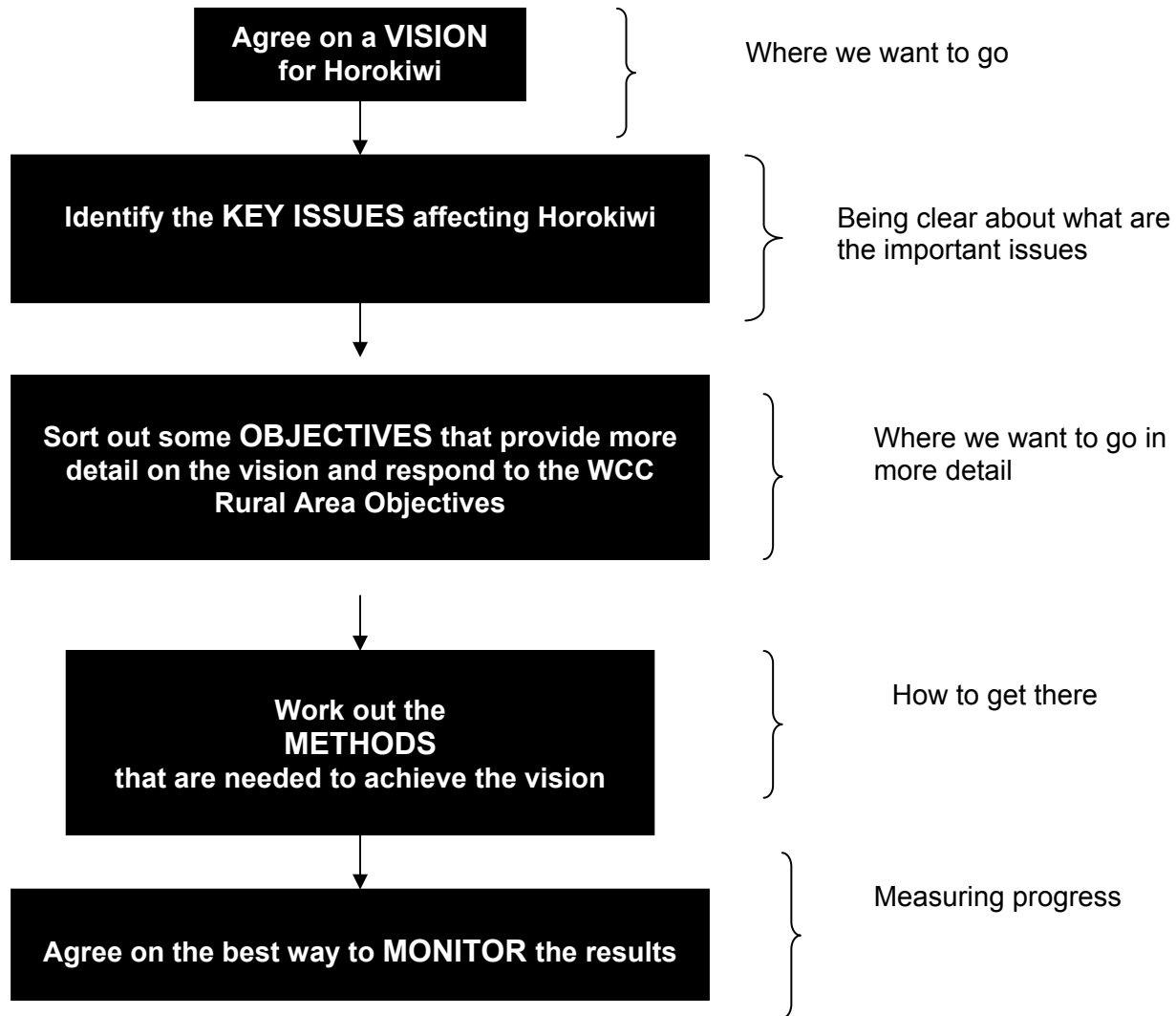
An explanation of how the community plan works, including the place of ‘vision’, ‘issues’, objectives’ and ‘methods’, is explained in Figure 2. A guide to the methods is provided in Appendix Two.

And finally, thanks must go to the Horokiwi Community Association and other residents and stakeholders who have given their time to assist development of the Community Plan. Further acknowledgement of their assistance and contribution is given in Appendix Three.

Figure 1: Horokiwi Rural Community Plan process

Steps	Timeframe
1. Horokiwi Rural Community Plan concept discussed with Horokiwi Community Association.	March 2002
2. Characteristics of the Horokiwi area identified.	March -
3. Open Community Planning Day.	24 March 2002
4. Draft Plan developed in consultation with the Community Association and following analysis of comments from the open day.	April / May
5. Consultation on a draft Community Plan: Mail-out plan & call for submissions.	June / July
6. Final Plan developed in consultation with the Community Association and following analysis of submissions.	August / September
7. Horokiwi Rural Community Plan adopted by Wellington City Council.	November 2002
8. Recommendations implemented.	November 2002 –

Figure 2: How the Horokiwi Rural Community Plan works



2. DEFINING THE HOROKIWI AREA

Perched on a high hilltop, Horokiwi overlooks many parts of the Wellington region, including the Porirua Basin, Hutt Valley and Eastern Hills, and the heart of Wellington's inner city area. On a clear day there are excellent views of the upper South Island including the outer Marlborough Sounds and the Seaward and Inland Kaikoura mountain ranges. Clearly it would be inappropriate to include all these areas in a Horokiwi Plan. However, determining a boundary for the Horokiwi area has been a particular challenge.

It is relevant to note that defining a boundary is both an administrative task and an examination of how a community sees itself - who is in it, what is in it - as well as being geographically defined. A good place to start is that the Rural Community Planning process focuses on rural rather than urban issues. As such, the relationship between this plan and the Council's Northern Growth Management Plan (NGMP) process is a key factor in thinking about 'the edge' of Horokiwi. The Northern Growth Boundary encompasses Wellington's northern area, and is defined by Newlands and Johnsonville in the south, through to Linden and the Takapu Valley in the north, and includes Churton Park, Grenada Village, the Woodridge estates and Lincolnshire Farm. To the east, in some places the Northern Growth boundary extends to the Horokiwi ridge, abuts Horokiwi properties and borders Horokiwi and Lincolnshire Roads.

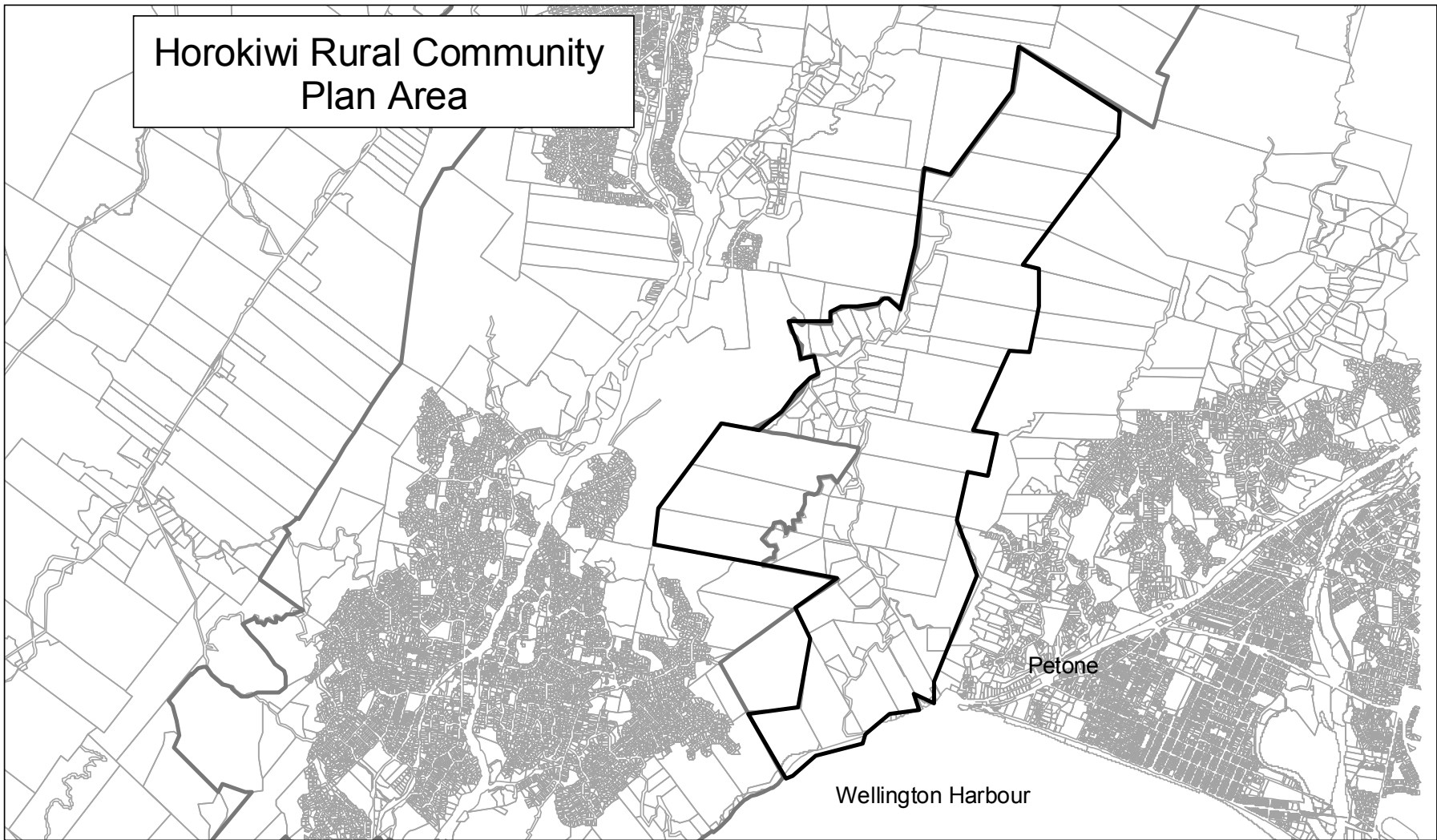
The area of the Horokiwi Rural Community Plan is shown in Map 1 (page 6). As a general principle the area of the plan is taken to include that land which is within the jurisdiction of the Wellington City Council and is solely, or at least commonly, accessed via the main Horokiwi Road, or one of the off-shoot roads (i.e., Lincolnshire Road, Hillcroft Road, and Woollaston and Van der Velden Ways).

An exception to this principle is an area of Lincolnshire farm not easily accessed by Horokiwi's roads. In response to strong calls from Horokiwi people, the Community Plan's boundary overlaps the boundary defined in the NGMP area, in particular, some sections of Lincolnshire Farm. This overlap is considered workable given the different focuses of the two processes. An important early step in the examination of the Northern Growth Management Plan proposals during May 2002 has been the acknowledgement that the effects of any new activity on or near 'the edge' of Horokiwi on Horokiwi's rural amenity must be addressed. Within Council, there is also a responsibility to effectively manage and communicate the linkages between the NGMP and Horokiwi Rural Community Plan processes, to ensure that both processes reflect a consistent strategy for the northern area, including the future growth of the city and the environmental sustainability of the Horokiwi rural area. Management of the relationship between the NGMP and the Rural Community Plan is discussed in Section 5.2: Horokiwi's rural character (District Plan methods).



The area of the plan also excludes the site of the old Horokiwi Landfill located between the Horokiwi Quarry and Newlands.

The area of Horokiwi covers 960.21 hectares.

Horokiwi Rural Community Plan Area

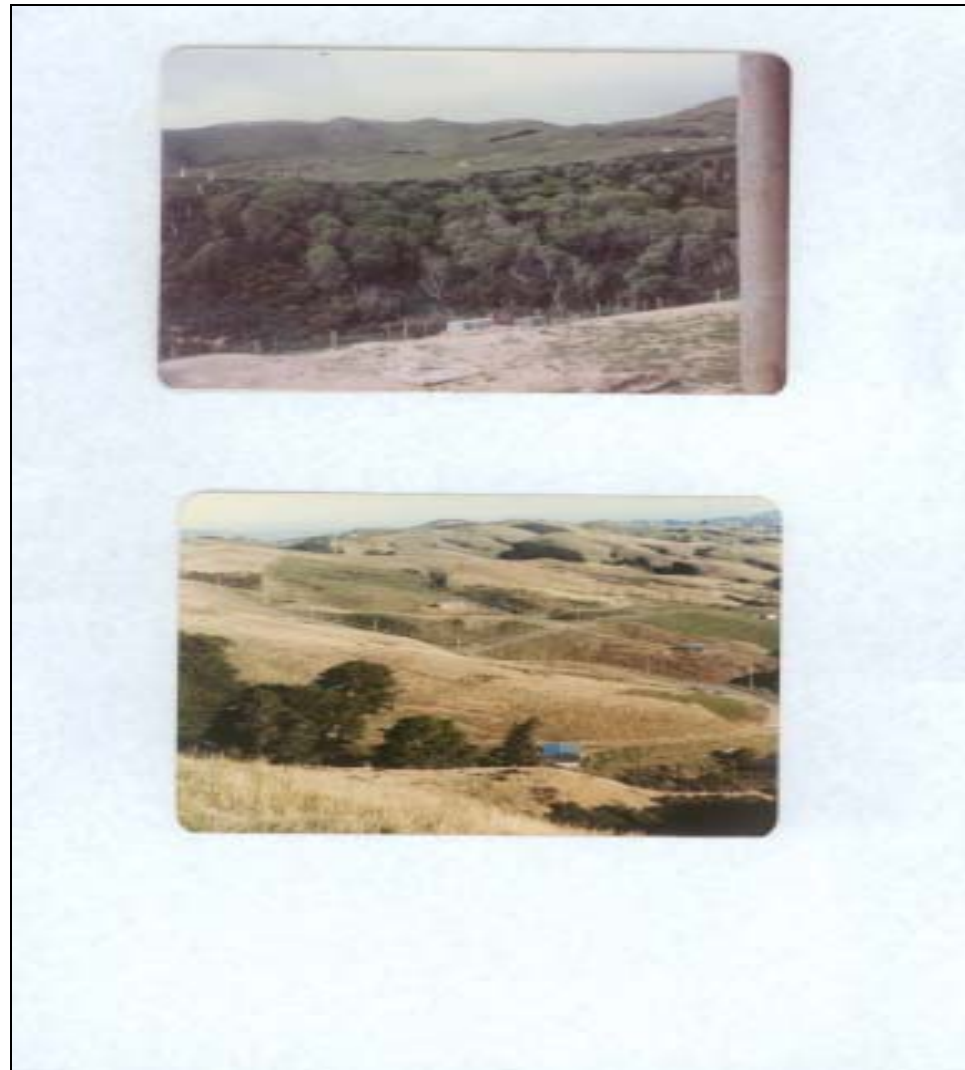


Scale 0 400 800 1200 1600 2000 Meters

- Key
-  Boundary of Northern Growth Management Plan Area
 -  Area Covered by Horokiwi Community Plan

**ABSOLUTELY
POSITIVELY
WELLINGTON**

Trusts & Powers
Wellington City Council



Top: Looking North from Hillcroft Downs (1983)
Bottom: Looking South from Woollaston Way (1983)

3. HOROKIWI: PAST AND PRESENT

Horokiwi has a rich and significant history of pre-European occupation, early European land purchase and settlement, colonial timber milling, dairying and farming, and most recently, rural lifestyle and farm development.

The area was an integral part of the culturally important Korokoro Valley, Maori Point and Belmont Districts settled by Ngati Toa and Te Atiawa. Registered Maori cultural heritage sites include: the Korokoro - Takapu track through upper Horokiwi; urupa; pa sites; cultivation plots.

The Horokiwi District (often confused with Horokiri to the north), was called Rauotekapuae and served as a critical cross-country link between Petone/Wellington and Pauatahanui, enabling, for example, the escape of Te Tangihaeata from Governor Grey's army in 1846. This route was then developed as a military road in the lead-up to the Battle Hill engagement later that year. Small quarry excavations can still be seen alongside the road.

Land at Horokiwi was given or sold to European settlers from 1839. Among those who were apportioned and/or inhabited country acres in the district were prominent Wellington families: Halswell, Osborne, Stewart, Ebdon, Valentine, Champion, Heath, Earp, Ormsby, Calvert, Gilling, Luscombe, Tollemache. When Wakefield's land transactions were reviewed by Colonel McCleverty in 1847, a native reserve was declared at Horokiwi and awarded to the local hapu.

In the early years of European settlement, the bush-clad hills of Horokiwi were milled to provide logs, timber and firewood to the growing Wellington and Hutt Valley settlements. Conversion to pasture resulted in the development of a vigorous dairy industry servicing Wellington; tracks and artifacts are found on farms today. The land was later used as grazing for stock held for slaughter at the Petone Gear Meat Processing Plant; Horokiwi was also the site of the plant's offal pits. From 1885, as light to medium industry grew in Petone, a significant block of Horokiwi around the present Hillcroft Road was designated Water Reserve. The community of Horokiwi was further defined with the establishment of the Horokiwi School, one of the earliest in the Wellington region, and later, a box making factory down Lincolnshire Road. Workers' accommodation, building foundations, a water tower, and other evidence of nineteenth and twentieth-century settlement remain visible reminders of Horokiwi's past.

Today, Horokiwi comprises over seventy-four households surrounded by the rolling farmland of the District on one side and Belmont Regional Part on the other. Residents engage in a diverse range of activities, both on and off "the hill". The strong landscape, rugged climate, central location, and significant Maori and European history link the community as it plans its future.

4. COMMUNITY VISION

4.1 Introduction

The vision for the Rural Community Plan captures those things that are important to the Horokiwi community and other interested parties. A larger vision also encourages and stimulates people's interest in the Community Plan.

A vision for the year 2010 is outlined in the section below. This vision addresses rural character and the natural environment, community well being, and community decision processes. The year 2010 is seen as an 'achievable' date, within which most of the Community Plan's methods can be delivered and the outcomes seen. Many of Horokiwi's current residents are likely to still live within the area by 2010.

4.2 A Vision for the year 2010

THEME	THE VISION
Rural character and the Natural Environment	<i>Horokiwi's rural character and the natural and cultural features that contribute to that character are protected and enhanced.</i>
Community well-being	<i>Horokiwi keeps on being a close and caring community.</i>
Decision-making	<i>WCC supports implementation of the Horokiwi Rural Community Plan and the community is actively involved in WCC decision processes.</i>

5. RURAL CHARACTER AND THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

5.1 Introduction

A key issue within the Horokiwi area is the impact of future management on the rural character of that area. This chapter looks at the features that contribute to the area's character, and suggests ways to sustain these elements into the future.

Relevant rural area objectives are also identified. These are based on the WCC Rural Area Objectives (Appendix One), with some change to reflect the issues and priorities within the Horokiwi area. Of particular importance is the proposal to retain the wording of WCC Rural Area Objective #2, but make it a primary, or over-riding objective, for the Rural Community Plan.

Other recommended changes to the wording of the WCC objectives are identified in the sections that follow. Additions to the objectives are shown in underline, and deletions indicated by ~~strikethrough~~.

5.2 Horokiwi's rural character

5.2.1 Identifying the issues

Horokiwi is situated on a high plateau just to the north of Wellington City, and spans an altitude of between 250 and 360 metres above sea level (compared with Mt Kaukau (445 m), Colonial Knob (458 m) and the Belmont Trig (456 m)). Horokiwi covers an area of approximately 960 hectares, and accommodates just over 70 households. Predominant uses in the area include lifestyle or small lot grazing and tree crops, commercial forestry, reserves, and primary and secondary native bush. All reserve land is currently zoned Open Space in the Wellington City District Plan. The areas directly surrounding Horokiwi are either regional park (to the north and east) or farmland especially Lincolnshire Farm and a portion of the Woodridge estates (to the south and west). There is a limited number of non-rural land uses occurring within the area, although these uses are relatively confined. The Horokiwi Quarry is a large operation located on the south-eastern boundary, just above the junction of Horokiwi and Hutt roads. Other non-rural uses in the area are relatively small scale, for example, the sawmill and a vehicle servicing business, sited immediately up from the Quarry.

This combination of land uses, especially the balance of lifestyle lots, bush and plantation forest land both within and adjoining the Horokiwi area, establishes a high degree of natural amenity. Combined with Horokiwi's high altitude, dramatic outlook and exposure to climate, both residents and visitors to the area have a strong appreciation for the wild ruggedness of the area.

The importance of Horokiwi’s rugged rural character was strongly emphasized in the feedback received at the Community Open Day, including the survey responses submitted by the many individuals that took the time to complete the WCC questionnaire. Feedback from the Community Open Day signalled a great passion amongst residents of, and visitors to Horokiwi, for the solitude and naturalness provided by the place. Some of the comments received are outlined in Figure 3 (over-page) and below:

“Bush/bird life, harbour views. A place so close to the city that many people haven’t seen.” “Rural sanctuary, quiet, not overly developed.”

“Isolation, green space, quiet, clean, distance from neighbours, light traffic flows, small and medium-scale farming, no street lighting.”

“...no-exit road which maintains the unspoilt character of Horokiwi.....”

“Wind, wind, wind and horizontal rain. Misty days.”

Suggested key issue for the area is:

- Horokiwi is a rugged yet tranquil rural enclave and this character is highly valued by both residents and visitors to the area. It is regarded as a sanctuary from city life, providing peaceful living within a close community environment. This character is vulnerable to change from new subdivisions, increased population, structures, the provision of additional services, and /or changes to the roading network to and within the area.

5.2.2 Objective

PRIMARY OBJECTIVE	To maintain and enhance rural character, amenity and identity for people living, working and visiting Horokiwi. (See WCC RAO #2, Appendix One.)
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5.2.3 Methods

Community projects	-
Combined Community Association & WCC projects	Wellington City Council and the Horokiwi Community Association will work together to investigate a rural heritage district or similar concept. This work would investigate a range of implementation methods and underpin any future district plan change including changes to the rural area subdivision rules in Horokiwi. It will be progressed in close consultation with the Horokiwi community, and other affected parties including neighbouring communities. (See also District plan methods.)

Figure 3: Horokiwi's rural character

Wind in pines, Magpies and some sort of small petrol engine

Space, altitude, wind, closeness to town, the hill itself

Rural backwater, oriented to outdoor life

Milking the cow on a sunny morning before going to work in the city.



People waving

Smells and tastes like..
Country smells...Fresh air...Animals...the views, the sun, the space, the quiet, the natural topography, the native bush.....Clean...the country without the odour ...Uncooked and tough ... Hints of old flavours, things we could easy forget.

HOROKIWI

Sounds like...
Native birds...Sea breeze ... Frogs, Peacocks and Llamas...No industrial buzz whatsoever.... Quiet ... Silence! ... Lovely ... Rural: Sheep sounds at shearing, wind in trees ... Tranquil. City + Fresh + Wild + Stormy.



Rural, quiet, few neighbours

.....the lovely community spirit...is the most important cultural feature

A place where we live to get away from it all

If Horokiwi was a person they'd be..
Quiet calm, friendly, waves to everyone. Smiles.... Robust, independent, friendly, versatile, able... Nature loving.

Provision of WCC services	<p>Wellington City Council manages an extended network of reserve and other land in and adjacent to Horokiwi. These reserves serve a combination of open space, ecological and recreation purposes, and contribute to the character of the area. It is a priority that WCC work to enhance those areas that have already been protected.</p> <p>WCC will also look at options to extend reserve initiatives in Horokiwi. Some of this work may be achieved by working with adjoining landowners and encouraging compatible initiatives. Priority actions include the establishment of east-west open space, recreation and ecological linkages. These actions could potentially involve the Belmont Gully and suitable ridge-top connection, and a part of the ex-Transpower land, now in Council ownership, above Grenada North. This work will be undertaken in close consultation with the Horokiwi community and other interested parties including Iwi and neighbouring communities. See also sections 5.3.3, 5.4.3, 5.5.3, 5.6.3, 5.7.3 and 6.6.3.</p>
Provision of other services	<p>-</p>
Community Association and WCC advocacy, facilitation and/or education	<p>-</p>
Individual action	<p>-</p>
District Plan provisions	<p>District Plan changes may be required as a result of the combined Horokiwi Community Association and WCC Rural Heritage Project, described above. These changes could include new objectives and policies to recognise and protect the “rural heritage” character of Horokiwi, the cultural, historic and natural elements that contribute to it, and their sensitivity to change.</p> <p>District plan methods could include a new Horokiwi rural heritage district to be identified in the Wellington City district plan. This precinct would need to be supported by an appropriate mix of regulatory and non-regulatory methods.</p> <p>This issue would also be further investigated in the joint HCA / WCC project, and include assessment of the subdivision rules and other methods needed to protect the special rural character of Horokiwi. One possibility is to retain the existing district plan rules controlling subdivision, where new lots of 50 hectares or greater are assessed as “discretionary activities”² and proposals for smaller lots must satisfy an even higher test as a “non-complying” activity³.</p> <p>The present rural rules also distinguish “rural” activities from “non-rural” activities and need to be examined. These currently give primacy to traditional rural activities and offer certainty on what can or cannot be done “as of right”.</p> <p>Any changes to the district plan should be developed in close consultation with the Horokiwi community and other affected parties including Iwi and neighbouring communities. Any new measures should provide scope for innovation while protecting the integrity and diversity of the Horokiwi landscape. It is recommended that these measures also be administratively supported by an appropriate design guide.</p>

² **Discretionary Activity:** This is a category of consent provided for under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA). In assessing these applications, the Council has the power to accept, accept with conditions, or decline. Council decisions are based on the provisions of the RMA and the objectives, policy and rules of the district plan. A major test of all subdivision decisions will include whether adverse effects can be avoided, remedied or mitigated.

³ **Non-complying Activity:** Council can only approve an application for a non-complying activity if they are satisfied that the effects of the activity will be minor or that granting the consent will not be contrary to the objectives or policies of the district plan.

	<p>The Northern Growth Management Plan (NGMP) process is likely to result in some district plan changes for Wellington’s northern area, potentially including the area of overlap between the NGMP and Horokiwi plan shown in Map 1. Effective management of the Horokiwi Rural Community Plan and future NGMP processes will be achieved through good communication by those concerned and using opportunities for ongoing community involvement in the development and implementation of any proposals by the Wellington City Council.</p> <p>Other outside influences may also impact on the area. Relevant organisations and/or consent applicants need to rigorously address rural character and amenity issues in any planning or development proposals.</p>
Other methods	-

5.3 Ridgelines, landscapes and views

5.3.1 Identifying the issues

Comments received on the issues surrounding the management of ridgelines and hilltops include:

“All ridgelines, landscapes and views are important” “Subdivision of rural land is the greatest threat” “Restrictions on pine plantings, height restrictions too”

Suggested key issues for the area are:

- Horokiwi’s ridgelines, landscape, open spaces, and views are highly valued by residents and visitors to the area, and can be threatened by inappropriate development.
- In some places vegetation including trees planted or growing on road reserve detracts significantly from these views. At the same time, this and other vegetation can provide important shelter from the strong winds that buffet the area.

5.3.2 Objective

OBJECTIVE	To protect important ridgelines, landscapes, <u>open space</u> , and views. (See WCC RAO #6, Appendix One.)
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5.3.3 Methods

Community projects	-
Combined Community Association & WCC projects	-
Provision of WCC services	<p>Establish and appropriately manage a suitable reserve network within Horokiwi to address open space, ecological and recreation priorities. Formally protect other Council land within Horokiwi as reserve, and administer as part of the WCC green belt. This work will be undertaken in close consultation with the Horokiwi community <u>and other affected parties including Transpower NZ Ltd (where the proposed reserve area is close to existing transmission lines)</u>. See also <u>Section 5.2: Horokiwi's rural character</u>.</p> <p>Traffic safety and some views would be enhanced by the trimming and/or removal of vegetation, including trees, from areas of road reserve adjoining the Horokiwi Road. This work will be done in consultation with adjoining landowners. See also <u>Section 6.4: Efficiency, convenience and safety of access</u>.</p>
Provision of other services	-
Community Association and WCC advocacy, facilitation and/or education	
Individual action	-
District Plan provisions	<p>See suggested changes to the WCC District Plan discussed in Section 5.2, including the recognition of a Horokiwi rural heritage district, proposals concerning subdivision rules, and the distinction between “rural” and “non-rural” activities. This work will also consider the methods necessary to protect and appropriately manage Horokiwi's ridgelines and hilltops.</p> <p>The current rule requiring a discretionary consent for structures or earthworks on ridgelines and hilltops is supported. Any future changes to these provisions must recognise and provide for the protection of Horokiwi's important ridgelines and hilltops, and be developed in close consultation with the community.</p> <p>Relevant organisations and/or consent applicants to rigorously address rural character and amenity issues in development proposals affecting significant ridgelines, hilltops and areas of open space.</p> <p>See <u>Section 5.2: Horokiwi's rural character</u> for management of the relationship between the Horokiwi Rural Community Plan and future Northern Growth Management Plan process.</p>
Other methods	-

5.4 Places of cultural and historic importance

5.4.1 Identifying the issues

Issues concerning the management of cultural and historic places include:

“The ridgelines give great views in relation to the Maori and European history of Wellington.”

“Without a written record – knowledge of the areas history is dying and moving away.”

“...ignorance of historical value means some residents or visitors unwittingly destroy these places. Others don't consider places of cultural or historical significance as important as their commercial concerns.”

The suggested key issues are:

- The cultural and historic places in Horokiwi are important to the area's identity. These values may be further threatened by new development such as subdivision or roading.
- Horokiwi's cultural and historic heritage is not well documented.

5.4.2 Objective

OBJECTIVE	To recognise and preserve the cultural and historic heritage of Horokiwi. (NEW)
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5.4.3 Methods

Community projects	-
Combined Community Association & WCC projects	There is not much information around to help residents identify culturally or historically important sites. Where appropriate, survey and identify Horokiwi's cultural and historic sites. Assess feasibility of an interpretative history track, possibly linking with the Northern Walkway. (See also Section 6.6: Recreation.)
Provision of WCC services	-
Provision of other services	-
Community Association and WCC advocacy, facilitation and/or education	Support the accurate identification of important sites and make this information easily accessible, in consultation with the Horokiwi community, Iwi and other interested parties.

Individual action	-
District Plan provisions	Provide appropriate levels of protection for important cultural and historic sites through the district plan rules. The Wellington City District Plan currently recognises and provides for sites of significance. The district plan will be responsive to new information that requires changes to existing provisions. <i>Any changes to the district plan will be progressed in close consultation with the Horokiwi community and other affected parties including Iwi and neighbouring communities.</i>
Other methods	-

5.5 Native bush and wildlife – ‘biodiversity’

5.5.1 Identifying the issues

There is approximately 110 hectares of native vegetation in the Horokiwi area, made up of primary remnants, advanced secondary re-growth, and regenerating scrub. Primary remnants largely occur in the gully areas falling east and west from the main Horokiwi ridge. Some of these gully remnants are further surrounded by advanced secondary regrowth, regenerating scrub and in some cases commercial pine plantations. These plantations work to reduce the ‘edge effect’ on remnant areas, as well as providing habitat for some wildlife. Individual landowners have also put significant effort into replanting, particularly with native species.

Vegetation in the area provides home to a range of bird life and other interesting wildlife. For example the Wellington Green Gecko can be found in bush and scrub areas in Horokiwi. Residents also report a build-up in bird life as more trees are re-established in the area.

A lot of people have commented on the future of Horokiwi’s native bush and wildlife, with considerable support shown for the protection of these areas. The distribution of existing bush areas is shown on Map 2. Comments about the future management of these areas include:

“Adds to rural backwater character. Brings back birdlife. Breaks the wind.”

“Encourage community planting, manage reserve land in community properly.”

“changes to the rural zoning of Horokiwi will affect flora and fauna.”

“Possum eradication.”

The suggested key issue for the sustainability of the area’s native bush and wildlife is:

- Horokiwi’s natural areas and wildlife are highly valued by residents and visitors to the area, but are threatened by the effects of new development including subdivision, roading, and animal and plant pests.

5.5.2 Objective

OBJECTIVE	To improve indigenous biodiversity by protecting and enhancing natural features, indigenous vegetation and regenerating bush. (See WCC RAO #9, Appendix One.)
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5.5.3 Methods

Community projects	See below.
Combined Community Association & WCC projects	<p>There is considerable support in Horokiwi for the protection of existing bush and stream areas, and revegetation of other areas with suitable native plant species, with strong interest in the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To build on community interest to restore the Council reserve area between Horokiwi Road and Woollaston Way; • To look at options to make native plants available for planting in the area; • To support landowners / families with other information e.g., identification of priority areas, species and site selection and management, pest control, and community based monitoring; • To facilitate or support community planting days and rural workshops to promote planting, pest control & other methods. <p>WCC and HCA will facilitate a range of suitable methods, and will also have regard to the efforts and interests of neighbouring communities and the ecological priorities of the wider area,</p>
Provision of WCC services	The Council administers a significant area of land in and around Horokiwi. Some landowners feel their protection efforts are wasted when they see significant pests roaming or growing uncontrolled on neighbouring Council land. The Horokiwi Community Association strongly supports appropriate reserve status and effective control of plant and animal pests on lands administered by Wellington City Council within or adjoining the area.
Provision of other services	The Horokiwi Community Association will investigate potential funding sources to support community planting and restoration initiatives, including pest control.
Community Association and WCC advocacy, facilitation and/or education	<p>Wellington City Council will advocate for the protection and enhancement of regenerating bush and wildlife habitats. Landowners will be encouraged and supported to protect natural areas through sympathetic management, replanting, pest control, fencing and covenanting.</p> <p>The Horokiwi Community Association will establish a “Horokiwi Bush and Streams” subcommittee to support these efforts. The “Bush and Streams Restoration Plan” adopted by Wellington City Council in September 2001 identifies priorities and methods to support sound bush protection in the Wellington area. The Council will make available its information on important natural sites in Horokiwi, and protection options.</p>
Individual action	Individual landowners and families have a significant part to play in supporting bush protection in Horokiwi. Some additional individual effort may be possible with support, encouragement and appreciation by the Council.

District Plan provisions	The District Plan could be changed to be more proactive in preventing the loss of indigenous vegetation, and protecting wildlife habitats, particularly when considering the effects of new development including subdivision, roading and/or new dwellings. This could be achieved through general indigenous vegetation protection rules, and/or the identification and protection of significant sites.
Other methods	<p>The Government is currently developing a Biodiversity National Policy Statement, to be administered through the planning and consent provisions of the Resource Management Act 1991. Once operative, Councils will be required to have regard to this policy statement.</p> <p>A number of Regional Council initiatives are relevant, including the Wellington Regional Pest Management Strategy. This strategy prioritises Key Natural Ecosystems in the area (including Belmont Regional Park) for sustained pest control.</p>



5.6 Natural waterbodies

5.6.1 Identifying the issues

Horokiwi has a number of small streams, seasonal springs, and wetland areas. Some residents draw directly from streams for their potable water, rather than relying solely on rainwater collection systems. The distribution of these areas is shown on Map 2. Horokiwi's streams are relatively small, but feed into the larger more well-known Porirua (to the west) and Korokoro (to the east) Streams. The Porirua Stream is adjacent to major urban and road areas and is therefore quite degraded in terms of water quality and habitat value⁴. In contrast, the Korokoro Stream is in very good condition, benefiting from its location within the Belmont Regional Park, and providing habitat for a number of native fish species including Shortfin and Longfin eel, Giant kokopu, Inanga, and Common, Bluegill and Redfin Bullies. Brown trout have also been found in the Korokoro Stream.⁵

Despite the relatively small number and size of these waterbodies, quite a few comments were received on the future management of these waterbodies and their immediate margins (known as riparian areas):

"Regular random water testing and enforcement."

"Riparian strips/native cover over streams."

"Control run-off."

The suggested key issue is:

- Horokiwi has a number of small streams and wetlands, and these may be threatened by vegetation clearance, land disturbance, possums, and stock effluent, although the nature and scale of these effects are not known.

5.6.2 Objective

OBJECTIVE	To preserve and enhance the natural character of <u>natural waterbodies and their margins</u> coastal and riparian environments . (See WCC RAO #10, Appendix One.)
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5.6.3 Methods

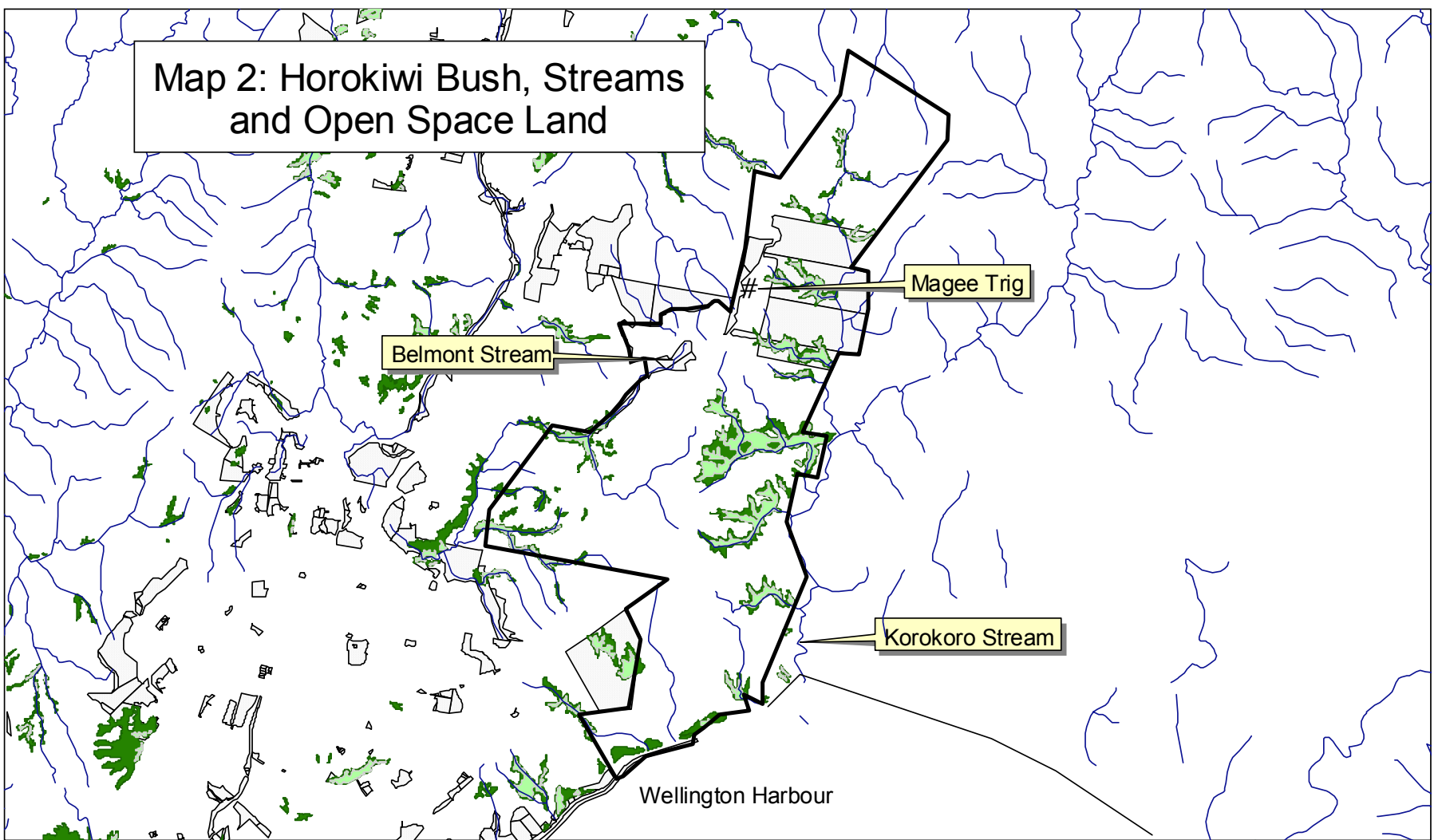
Community projects	-
Combined Community Association & WCC projects	See methods in <u>Section 5.5 Native bush and wildlife – 'biodiversity'</u> .

⁴ Wellington City Council (2001), Wellington wet and wild: bush and streams regeneration plan. 140p.

⁵ National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research Ltd (NIWA) (1997), Freshwater fish database.

Provision of WCC services	Appropriate management of Council land, including reserve areas, is an important issue for Horokiwi landowners. See methods in <u>Section 5.5 Native bush and wildlife – 'biodiversity'</u> . The Council will lead by example in the sustainable management of its own land.
Provision of other services	-
Community Association and WCC advocacy, facilitation and/or education	<p>The Horokiwi Community Association and the Wellington City Council will be good advocates for the protection and enhancement of Horokiwi's natural waterbodies and their margins. Landowners will be encouraged and supported to protect these waterbodies through sympathetic management, riparian planting, fencing and covenanting.</p> <p>The Horokiwi Community Association will establish a "Horokiwi Bush and Streams" subcommittee to support these efforts. The "Bush and Streams Restoration Plan" adopted by Wellington City Council in September 2001 identifies priorities and methods to support sound bush protection in the Wellington area. The Council will make available its information on important natural waterbodies in Horokiwi, and protection options.</p>
Individual action	-
District Plan provisions	Advocacy and other non-regulatory methods are generally favoured as the means by which the natural character of streams is safeguarded, although regulatory methods may be needed when the preferred tools are not effective. See also WCC 'Bush and Streams Regeneration Plan' (see above).
Other methods	The Government is currently developing a Biodiversity National Policy Statement, to be administered through the planning and consent provisions of the Resource Management Act 1991. This policy statement will address the sustainable management of streams and wetlands, and once operative, Councils will be required to have regard to this policy statement.

Map 2: Horokiwi Bush, Streams and Open Space Land



Scale: 1:45000

- Key**
- Horokiwi boundary
 - Primary Remnant Sites
 - Advanced Secondary Regrowth Sites
 - Streams
 - Land zoned Open Space



5.7 Sustainable management by landowners

5.7.1 Identifying the issues

Many residents have expressed interest in sustaining the key elements of the Horokiwi landscape, in particular bush and stream areas. Such management is more rewarding if applied consistently, particularly across the large areas administered by the Wellington City Council.

“Provide cheap native plants.”

“..provide incentives for the community to work together in common projects for common goals”

“Advice on planting.”

“WCC has been of absolutely no help in assisting with pest (possum etc) destruction!”

“There is little point in us doing all of this when we border council land full of gorse, goats and vermin which are not controlled”

“Pest Control – subsidised bait/poison, as well as native trees/shrubs for those that wish to regenerate bush.”

“The planting of pines on my place has brought back Tui’s as we have been able to establish many other plants. Next step for my place is natives in large numbers.”

The sustainability benefits of native and introduced vegetation are also sometimes intertwined. For example, in some parts of Horokiwi, commercially sustained land uses, such as pine plantations, have been managed to provide other benefits, such as shelter for emergent bush and habitat for wildlife. Sensitive and progressive harvesting can also be used to lessen the impact on these bush areas once the trees are ready for removal.

A suggested key issue for the area is:

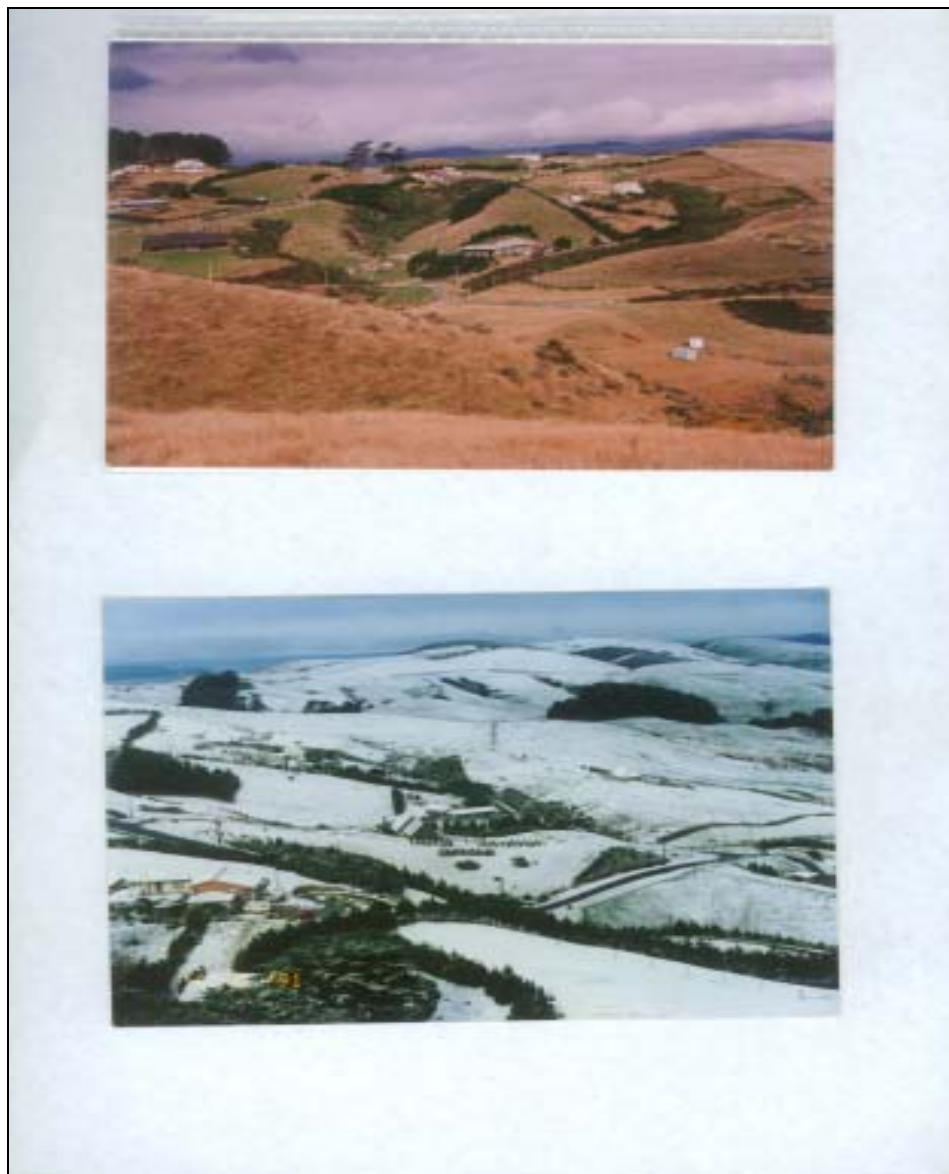
- Landowners need support for pest control and replanting areas with natives. At the same time the Council needs to adequately manage its own nearby reserves.

5.7.2 Objective

OBJECTIVE	
	To support the sustainable management of land by private landowners, <u>Wellington City Council and Wellington Regional Council</u> . (See WCC RAO #7, Appendix One.)

5.7.3 Methods

Community projects	-
Combined Community Association & WCC projects	See methods in Section 5.5: Native bush and wildlife – ‘biodiversity’ and Section 5.6: Natural waterbodies .
Provision of WCC services	-
Provision of other services	-
Community Association and WCC advocacy, facilitation and/or education	<p>The Horokiwi Community Association and the Wellington City Council will be strong advocates for the protection and enhancement of natural waterbodies in the area. Willing landowners will be encouraged to protect waterbodies through sympathetic management, riparian planting, fencing and covenanting.</p> <p>The Horokiwi Community Association will establish a “Horokiwi Bush and Streams” subcommittee to support these efforts. The “Bush and Streams Restoration Plan” adopted by Wellington City Council in September 2001 identifies priorities and methods to support sound bush protection in the Wellington area. The Council will make available its information on important natural sites and waterbodies in Horokiwi, and protection options.</p>
Individual action	Horokiwi’s value today reflects the many efforts by existing and previous landowners to sustain those things that define the area, such as its rugged rural character and many bush covered areas. Present and future owners have a significant role to play in sustaining these values into the future.
District Plan provisions	-
Other methods	-



Top: Looking East at Hillcroft Downs (1991)

Bottom: Looking South after snow (August 1991)

6. COMMUNITY WELL-BEING

6.1 Introduction

Future community well-being is another key issue within Horokiwi. This chapter looks at the things that contribute to this well-being, the needs for rural living, social and economic needs, roading and other infrastructure, community safety, and recreation opportunities and management. Horokiwi's contribution to Wellington's well-being is also considered.

As with the previous chapter, a number of rural objectives are identified. These are also based on the WCC Rural Area Objectives (Appendix One) and reflect the nature of Horokiwi's particular issues. Additions to the objectives are shown in underline, and deletions indicated by ~~strikethrough~~.

6.2 Opportunities for rural living

6.2.1 Identifying the issues

There is estimated to be 74 households living on separate lots within the 960 hectare area covered by this plan. The majority of these households are located in the centre of the plan area, and situated reasonably near the main Horokiwi or off-shoot roads. Other information about the area is available through Statistics New Zealand for the 'Grenada area' unit (which includes much of the rural area surrounding Takapu Road), indicates a population where the majority is adult age between 30 and 45 years, with a significant proportion of young children and adults between 0 and 24 years.

Responses to the question of opportunities for rural living focused on the needs of the existing population to live in the rural area and concerns about additional subdivision and the possibility of some infrastructural limitations, for example:

"..accommodation will be needed in the future for ageing/dependent family members and we have the space..."

"..Only with existing subdivisions, no more subdivisions and limit to number of houses/dwellings on each." "rural development only"

"rural zoning must be retained"

"...the facilities and the road would not cope. This would detract from the special character of Horokiwi."

".....very important to stay true to the retention of natural space..."

The suggested key issues concerning the opportunity for rural living are:

- Significant increases in the current population, more dwellings and/or extra allotments would threaten the natural amenity and country atmosphere of the Horokiwi area.
- Such growth could also impact existing infrastructure, particularly roads and rubbish disposal.

6.2.2 Objective

OBJECTIVE	To provide opportunities for rural living where the environment and the local infrastructure is able to support and accommodate growth. (See WCC RAO #3, Appendix One.)
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6.2.3 Methods

Community projects	-
Combined Community Association & WCC projects	-
Provision of WCC services	-
Provision of other services	-
Community Association and WCC advocacy, facilitation and/or education	See also Section 5.2: Horokiwi's rural character .
Individual action	-
District Plan provisions	<p>See Section 5.2: Horokiwi's rural character.</p> <p>The subdivision provisions are seen as significant in controlling future development in Horokiwi, protecting the natural amenity that is distinctive of the area, and managing the effects of development on existing infrastructure capacity, including roads. It is proposed that the existing subdivision provisions be revised as part of a wider plan change, so that the special character of the area is emphasised, while retaining the existing rules concerning allotment size.</p> <p>The district plan also permits a maximum of one household unit per title, subject to minimum standards including access, height and side yard requirements. Additional household units require a resource consent. These rules seek to maintain the rural character of Wellington's rural area, and it is proposed that they be retained for the Horokiwi area, although some provision could be made to recognise the need to house elderly family members.</p> <p>See also Section 5.3: Ridgelines, landscapes and views.</p>
Other methods	

6.3 Supporting social and economic needs

6.3.1 Identifying the issues

Feedback at the Community Open Day included:

“it would be great to have our own community hall!!!”

“promote the future rural plan outcomes”

Interestingly the feedback received did not raise issues concerning the impacts of WCC controls on the profitability of rural land use. While some Horokiwi people derive income from within the area, the majority of residents rely on income derived from outside the area to sustain themselves economically. The suggested key issues concerning Horokiwi’s social and economic needs are:

- Horokiwi is a close rural community, and holds regular social events at people’s places as there is no community facility or focal point for meetings.
- The Horokiwi Community Association could be better supported by WCC.

6.3.2 Objective

OBJECTIVE	To meet, support and enhance the social and economic needs of the rural community through co-operation between the Council and those living and working in the rural area. (See WCC RAO #12, Appendix One.)
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6.3.3 Methods

Community projects	The Horokiwi Community Association will support social activities for the Horokiwi community.
Combined Community Association & WCC projects	At present Horokiwi has no central community meeting point, such as a community hall. WCC and the Community Association will work together to assess the feasibility of options to improve existing community facilities.
Provision of WCC services	The Wellington City Council has a role in promoting community development and fostering the well-being of the city residents generally.
Provision of other services	-

Community Association and WCC advocacy, facilitation and/or education	The Community Association and the Council have a key role in facilitating actions or activities that help meet, support and enhance the social and economic needs of the Horokiwi community. The Association is however a voluntary organisation and its activities in this area can often be constrained by limited resources and its dependence on people's spare time. The Council can provide useful support to the Association to advance the implementation of the Community Plan where appropriate.
Individual action	-
District Plan provisions	The purpose of the District Plan is to assist the Council to promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources in a way, or at a rate, which enables people to provide for their social, economic, and cultural well-being and for their health and safety. The development of the Rural Community Plan indicates that the District plan is seen as facilitating most of the activities that residents believe are appropriate within the area. The District Plan requires that 'Non-Rural' activities go through a resource consent process. Some utility operations, such as the upgrade of transmission lines, are also provided for in the district plan.
Other methods	-

6.4 Efficiency, convenience and safety of access

6.4.1 Identifying the issues

The future management of Horokiwi's roads stimulated extensive thought and contributions at the Community Open Day, for example:

"Motorway access dangerous and not sufficient." *"Get Transit to finish the intersection as promised, i.e. merging lane."*

"Some pines are planted too close to the road and obscure vision." *"Mud on road from Quarry to SH2 is dangerous in Wellington weather."*

"Hoons speeding and joy riding." *"need...a carefully thought-out balance between safety and retention of the community's rural qualities and values."*

The suggested key issues concerning Horokiwi's roads are:

- Residents report a significant safety issue in getting from Horokiwi onto State Highway 2.
- Many people within the community are concerned that major roading projects could have a significant adverse impact on Horokiwi's rural character.
- There are a number of young children growing up in the community and the demand for pedestrian, horse and cycle access within the area is growing. This could conflict with other road users.
- In some places vegetation including trees growing or planted on road reserve has reduced traffic visibility and is regarded as a road hazard. Pines are perceived by some people to be part of this problem.

6.4.2 Objectives

OBJECTIVE	To allow for efficient, convenient and safe access for people and goods to, <u>from</u> and within the rural area. (See WCC RAO #4, Appendix One.) AND To monitor and, where necessary, improve the safety of rural roads to mitigate any traffic effects arising from rural living and land use activities. (See WCC RAO #5)
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6.4.3 Methods

Community projects	-
Combined Community Association & WCC projects	-
Provision of WCC services	Traffic safety and some views would be enhanced by the trimming and/or removal of vegetation, including trees, from areas of road reserve adjoining the Horokiwi Road. This work will be done in consultation with adjoining landowners. See also <u>Section 5.3: Ridgelines, landscapes and views</u> .
Provision of other services	-
Community Association and WCC advocacy, facilitation and/or education	<p>There is significant community concern at the possibility of a through-road Horokiwi, linking Wellington's west with the Hutt Valley. This option has been identified as an option in the Hutt Corridor Study (Wellington Regional Council) and the Northern Growth Management Plan process. Views within the community are also divided. Many residents believe a through-road would destroy the present sense of community and tranquillity that Horokiwi currently enjoys. The Horokiwi Community Association will carefully monitor any roading proposals.</p> <p>Horokiwi residents have raised issues concerning the safety of the existing intersection of SH2 and Horokiwi Road, particularly for traffic leaving Horokiwi. Various studies by WRC and WCC touch on additional access for the area. WCC and HCA will work with Transit NZ Ltd to explore options to improve the safety of the existing exit from Horokiwi Rd onto SH2.</p> <p>A lower speed limit for Horokiwi's roads has been considered in the development of this plan. On balance, it is assumed that a reduced official speed limit is a relatively low priority for the area. Existing roads are such that drivers are already limited in the speed that they can drive. There are very strong incentives to drive sensibly and safely.</p>
Individual action	Individuals should take responsibility for driving safely.
District Plan provisions	-
Other methods	Monitor traffic safety through various mechanisms including surveys and road accident records.

6.5 Fostering a safe environment

6.5.1 Identifying the issues

Some safety issues were raised at the Community Open Day, in addition to the road safety issues described in [Section 6.4: Efficiency, safety and convenience of access](#). Comments made include:

“there is NO civil defence plan for Horokiwi, no fire training or drills, no emergency water installations, and no early warning emergency support.”

“A water reservoir somewhere up the hill would assist for fire control.”

Residents’ personal safety is perceived as relatively secure, with a close community looking out for one another, and limited road access to the area. The suggested key issues concerning community safety are:

- A Civil Defence Plan for the areas needs revisiting.
- Fire risk in the area can be high and water supplies require reassessment. For example, the dam on Hillcroft Road may need dredging to support emergency fire responses.

6.5.2 Objective

OBJECTIVE	To foster a safe environment for those living, working and visiting the rural area <u>ensuring adequate provision for civil defence and fire safety</u> . (See WCC RAO #14, Appendix One.)
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6.5.3 Methods

Community projects	The “Neighbourhood watch” scheme is a useful tool to promote community safety, and could be promoted.
Combined Community Association & WCC projects	Develop and maintain a Civil Defence Plan for Horokiwi. Appraise rural fire risks and requirements, including training, and take appropriate action. Co-ordinate provision of the official blue rural fire tags for all rural properties. Address emergency water supplies for fire fighting and drinking.
Provision of WCC services	-
Provision of other services	-
Community Association and WCC advocacy, facilitation and/or education	-

Individual action	-
District Plan provisions	-
Other methods	-

6.6 Recreation

6.6.1 Identifying the issues

Horokiwi provides significant space for recreational activities such as walking, horse-riding, and cycling. The area and its residents also have a strong relationship with the adjacent Belmont Regional Park. The Park is administered by the Wellington Regional Council (WRC) and Horokiwi provides a gateway for some Park users. Wellington City Council also manages some significant areas of reserve and other land in the area. WRC and WCC reserve areas shown in [Map 2: Horokiwi’s bush, streams, and open space land](#) (page 20).

The Community Open Day stimulated some a range of responses on recreation:

“Eeling in dam!”

“Playground for kids.”

“Major cycle/foot/horse traffic. That is ok...”

“More recreational activities would mean more visitors, which means more traffic, noise, litter“

The suggested key issue for the future of recreation in Horokiwi is:

- Increased recreational opportunities would benefit both the Horokiwi and wider Wellington communities, although some residents are concerned that visitors to the area could introduce concerns relating to traffic, litter, security, as well as increased fire risk over the summer months.

6.6.2 Objective

OBJECTIVE	To support a variety of high-quality rural recreational opportunities that do not adversely affect the environment. (See WCC RAO #11, Appendix One.)
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6.6.3 Methods

Community projects	-
Combined Community Association & WCC projects	-
Provision of WCC services	<p>Wellington City Council is in a position to facilitate and encourage appropriate recreational use within Horokiwi, as well as to take a role in the provision for recreation facilities or public access on the land that it manages. Better track and bridleway linkages would benefit residents and visitors to be area, although issues concerning access onto private land must be sensitively managed.</p> <p>It is considered a priority to support further improvements in the network of recreation links around Horokiwi, including tracks development. WCC will investigate track options including the following potential candidates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a connection linking Horokiwi to Newlands, either to Woodridge or to Seton Nossiter Park, as part of a northern heritage walkway. • additional walking tracks dropping south-east from Horokiwi Road to the Horokiwi Stream and the Korokoro Valley. <p>This investigation will be progressed in close consultation with the Horokiwi community <u>and other affected parties including neighbouring communities</u>.</p>
Provision of other services	-
Community Association and WCC advocacy, facilitation and/or education	-
Individual action	Individuals have a responsibility to act with respect if permitted access to private land for recreational purposes.
District Plan provisions	-
Other methods	Wellington City Open Space Strategy “Capital Spaces” (1998, 80p).

6.7 Water supply and wastewater and rubbish disposal

6.7.1 Identifying the issues

The management of water supply and wastewater (including sewage) and rubbish disposal in Horokiwi has attracted a lot of comment. Septic tanks service Horokiwi households; water supply is sourced through rainwater collection systems and/or stream abstractions; and there are community rubbish bins located at the top of the hill, on Horokiwi Road. These bins are cleared by WCC contractors; residents are expected to maintain them in a clean and tidy state.

The issues raised at the Community Open Day were varied. Comments received include:

“this is entirely suitable for our rural area and contributes to the rural character.” “Recycling station would be a good idea.”

“Not keen on seeing a recycling station. Korokoro is close and there seems to be a lot of mess, particularly glass, around them...”

“there are additional options that could be used – such as composting toilets ...”

“Reduce rates for rural owners if these services are provided without council assistance.”

There is some debate to be had in defining an appropriate level of servicing for what is essentially a rural area, and the extent to which water and waste issues should be included in the Rural Community Plan. The suggested key issues concerning water supply and wastewater and rubbish disposal are:

- The level of water, wastewater and rubbish disposal servicing in Horokiwi is mostly considered adequate and reflects the rural character of the area.
- Some septic tanks may not work effectively and these should be addressed.
- The Horokiwi rubbish collection facility is well used although requires close watch to manage and clean-up after inappropriate use.

6.7.2 Objective

OBJECTIVE	To promote environmentally sustainable water, wastewater and rubbish disposal schemes <u>that meet the needs of Horokiwi residents and that are consistent with the rural character of the area.</u> (See WCC RAO #8, Appendix One.)
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6.7.3 Methods

Community projects	-
Combined Community Association & WCC projects	There is some support within Horokiwi for a waste recycling facility, although some residents are concerned that this will require management in the same way as the present rubbish bins, and that such a service is uncharacteristic of a rural area.

Provision of WCC services	<p>Wellington City Council has an ongoing role in approving the design of new on-site wastewater disposal systems and monitoring any problems as they may arise.</p> <p>The Council contractors empty Horokiwi's rubbish bins. WCC should consult with the Horokiwi Community Association about the design, placement, and frequency of emptying bins in order to take account of the extreme weather conditions and residents' needs, and the responsibilities of both parties.</p>
Provision of other services	-
Community Association and WCC advocacy, facilitation and/or education	The Community Association and the Council each have a role in advocating good waste disposal practices, particularly in the disposal of household waste.
Individual action	Individual residents can take responsibility for the environmental sustainability of their individual waste management systems.
District Plan provisions	The Wellington City District Plan can encourage good practice through assessment criteria for the consideration of water supply, wastewater disposal and rubbish disposal at the time of subdivision or land use consent, where these are required.
Other methods	Regional Council regional policy, regional plan and resource consent provisions control the abstraction of water from Horokiwi's streams, and discharges to land, freshwater and the coast.

6.8 Contributing to Wellington's wellbeing

6.8.1 Introduction

Horokiwi is a vital part of the cultural, natural and economic landscape of the wider Wellington area, including Wellington City. The area provides a number of services to Wellington, in particular the quick sense of rural escape within close proximity to major urban populations, and the protection of important open space and other natural areas, conservation of historic and culturally important sites, and a range of opportunities for recreational users.

While these services might not have a financial value in themselves, they are nonetheless highly valued by many Wellingtonians, both visiting the area and appreciating it from afar.

6.8.2 Objective

OBJECTIVE	To meet, support and enhance the rural area's contribution to the Wellington's economy <u>wellbeing</u> . (See WCC RAO #13, Appendix One.)
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6.8.3 Methods

Community projects	-
Combined Community Association & WCC projects	-
Provision of WCC services	-
Provision of other services	-
Community Association and WCC advocacy, facilitation and/or education	The Wellington City Council has a role in facilitating actions or activities that help to meet, support and enhance the economic needs of the Horokiwi community and facilitate their contribution to Wellington's wellbeing.
Individual action	-
District Plan provisions	-
Other methods	-

7. DECISION PROCESSES

7.1 Identifying the issues

Horokiwi residents are passionate about their area and have been involved in the development of the Rural Community Plan. Both Ngati Toa and The Tenth's Trust also have strong affiliations with the area.

Interest in Wellington City Council decision processes was raised at the Horokiwi Open Day, including:

“Keep all residents informed.”

“Twice yearly meetings in Horokiwi facilitated by WCC. A resident will always be happy to make a property available.”

The suggested key issues concerning decision processes are therefore:

- Horokiwi’s residents seek meaningful information sharing by Wellington City Council.
- Horokiwi people are interested in decisions affecting them, and want to be involved in relevant Council decision processes.
- Future implementation of the Rural Community Plan needs to be carefully managed to maximise opportunities to involve the community and mana whenua.

The community also sees a strong relationship between the Rural Community Plan and the process of the Northern Growth Management Plan.

Community interests are represented through the Horokiwi Community Association. Unlike Makara, Ohariu Valley and South Karori, there is no statutory Community Board for the Horokiwi areas. Establishment of a Horokiwi Community Board could strengthen links with Wellington City Council but is not proposed as an option at this stage.

7.2 Objectives

OBJECTIVES	<p>To encourage and facilitate community involvement in decision-making for the future of the Horokiwi rural area through the <u>Horokiwi Community Association</u>, <u>the community at large</u>, and through the development, <u>implementation and monitoring of the Horokiwi Rural Community Plans</u>. (See WCC RAO #1, Appendix One.)</p> <p>AND</p> <p>To promote opportunities for the Council and mana whenua to work in partnership on rural issues. (See WCC RAO #15)</p>
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7.3 Methods

Community projects	The Horokiwi Community Association will use opportunities to be advocates and facilitators of community decision-making in Horokiwi.
Combined Community Association & WCC projects	Twice yearly meetings in Horokiwi and facilitated by Wellington City Council to share information (some residents have offered to provide a venue). WCC will assess options to better share information with the Horokiwi community, such as the establishment of a web-site for Horokiwi.
Provision of WCC services	Horokiwi residents seek an assigned 'first-contact' person in the Wellington City Council, to facilitate better relationships with the Council on Horokiwi matters, particularly implementation of the Rural Community Plan and other district plan and resource consent issues.
Provision of other services	-
Community Association and WCC advocacy, facilitation and/or education	Wellington City Council has a role in assisting the spread of knowledge about the cultural importance of the Horokiwi area and in reinforcing its own role as a Treaty of Waitangi partner in the management of the natural and physical resources of the City. See also methods in <u>Section 5.4: Places of cultural and historic importance</u> .
Individual action	-
District Plan provisions	The relationship between the Rural Community Plan and other council planning processes, including the Northern Growth Management Plan, will be effectively managed. See also methods in <u>Section 5.2: Horokiwi's rural character</u> . See also methods in <u>Section 5.4: Places of cultural and historic importance</u> .
Other methods	-

8. MONITORING AND REVIEW

8.1 Identifying the issues

The suggested key issues concerning monitoring and review relate to the ongoing implementation of this Rural Community Plan, and its relationship to other Wellington City Council processes including the Council's state of the environment monitoring, and the Northern Growth Management Plan process.

8.2 Objective

OBJECTIVE	<u>To effectively monitor and review implementation of the Horokiwi Rural Community Plan.</u> (NEW)
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8.3 Methods

Community projects	The Horokiwi Community Association will use opportunities to be advocates for effective monitoring of the Horokiwi Rural Community Plan.
Combined Community Association & WCC projects	The Rural Community Plan will be reviewed every 3 years, with the first review to be completed by 30 June 2005. This review process will be undertaken in consultation with the Horokiwi Community Association and other stakeholders. Wellington City Council will collaborate with the Horokiwi community, and interested stakeholders to identify suitable indicators to monitor implementation of the Community Plan. This work will consider alignment with other state of the environment monitoring being done by the Council.
Provision of WCC services	-
Provision of other services	-
Community Association and WCC advocacy, facilitation and/or education	Wellington City Council will report on implementation of the Rural Community Plan to the Horokiwi community and other stakeholders.
Individual action	-
District Plan provisions	WCC will develop suitable statutory monitoring provisions to support any district plan and/or design guides that result from this Rural Community Plan.
Other methods	-

APPENDIX ONE: WCC RURAL AREA OBJECTIVES⁶

1. To encourage and facilitate community involvement in decision-making for the future of Wellington's rural areas through the Makara/Ohariu Community Board, Resident Groups, and through the development of Rural Community Plans
2. To maintain and enhance rural character, amenity and identity for people living, working and visiting the rural area
3. To provide opportunities for rural living where the environment and the local infrastructure is able to support and accommodate growth
4. To allow for efficient, convenient and safe access for people and goods to and within the rural area
5. To monitor and, where necessary, improve the safety of rural roads to mitigate any traffic effects arising from rural living and land use activities
6. To protect important ridgelines, landscapes and views
7. To support the sustainable management of land by private landowners
8. To promote environmentally sustainable water, wastewater and rubbish disposal schemes
9. To improve indigenous biodiversity by protecting and enhancing natural features, indigenous vegetation and regenerating bush
10. To preserve and enhance the natural character of coastal and riparian environments
11. To support a variety of high-quality rural recreational opportunities that do not adversely affect the environment
12. To meet, support and enhance the social and economic needs of the rural community through co-operation between the Council and those living and working in the rural area
13. To meet, support and enhance the rural area's contribution to the Wellington economy
14. To foster a safe environment for those living, working and visiting the rural area
15. To promote opportunities for the Council and mana whenua to work in partnership on rural issues

⁶ Adopted by the Council's City Development & Business and Environment & Recreation Committees in January 2001.

APPENDIX TWO: A GUIDE TO AVAILABLE METHODS

General approach	Method	Explanation
<p>“Non-Regulatory”</p> <p>or</p> <p>“Non-rule based”</p>	Community projects	Projects or actions that have resulted from members of the Horokiwi community deciding to take action independent of any external person or organisation.
	Combined Community Association & WCC projects	Projects that the Horokiwi Community Association and the Wellington City Council advocate and there is budget available in the Wellington City Council Annual Plan.
	Provision of WCC services	WCC services address the issue of concern.
	Provision of other services	Other organisations that provide facilities or services to the Horokiwi community are lobbied or encouraged to provide or improve services.
	Combined Community Association and WCC advocacy, facilitation and/or education	The Horokiwi Community Association and the Wellington City Council provide advice, advocate good practice, and/or facilitate activities which support and enhance the Community and/or the environment of the Horokiwi area.
	Individual action	Individuals take actions that address the significant issues identified in Horokiwi.
<p>“Regulatory”</p> <p>or</p> <p>“Rule-based”</p>	District Plan provisions	<p>Objectives, policies and/or rules are retained, changed or introduced into the Wellington City District Plan to address the significant issues raised through the Rural Community Plan process.</p> <p>These methods can include design guides to support implementation of the District Plan.</p>
“Other”	Other methods	In some situations there may be a specific method to address a particular problem or issue.

APPENDIX THREE: ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A large thank you is due to the many Horokiwi people and others who participated in the development of the Rural Community Plan. The Horokiwi Community Association has faithfully supported this process, and thanks to the Association's Committee and other Horokiwi enthusiasts in doing the hard work of reading successive drafts, attending numerous evening meetings, and sharing their knowledge of the area. Sydney Shep is thanked for so willingly preparing Section 3: Horokiwi Past and Present. Mark Collins and Tracey Cross also deserve congratulation for agreeing to host all our meetings.

Wellington City Council has supported this process and thanks to Claire Gregory as WCC Project Manager, Kate Graham for her willing assistance and other WCC staff who have willingly given their time and ideas to this project. Preparation of the Horokiwi Rural Community Plan has been co-ordinated for the Wellington City Council by Sarah McRae.