

**Absolutely Positively
Wellington City Council**

Me Heke Ki Pōneke

Ordinary Meeting of Mākara/Ōhāriu Community Board Ngā Meneti | Minutes

7:00pm Rāpare, 14 Poutū-te-rangi 2024

7:00pm Thursday, 14 March 2024

Ōhāriu Valley Hall

550 Ohariu Valley Road

Wellington



PRESENT

Christine Grace
Darren Hoskins (Deputy Chair)
Mark Reed (Chair)
Chris Renner
Wayne Rudd
Hamish Todd

IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor Apanowicz

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1 Meeting Conduct

1.1 Karakia

The Chairperson declared the meeting open at 7:03pm and invited members to stand and read the following karakia to open the meeting.

**Whakataka te hau ki te uru,
Whakataka te hau ki te tonga.
Kia mākinakina ki uta,
Kia mātaratara ki tai.
E hī ake ana te atākura.
He tio, he huka, he hauhū.
Tihei Mauri Ora!**

Cease oh winds of the west
and of the south
Let the bracing breezes flow,
over the land and the sea.
Let the red-tipped dawn come
with a sharpened edge, a touch of frost,
a promise of a glorious day

1.2 Apologies

No apologies were received.

1.3 Conflict of Interest Declarations

No conflicts of interest were declared.

1.4 Confirmation of Minutes

Moved Mark Reed, seconded Chris Renner

Resolved

That the Mākara/Ōhāriu Community Board:

1. Approves the minutes of the Mākara/Ōhāriu Community Board Meeting held on 1 February 2024, having been circulated, that they be taken as read and confirmed as an accurate record of that meeting.

Carried

1.5 Public Participation

There was no public participation.

1.6 Items not on the Agenda

There were no items not on the agenda.

2. Reports

2.1 Oral Updates

Moved Mark Reed, seconded Hamish Todd

Resolved

That the Mākara/Ōhāriu Community Board:

1. Receive the information.

Carried

A) Lloyd Jowsey gave the following Long-term Plan Update:

- The Long-term Plan (LTP) is a prioritization and budgeting exercise.
- The Council has been working on this LTP for the past 18 months, and it is now at the stage where it is going out for public consultation in April.
- Media interest and public discussion are a very normal and important part of the process. The interest has been amplified during this process as there are many key issues that affect the LTP namely cost inflation, which result in increase cost of rates. This can be seen in many councils across the country.
- Key consultation topics will be waste collection, and the sale of airport shares to create perpetual investment fund, which will also assist in insurance management.
- Other things being consulted on are community assets such as the Khandallah pool, fees and user changers, and levels of services generally.
- Lloyd emphasized that the team wants to ensure their engagement is as wide reaching as possible, and Board feedback on how to engage with their community is valuable.
- The Board raised a sense of growing cynicism around consultation in the community, and suggested improvements to closing the feedback loop would be helpful.
- Councillor Apanowicz also noted that public feedback has already shaped decision around what is going out for public consultation, specifically engagement around pool hours changing the proposal.

B) Mark Pattermore gave the following Planning Update:

- Discussed the process of referring consents to the Board, and where it could be improved to make sure no consents are missed.
- Suggested as an extra fail safe that the Board join the webalerts to be sent fortnightly the consents in Wellington, to ensure that all the applications are all being sent to them.
- The Board shared concerns about setting precedents in the area of accepting consents that go against the rural rules, especially when they put in a recommendation that they not be accepted.
- The Board also asked for a better feedback loop, and for the planning team to provide feedback to them on why decisions are made if they go against the

Boards recommendation, so that they can share this with members of the community when asked.

- Mark discussed the difference between the operational District Plan and the proposed District Plan. Councillor Apanowicz noted that the Proposed District Plan focused on intensification to central suburbs and wouldn't really change rules for the rural areas.
- The Board asked for some clarification of rural rules in the operational District Plan, and raised concern at a seeming rise of non-compliant activities being accepted by the consents team.
- Regarding tiny homes, from a resource consent perspective it is similar to a regular consent applications. Ideally properties will only have one house on them, and tiny homes, or permanently occupied caravans count towards this.
- The Council does have power to act against properties that are non-compliant, and have a range of levers to do that.
- The Board enquired about the requirements for a caravan to be considered permanently occupied which Mark will follow up on.
- When resource consents for tiny homes come through the planning team attempts to consider each on its merits, and make pragmatic decisions.
- Councillor Apanowicz noted that in the LTP Council passed a clause to look into Airbnb taxes as a revenue avenue.

C) Richard Davidson gave the following Transport Update:

- Traffic lights have been put up at the retaining wall works instead of a give way sign at the request of the community. However, there has also been some negative feedback.
- The approval has come through to fill the water table up on Mākara hill, so that work will commence soon.
- A letter drop has gone out to residents about Ōhāriu Valley safety improvements to give information about upcoming work. Richard asked for the Board to ask share this information with the community.
- Waka Kotahi are doing audits of roads in the area which affects the rural funding received to do work on infrastructure in the area.
- The board shared some potholes and other job request to Richard, and Mark reminded everyone to use the fixit app to ensure these issues are logged.

D) Mark Reed shared the following Chairperson Update:

- Mark shared the following three updates from a community member;
- The Mākara ANZAC service last year had traffic driving through which was unsafe. The member wanted to know what the process for traffic closure or traffic control would be. Officers shared that to close a road, it would require an application and a Council decision through the Regulatory Process Committee. Traffic management would be done through a private traffic management control company.
- The Board suggested it would be better to instead make the community more aware of the service to try and limit road usage.
- WREMO is looking at doing disaster management sessions at Mākara Valley Hall. Richard suggested it would be beneficial to have sessions both at the school and Ōhāriu Valley Hall as well.
- Richard said he would follow up about organizing this with Heather from WREMO.
- There is concern in the community regarding the flood risks from the Mākara Stream as wetter weather approaches.

- Mark shared that there was a plan created with Greater Wellington Regional Council (GW) previously to have the river cleared periodically, however this seems to not be happening.
- Richard will follow up and work with GW to ensure this is happening, and Darren has a planned meeting with GW to discuss this.
- Mark also suggested the GW comes to the next Board meeting to discuss.
- Mark also shared an update regarding the Mākara school bus issue that has been on going.
- Mark has been working with MP Tamatha Paul, and Mana Bus to find an alternative for the students no longer able to take the bus to school.
- The Ministry of Education policy will not be changing but Mana Bus has said they are happy to still carry the students should the schools ask them to.
- Mark will make sure the community knows this, and has additionally been working with Councillor Simon Woolf from GW to think about a general bus service starting from Mākara to Karori.

E) Board members shared the following Updates:

- Councillor Apanaowicz raised an issue he had received from a community member regarding an invasive species of willow being planted in the wetlands in the Mākara Valley.
- Mark shared that he has also been in contact with this community member, and notes that this type of willow is unfortunately endemic within the whole Mākara river valley.
- Mark also shared that the community member has also been working with GW and MPI who have greater mandate to take action on this issue, but that the Board have recorded the issue.

2.2 Resource Consent applications and approvals for 25 January 2024 to 25 February 2024

Moved Mark Reed, seconded Wayne Rudd

Resolved

That the Mākara/Ōhāriu Community Board:

1. Receive the information.

Carried

2.3 Upcoming Consultations and Engagements

Moved Darren Hoskins, seconded Hamish Todd

Resolved

That the Mākara/Ōhāriu Community Board:

1. Receive the information.

Carried

2.4 Forward Programme

Moved Mark Reed, seconded Chris Renner

Resolved

That the Mākara/Ōhāriu Community Board:

1. Receive the information.
2. Approve the current work programme, subject to any required changes.

Carried

The hui concluded at 8:37pm with the reading of the following karakia:

Unuhia, unuhia, unuhia ki te uru tapu nui	Draw on, draw on
Kia wātea, kia māmā, te ngākau, te tinana,	Draw on the supreme sacredness
te wairua	To clear, to free the heart, the body
I te ara takatū	and the spirit of mankind
Koia rā e Rongo, whakairia ake ki runga	Oh Rongo, above (symbol of peace)
Kia wātea, kia wātea	Let this all be done in unity
Āe rā, kua wātea!	

Authenticated: _____
Chair