

A note from your Project Team

With the publication of this Community Plan -- Raglan Naturally -- we have brought together a vision for Raglan, your vision. This Plan represents a common direction -- the collective views and aspirations of our diverse community -- as well as being a celebration of Raglan' s character.

As members of the Project Team and Raglan residents ourselves, we began this project with the idea of preparing a framework for Raglan' s future. Our view, at that time, was that we (cautiously) welcomed the development of our local community and economy, and would seek assurances that the environment would be protected. This underlying philosophy has been reinforced, by you, through the extensive public consultation process -- thank you for your input and guidance.

We have been privileged to develop this Plan for the community -- it has been a long, hard task, but one we know is worthwhile. Each one of us has been personally committed to the project and has contributed in our own way. Our thanks must also go to those staff of the Waikato District Council who have given hundreds of hours of support and expertise, and special thanks go to the project sponsors -- the Raglan Community Board.

This Community Plan is not an end point -- merely the beginning of our community' s future. It' s now over to you to get involved in making the plan come alive and to realise those dreams and aspirations which we share as a community.

We urge you to read this document, to consider the concepts contained within it, and to decide how you might contribute to the future of your community.

Raglan Community Plan Project Team

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A Community Plan for Raglan

To generate opportunities for local employment, new business and planned growth while protecting and enhancing Raglan' s unique character and diversity.

The Background Following community requests for further industrial, business and commercial growth in Raglan, the Waikato District Council, through the Raglan Community Board, formed a Study Group to consider issues and options relating to Raglan' s future development.

Working since the middle of 1999, the Study Group undertook two surveys. Key themes which came through in the results of these surveys were:

- people enjoy the seaside-town atmosphere and the relaxed lifestyle
- there is some frustration about the limited range of retail shops and services available locally
- suitable land available for light industry is scarce
- more needs to be done to protect the natural resources (from pollution) and the state of the physical environment (poor footpaths, graffiti), to create employment opportunities and to tackle social issues.

There was also strong support for:

- extending the business zone in Wainui Road and Bow Streets
- having more shops in the centre of town, for example, café dining in the street or above the verandah
- retaining the existing character of shops
- relieving congestion at the wharf
- providing for new business development in Raglan and the adjoining rural area, provided that the environment was not adversely affected.

Raglan Naturally has raised many issues relating to the provision and development of infrastructure and services to the Raglan community. The principal issues raised relate not so much to the specific infrastructure and services, but rather to the methods used for their delivery.

Throughout this plan there is a continued challenge to all parties to implement eco-friendly methods of providing infrastructure and services. Many of the options noted challenge conventional technology and seek the implementation of environmental principles in the design, implementation and maintenance of future activities in Raglan.

Support for a Community Plan Through submissions on various proposals and plans, it became clear that the community wanted to have a greater say in the social, environmental and economic development of Raglan.

Consequently, and being enthusiastic about the concept of an agreed future direction, the Raglan Community Board appointed 13 community representatives to work with Waikato District Council staff on the project to develop a Community Plan for Raglan.

The Project Team has defined the development issues within Raglan, looked at the manner in which Raglan residents wished development to occur, and identified local priorities.

Those ideas were compiled into the draft Community Plan (the discussion document Raglan Naturally), for input, discussion, debate and refinement from the wider Raglan community over December 2000 -- February 2001, when opinion was gathered through open forums and a formal submission process.

During the second quarter of 2001, the Project Team analysed the hundreds of comments received on the discussion document -- often going back to individuals and groups for clarification or further information to include in the draft Community Plan.

The development of this Raglan Community Plan is seen by the Waikato District Council and the Raglan Community

Board as an opportunity for the community to have a say in planning for the future, whilst safeguarding the unique character and diversity which is Raglan. From the opinions and comments gathered throughout the consultation phase, this is also the united view of the community.

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The Community Plan Process

Why do a Community Plan? As a short to medium term initiative for Raglan, the Community Plan will:

- focus community debate and get people involved in making decisions and taking responsibility for our town
- set direction and common goals, promote consensus and avoid division
- safeguard the community and the environment from exploitation (community representation at local, national and international levels will be sought)
- capture all good ideas and identify initiatives suitable for external funding
- assist Community Board decision-making and allow more effective use of ratepayer funds
- ensure the town is able to develop the same facilities that other towns already enjoy
- help avoid haphazard development
- help secure support from funding providers (for major projects)
- help influence Waikato District Council' s programme of works during its annual and long-term planning processes
- show opportunities for individuals and groups to develop new projects and provide goods and services.

Reporting on and updating this Plan each year will enable the community to record achievements, and to check that the identified priorities are still correct. It will also be a chance to include new information and new ideas.

How will this Community Plan Work? The Plan will be used to secure support from within, and outside the community for funding for specific projects, and will be reported on regularly to the Community Board and the public. An annual review will enable success to be measured (and celebrated), and information to be checked and updated. There' s plenty of opportunity for your involvement at every stage of the process.

Individuals, groups and others will be able to pick up leads and develop new activities that provide goods and services, and which may lead to employment creation. The Community Board will take an active role in promoting the Plan to the community and, where appropriate, facilitating project development.

This Community Plan -- a collection of aspirations and priorities in future direction -- is a community-owned document. It is a framework which can be used to guide decision-making for local planning purposes.

For example, individuals and groups who may be searching for a community project to undertake could use the Plan to determine priorities for action or to support their requests for external funding.

As part of the Council' s planning process, the Raglan Community Board could use the Plan to determine local priorities and to recommend future work programmes to Council. In turn, for its annual and longer-term work programmes, the Waikato District Council will need to take into account the principles and priorities of the local community, as outlined in the Community Plan and Council' s own Strategic Plan. The Council could use the Community Plan as a basis for developing new policies for desired growth within the District.

Others who have an interest in the future of Raglan will also find the Community Plan an essential planning guide, these include:

- Government Agencies
- Other Councils
- Developers/investors
- Visitors and tourists.

Who will have access to the Plan? This Community Plan is readily available from local offices and shops, the Raglan Information Centre and local real estate agents -- with the Council' s office on Bow Street as the focal point for information and advice.

The Council undertakes to give a copy of this Plan to every new property owner in the local area, and to supply a copy to those enquiring at any Council office or library about any kind of development or activity for Raglan and the surrounding area.

How will progress and success be measured? A central record of activity will be kept at the Council' s office in Bow Street, and, through the Raglan Community Board, progress will be reported to the community on at least a quarterly basis. Maintenance of the Plan will keep it up to date and "alive" .

Maintaining the integrity of the Plan and monitoring its use is a necessary part of the implementation. A review of the Plan' s achievements and confirmation of the next highest priorities will be carried out by the Community Board at a time to coincide with the preparation of Council' s annual plan budgeting process.

A major review of this Community Plan may be called for by the community, or by the Community Board, which will again involve public consultation and input.

How well the whole process is working will be evaluated by Council staff who, as part of the Council' s own strategic planning processes, are required to report to the Council on the way in which a locally developed plan is being utilised.

How can new ideas be incorporated? The Community Plan has been arranged like a workbook so that an individual or group may use it to keep a record of their activity and ideas. The central record of activity, maintained by Council staff at its Council' s Bow Street office, will form the basis of the quarterly reports to the community and the annual review for the Community Board.

The Raglan Naturally Project Team will also have a part to play in ensuring that the plan is "working" -- that the concepts are keeping up with current thinking.

All comments on, or contributions to, this Community Plan should be made to Council staff at the Raglan Area Office, Bow Street.

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A Description of Our Community

Population Summary

- Increasing population -- 1986 = 1809 1996 = 2787 Gain of 54%
- 63% European population -- 25% Maori Population
- 60.7% of Maori population is under the age of 29 years
- 30.1% of European population is under the age of 29 years
- 34% of European population is over the age of 60 years
- 50.4% of the population is female -- 49.6% male

Population Projections Up to date information from the 2001 Census of Population and Dwellings will become available during 2002 and will then be incorporated into the Plan.

In the meantime, it is assumed that Raglan' s population will probably continue to grow at a rate comparable to the "high projection" model prepared by Statistics New Zealand, which means the following projections.

Base population 2001 2011 2021 Raglan township 2,900 3,400 4,100 Holiday makers/daytrippers 6,700 9,085 11,025
Total peak summertime 9,600 12,485 15,125

Household Summary

- 57% of households are one family only households
- 27% of households are single person households
- 70% of households have an income of less than \$30,000 pa
- 11.6% of households have an income of over \$50,000 pa

Housing Summary

- 94% of dwellings are separate houses
- 27.1% of dwellings have one usual household member
- 33% of dwellings have 3 or more usual household members
- 1.1% of dwellings have over 7 usual household members

Employment Summary

- 34.3% of population between 15 and 60 years were in full time employment
- 32% of those employed were in the Community and Personal Services Sector
- 25% of those employed were employed full time in sales.
- 61.5% of full time workers were male, 38.5% female
- 80% of full time workers were European, 17% were Maori.
- 18.6% increase in the number of full time workers from 1986 to 1996
- 76.7% increase in the number of part time workers from 1986 to 1996

Unemployment Summary

- Unemployed were 55% European and 43% Maori
- 33% of unemployed are between the ages of 15 and 29 years
- 34% of unemployed are between the ages of 40 and 49 years
- 77% of unemployed Maori are between 15 and 29 years.
- 75% of unemployed Europeans are between 15 and 29 years.

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Income Support

- 5% of the total Raglan Ward are receiving some type of income support.
- 59% of Income Support Payments were Unemployment Benefit
- 17% of Income Support Payments were Domestic Purposes Benefit
- 57.5% of those on a benefit were male, 38% female.

Age of offenders for whole of Raglan Police Area

- 52% of known offenders are between 10 and 20 years
- **Another 25% are between 21 and 30 years.**

Source of figures: 1996 Census of population and dwellings Police statistics

Miranda

N

Meremere

Rangiriri

Glen Afton & Pukemiro

Taupiri

Waingaro

Whatawhata

Tamahere

Waikato District Council Offices

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Raglan Naturally

Key Themes for Our Future When putting this document together the first thing the Project Team looked at was developing key themes for our future development. From the work of the initial study group, and the results of the two pre-consultation surveys, three key themes became obvious -- our economy, our society and our environment (both natural and physical). The diagram below represents the inter-relationship between all these ‘environments’, and ties into the Key Areas of Focus section, which starts on page 12.

Our economic

environment

- Business retail/commercial)
- Culture
- Employment
- Community Well-being
- Home-based ventures
- Education
- Industry
- Health
- Promotion (including
- Recreation
- Funding Opportunities
- Public Safety

Our natural

environment

- Harbour and Sea
- Land
- Beautification
- Buildings (including housing)
- Infrastructure (roads, water supplies, street lighting)
- Transportation

Our social environment

- People (youth, elderly) tourism)

Our physical environment

The Threshold Concept The other major development by the Project Team has been the concept of “thresholds’ . So when looking at the Key Areas of Focus, you’ ll notice that we’ ve identified four key areas:

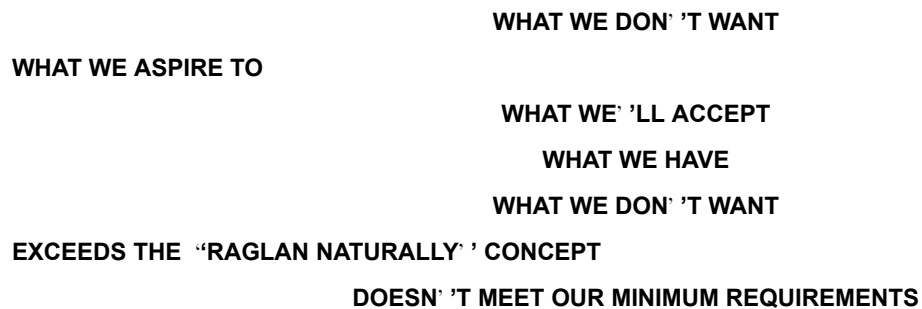
- what we currently have
- what we’ ll accept
- what we aspire to
- what we don’ t want.

The diagram opposite illustrates how these four aspects of the thresholds inter-relate.

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the lower threshold (minimum)

the upper threshold maximum)



Raglan Naturally

Excitement...Serenity Relaxed lifestyles, a tranquil harbour, safe swimming beaches, black sand, internationally renowned surf and spectacular coastal views are characteristic of Raglan -- the Waikato District' s only seaside resort.

Raglan is home to around 2,900 people and is the holiday destination for thousands more. Nestled on the shores of Whaingaroa Harbour and at the foot of Mount Karioi, Raglan offers a unique environment for locals and visitors alike.

In Raglan you can enjoy:

- refreshing walks along the beach
- good fishing opportunities
- world-class surf
- rugged West Coast beauty
- an easy-paced lifestyle where you can “get away from it all”
- a rich culture of cafés, arts and crafts, cottage industries
- a strong tangata whenua heritage.

Numbers of permanent residents and visitors have grown rapidly in recent years as the rest of the region has become aware of Raglan' s attractions. Many people who work in Hamilton choose to live in Raglan, resulting in holiday homes becoming permanent dwellings and new houses being constructed. Recent developments such as the Wainui Reserve have strengthened Raglan' s claim as a top holiday destination.

People here have a strong connection to the environment and are actively seeking to safeguard and improve it. A drive towards a zero-waste target through recycling initiatives, and a native plant nursery supplying free plants to enhance stream and harbour margins are just two examples of many local moves towards improving the environment.

This concern for the environment and enjoyment of a variety of lifestyles is resulting in a desire to ensure growth enhances, rather than degrades, the environment. People want the town to grow -- but within limits.

What comes to mind when you think of Raglan?

These are the things that people say they like about Raglan.

- Something for everyone -- shopping, leisure, lifestyle.
- The lack of pace -- relaxed people and peaceful style of life.
- The seaside atmosphere -- the beach, the surf!
- The wonderful scenery -- the mountains, the bush, the sea.
- The sense of “community”.

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Key Areas of Focus

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Beautification

What We Have Raglan has a special, natural character based firmly on the sea, coast, mountain and farmland that supports a seaside village concept.

Development has imposed some undesirable aspects on the town that should be removed or reduced, while there are some positive aspects that should be maintained or enhanced.

Raglan has many generously sized road reserves and many roads in open exposed areas.

There is little effective control of signage in Raglan and some types of signs are dominating the appearance of the town. Other service signs are not systematically applied (some walks are unmarked) and some signs are in poor condition.

What We' ll Accept

- We should seek to have roadside planting which enhances the environment and the Raglan Naturally image.
- There should be a Waikato District Council policy to ensure a minimum standard of beautification works for the environment where project work is undertaken.

Signage should reinforce the Raglan Naturally image.

- Include signs at the perimeter of the watershed of the harbour.
- At the top of the deviation not only put "Welcome" signage, but also a viewing guide and picnic table. Signage should be minimised once the key features have been appropriately labelled.

Individuals could be encouraged to take pride in the physical environment.

- Keeping private sections and road frontages tidy.
- Planting should not interfere with the utility of the roads, or the properties, but should complement them.
- Litter (all kinds) should be discouraged, and removed promptly.

What We Aspire To

· A particular opportunity for beautification is to convert the town end of Wallis Street into a kerbs and appropriate lighting.

- The beaches and windswept hills are also worthy of preservation.

Priorities for Action

Development Plans

- Prepare development/beautification plans for: - Cliff Street -- preservation of pohutukawas/boardwalk plans - Manu Bay - Fire Station estuary frontage - Area by heli-pad behind Police Station - All major routes into and out of the central area/town edge/Whaanga Coast - Catchment restoration/harbour care - Wainui Road and around the Area School.
- The area from Helen Place to the Opoturu Bridge on Wainui Road should be upgraded and beautified within the next two years -- this should include the planting of the retaining walls.
- Other examples include the roads around Whaanga Coast and Manu Bay.
- Support the use of Harbour Care Nursery for the supply of seedlings for beautification works.
- Restoration and beautification projects to be undertaken: - Whaanga Coast -- to combat erosion -- retaining walls built and planted - roads and roadsides to be cleared of pampas grass and replanted with natives - laybys/picnic areas -- top of the deviation, Whale Bay lookout.

Minimum Standards/Incentives

- Set guidelines for roadside planting on restoration works.
- Establish a “pride in Raglan’ ’ campaign with incentives to maintain individual properties and offer incentives to restore key buildings and sites.

Abandoned Vehicles

- Remove abandoned vehicles more quickly when the legislative requirements have been met.
- Offer free dumping at the refuse transfer station?
- Promote the removal of abandoned vehicles as a business opportunity?

Graffiti

- Establish a system which allows graffiti to be dealt with quickly.

Signage

- Consistent signage whereby walkways and attractions are signposted and in good condition.
- Signage to reinforce the Raglan Naturally philosophy -- clean, green; recycling/zero waste principles.

Litter

- Place public recycling bins in key areas so that litter is kept to a minimum and the zero waste philosophy is actively promoted to visitors.

Buildings

(including housing)

What We Have The buildings within the central business area generate part of Raglan's special character, as do a few other buildings in the town. The balance of the urban area and neighbouring rural houses reflect the individuality of the town's residents, which is a key part of the character of Raglan.

For the last 10 years, the number of dwellings (houses) has increased for each of the three main towns in the Waikato District, with the largest increase (at 41%) in Raglan (compared with a 16% increase across the whole District). The number of people per household in Raglan is also increasing (now at 2.6 people per household), but remains less than the Waikato District average of 3.1 people per household.

Most buildings are currently suitable for a variety of uses, but the size of future buildings, particularly in the business area, needs to be controlled. It has been suggested that industrial buildings be located in a rural setting independent of the urban development.

Do we have a village in transition from beach back to urban lifestyle?

What We Aspire To

- Commercial buildings in the CBD that have the "Raglan look" and are single storey (or at the most not more than two levels high).
- Design guidelines which support the seaside village character of Raglan.
- A coastal area that is free of buildings. (Although service facilities or low impact tourist accommodation may be allowed if suitable measures were taken to protect the character of the surrounding area).
- Maintain the diversity of Raglan's architecture, which is part of the town's appeal, by ensuring the imposition of restrictions to protect the "character" are not applied so rigidly that all the buildings start to look too alike.

What We Don't Want

- Buildings blocking views of harbour, coast and mountain.
- Development that is out of context with the character of Raglan.
- Multi-storied buildings.
- Subdivisions which are not "eco-friendly".
- High-rise apartment towers.
- Industry/commercial/residential mixed together.

Priorities for Action

- The retention of access to, and views of, the harbour, coast and mountain from within Raglan.
- The restriction of buildings on the water' 's edge to allow esplanade access and to retain coastal character -- a topic which requires discussion under the Waikato Regional Coastal Plan.
- Simple themed development to retain the character of Raglan.

Urban Residential - The Waikato District Council will work with the community to establish design guidelines

for the protection and development of Raglan' 's "seaside village" ' character, without suppressing individual expression and lifestyle choice.

Rural Residential - Open up more lifestyle blocks (ie in the hills around the town) with views. - Control appearance on properties where the houses form part of the local vista.

CBD

- No building over two storeys.
- Appropriate verandahs.
- With or without poles?
- As opportunities arise, redevelop existing areas in context with the "simple" ' theme.
- Encourage improvements to central business district properties to enhance architecture, eg repainting of the Town Hall to highlight our art deco style.
- Compliance of building modifications in central business district.
- Protection of heritage buildings and sites.

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Business

(Retail/Commercial)

We know that residents and visitors to Raglan alike appreciate the compact nature of the central shopping area (the central business district or CBD). There' s a variety of shops and a great range of eating places -- something for everyone!

But is there enough choice? Could the CBD be expanded, or are there other ways to cater for summertime shoppers? Is there sufficient population (permanent or temporary) to sustain an increase in business?

What We Have

- A collection of small businesses.
- A lack of theme or image -- no co-ordinated Raglan "brand" ' for marketing purposes.
- Limited competition.
- A limited range of goods and services provided.
- A variety of eating places.

What We' 'll Accept Development that reflects the Raglan Naturally concept (that is, within the desired thresholds, and is consistent with a "seaside village" ' concept.

What We Aspire To

- A relaxed and pedestrian-friendly CBD.
- Street beautification work -- more (covered) seating, green areas.
- Development of a boutique shopping concept -- a wider range of small scale shops.
- Additional car parking spaces on the periphery of the CBD.
- Design guidelines for CBD development.
- A "village square" ' concept.

What We Don' 't Want

- The loss of Raglan' 's scale and intensity of development.
- Unsustainable expansion of commercial buildings that lie abandoned in off-peak seasons.
- People avoiding the CBD because of traffic congestion, and a lack of parking.

Priorities for Action

- Enable the CBD to expand to accommodate an increased range of shops and services – within strict guidelines relating to business type and appearance.
- Boutique shopping retained in concentrated CBD.
- Mobile shops – review Council' s policy on mobile shops.
- Ensure a complete range of goods and services is available.
- Co-ordinated branding and marketing efforts – Raglan branded products.
- Themed development of CBD to ensure a vibrant, exciting, pedestrian-based central area.
- Developing a design guide for CBD.
- Providing for the expansion of the CBD to Bankart Street, Nero Street, Wainui Road and the southern end of Wallis Street, including adequate parking, service lanes and to the required standard of beautification (refer proposed design guidelines).
- Developing the Cliff Street promenade to allow pedestrian access to the water, as well as allowing development for recreational use.
- Supporting the development of the wharf area as a retail/commercial area.
- A possible pedestrian-only area in Bow Street/Wainui Road or the Bow Street/Cliff Street corner.
- Providing service lanes.
- Ensuring footpaths are uncluttered and allow for street dining and product display without hindering pedestrian traffic, mobility scooters or pushchairs.
- Planning for parking areas to keep pace with development.
- Enforce the 60 minute parking limit in the CBD.
- Developing a village square – a central place for time-out and relaxation, music, and art and craft events.
- Prepare guidelines to consider requests for the location of retail or commercial activity on reserves – these requests may occur as a result of seasonal demand, or organised fundraising activities or events.
- Provide information and practical assistance to small businesses.

Community Well-Being

Raglan is a diverse community – one which has a variety of cultural, social and economic needs, and a range of resources; a strong community radio station, a community house, local service clubs such as Lions, Toastmasters, Scouts and the like.

What We Aspire To

- Modern, integrated health centres which promote/support different health options.
- Regular representation of Government agencies – a dedicated office with staff/information available at set times or by appointment.
- Support for social service agencies, including promotion of services offered.
- A revitalised and more visible safer communities programme.
- A local Victim Support group.
- A society that can respond to community needs as they arise.
- A community that enjoys, participates in and organises recreational, cultural and creative events.
- A sustainable economic base for Raglan.

What We Have

- A range of alternative health providers.
- A number of community organisations such as the community house, information centre, senior citizen' s groups, who look to provide support within the community.
- A well organised and effective emergency services group for land, sea and air.
- A tolerant community that is not threatened by diverse attitudes and lifestyles.
- A community that is prepared to respond to needs.
- An atmosphere that encourages harmony and tranquility.

Priorities for Action

Health Alternatives

- Allow for a variety of health providers and health services.

Public Safety

- Seek improvements to footpaths, street lighting and other infrastructure and amenities.

Community Services

- Establish an area/office/space in one of the community recreation facilities for Government agencies to be represented, and available on a regular basis.
- A 24 hour, 7 days a week health service that also caters for after-hour needs.
- 24 hour, in town, police and emergency service coverage.
- A Co-ordinator who works for an elected community body seeking to obtain additional funds from elsewhere for Raglan.
- Appointment of a Harbour Master to cover all issues relating to the harbour including moorings, safety, vessels, channels, nuisance, regulatory enforcement.
- Acknowledgment and support for the groups operating in the area of public safety, for example the Night Owls, Safer Communities Council, the Maori Wardens
- Clear objectives and goals for community groups to avoid competition for scarce resources and to ensure delivery of complimentary services.
- To expand the role for the Information Centre to be an ‘Information and Resource Centre’ that caters for the community’s need for information as well as tourism.

Culture

The social fabric of our town There' 's something for everyone in Raglan -- we are a diverse community with a positive attitude. There are many opportunities to pursue music, arts and crafts, eat out and take part in community groups such as the Raglan Community Arts Council.

Raglan and Whaingaroa have a strong tangata whenua presence with spiritual and cultural perspectives and a long history.

Raglan reflects very strong, vibrant and eco-friendly attitudes and directions.

What We Have Raglan' 's culture is special because of:

- Our wide variety of lifestyles/tolerance for alternative lifestyles and points of view.
- Our co-operative rather than competitive principles.
- The history of this area.
- Demographics that show Raglan is a rapidly growing, vibrant, well-represented yet diverse community with a healthy mix of ages.
- Its development as a seaside resort and a commuter town for Hamilton ensures a mixture of permanent and temporary residents, visitors and absentee landowners.
- The valuable resource we have derived from our community' 's wealth of diverse knowledge and experience.
- The tranquillity and spiritual renewal encouraged by the coastal and harbour environment.

What We Aspire To

- Maintaining a diverse community to celebrate and cater for a variety of lifestyles, cultural differences and opportunities for development and interaction.

What We Don' 't Want

- To stifle initiatives for cultural diversity.
- Exploitation/destruction of the natural environment.
- "Citified" ' architecture.
- The destruction of our relaxed Raglan Naturally image.
- To jeopardise opportunities for diversity.
- To make living in Raglan unaffordable.

Priorities for Action

Preserve Raglan' s Unique Character and Diversity

- Celebrate the special nature of Raglan' s diverse culture through all things, including arts and festivals.
- A pro-active Community Board that responds to community wishes and priorities and consults widely with the community.
- The Community Board to commit to actioning the Community Plan and ensuring its regular review to ongoing involvement.
- Support local cultural activities.
- Support further development of Raglan Museum for improved building and displays.
- Identify historic buildings and work with Historic Places Trust to categorise.
- Build on Raglan culture of the sea and its associated activities including fishing, surfing, diving, sailing and the like.

Future Developments

- Support tangata whenua marae-based initiatives.
- Continue to encourage regular market days.
- Further development of amphitheatre and make accessible.

Education

The Raglan community is well served by local education providers. These range from pre-school (Te Kohanga Reo), etc, to primary and secondary schools (Raglan Area School), and specialist education centres such as the Environmental Centre co-ordinated by Whaingaroa Environment, the Community House and the Library.

All providers have an emphasis on lifelong learning and, where applicable, a focus on success for students.

Education institutions within Raglan have developed several leading edge approaches in response to local community needs, including technological advances, the Raglan Area School Surfing Academy, emphasis on environmental education, emphasis on academic and sporting excellence, and the like.

What We Have

- The current education choices include: kohanga reo, licensed childcare, kindergarten, public school, correspondence courses or home schooling.
- Sporting prowess is commendable and should be celebrated.
- Community education programmes, for example Whaingaroa Environment' 's work to increase awareness and provide information networks.

What We Aspire To

- Achieving a range of high quality education options for life-long learning opportunities, to enable all members of our community to become confident, informed and self-motivated learners.
- Continued support for Raglan Area School as a focal and integral part of the community.
- That the community' 's concept of "education" ' includes formal and informal learning experiences for all aspects of life -- physical, spiritual and mental well-being.

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Priorities for Action

Education Options

- Allow for the provision of alternative education, for example a range of pre-school/schooling (like Montessori, Rudolf Steiner), although private enterprise will dictate whether or not alternatives are implemented.
- Support the development of new facilities, for example the recently-opened environmental education centre (Whaingaroa Environment education centre, located in the town hall), a satellite university campus, and ongoing community education programmes.
- Run holiday programmes and youth programmes on a regular basis.
- Establish child care/early learning centre facilities as part of proposed recreation complexes -- costs to be funded by users of system.
- Propose weekend workshops.

Existing/New Facilities

- Concentrate on supporting and building-up what we have.
- Continue to support Raglan Area School as a focal and integral part of the community.
- In order to build numbers of (senior) school students, investigate offering a greater range of subjects.
- Offer specialist courses to attract students from outside Raglan (eg, surfing academy which already exists).
- Establish environmental education programmes in schools.
- Encourage more night classes which cater for Raglan residents' ' needs.
- Expand the community' 's use of school facilities.
- Investigate the provision of hostel or student accommodation for students in either Hamilton or Raglan.
- Encourage local groups and organisations to educate the public about their activities.

Employment

Often commuting to Hamilton and beyond for work is a choice many people make -- they still own or rent a home here and contribute to the local economy.

Raglan is a holiday destination with people visiting from Hamilton and beyond, and some employment caters to visitors' needs as well as locals.

Local businesses which provide employment and which fit with our environmentally-friendly criteria (see "industry" section) are welcome.

In order to attract and sustain business growth the Council and community will provide information and assistance (either directly or through other agencies). It is recognised that the success of any venture will, ultimately, be determined by market forces.

What We Have

- A large number of small, locally-owned businesses operating in a competitive business environment.
- Scattered, haphazard industrial sites.
- Seasonal employment.
- Boutique businesses and industries.
- A strong, farming sector which supports a lot of local industry and commerce.

What We Aspire To

- Providing employment opportunities and work experience, for example, for school leavers and people returning to the workforce.
- Active programmes for supporting unemployed persons.
- Recognition of the contribution of volunteers to the community.
- A positive business environment.
- Providing opportunities to enable desired businesses to establish and grow.
- Encourage cottage industry, with information and assistance from Council.
- Ensure land is available for new or relocating business.
- Tourism-related businesses which treat the environment in a sustainable way.
- A high level of employment, and low level, or no, unemployment.

What We Don't Want

- Raglan to lose its character.
- To be reliant upon seasonal employment or on limited employment opportunities.

Priorities for Action

Employment Initiatives

- Employment provided by locally-owned and operated businesses: - art gallery/craft centre/tourist-related.
- Employment based on the use of local resources: - employment likely in tourism, harbour, and sea-related activities.
- Local co-ordination of business and employment: - utilise local contractors/businesses where possible, eg for town maintenance.
- Government employment initiatives, eg Task Force Green schemes, all year round.
- Opportunities for tourism-related ventures: - backpackers, adventure tourism, trekking, fishing and boating.
- Opportunities for marine-based industry: - fishing, boat building, marine farms.
- Provide information and assistance to small businesses through Local and Government Agencies, local mentors.

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Funding Opportunities

There are many possible national, regional and local sources of funding that could be approached for projects and priorities in Raglan.

Opportunities need to be created to take advantage of these funding sources, as obtaining external funding will enable the town to progress the priorities/key projects identified in the Community Plan.

What We Aspire To If external sources of funding can be harnessed this will assist local groups and organisations to undertake projects of value to the town, for example, funds could be used for:

- Government employment initiatives, for example, Task Force Green to continue the environmental protection and enhancement work in the area
- Environmental initiatives, for example, improvements to harbour water quality
- Community facilities such as a multi-sport/recreation complex
- Arts projects
- Community welfare initiatives.

We would also seek support for:

- Government and private incentives for innovative business proposals and local economic development
- Continued support from Work and Income New Zealand (WINZ)
- Self-funding of initiatives
- External funding for recreation and community facilities.

To maximise the opportunities available, we will investigate the establishment of an independent Raglan-based agent or agency, whose role could include seeking funding and assisting with applications for grants.

What we don' 't want

- Major sponsorship requiring an intrusive, long-term branding of the environment.
- Outside control (through grant conditions or requirements) over the design and operation of local businesses or facilities.

Priorities for Action

Funding Opportunities

- Investigate mechanisms for increasing Raglan' 's share of the available public and private funds, including the use of: - the Enterprise Agency - Funding/Community Liaison Officer of Council - employment of professional fundraisers on contract - education of local groups/volunteer fundraisers - access to funding information and assistance with applications
- Utilise existing resources to assist with accessing funding sources*, and assisting local groups to apply for funds *for example, WEL Trust, Lottery Grants Board, Hillary Commission, Trust Waikato.
- Actively seek agencies providing labour or funding for environmental projects in support of local environmental groups such as Whaingaroa Environment, Harbour Care, X-Treme Waste.
- Practice community partnership principles, so that the town approaches funding agencies in a united and co-ordinated way, with a list of priorities supported perhaps by the Raglan Community Board, rather than competing for a share of the limited funds.

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Harbour and Sea

What We Have This subject attracted the highest number of submissions, with the most important issue being the protection and sustainability of the coastal and harbour environments.

The harbour and coastal waters are vulnerable to the effects of pollution and run-off from the land. There are other influences on the inter-tidal areas, eg shellfish gathering, that can affect many local habitats. The effect of a possible global rise in sea levels needs to be actively monitored. Careful management and controls will always be needed to protect the marine ecosystem from the effects of a coastal town and heavy recreational use. The cost-effectiveness of various management initiatives needs to be investigated.

Local initiatives should continue to be encouraged and supported. At present there are two community groups working on harbour and water protection and enhancement. These are Harbour Care and Whaingaroa Environment.

What We Aspire To

Design all developments and structures so as to limit the use of, and to minimise further damage to, the environment. Where at all possible, the design should enhance the marine ecosystems.

- Control and treat stormwater and sewage discharges to prevent pollutants reaching the sea.
- Reduce the number of foreshore structures as much as possible. Ensure that the remaining structures are necessary, properly designed, authorised, do not hinder access if they are on reserves, and do not detract from the landscape.
- Protect riparian areas (the buffers between the land the sea).
- Allow open access for the public to the harbour and sea where possible, and aim to eventually eliminate private occupation of public reserves.
- Ensure that the planting of the coastal and riparian areas by Harbour Care is promoted as a valued community initiative.
- Remove unnecessary private structures from public land.
- Ensure that future decisions have protection of the natural character of the harbour and coast as the highest priority.

What We Don' 't Want

- Loss of access to, or views of, the harbour from parked cars, large trees or buildings.
- Privatisation of the harbour margins.
- Developments that damage the marine/harbour ecosystem.
- Discharges that degrade water quality.
- Uncontrolled water activities.

· Unnecessary protective structures.

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Priorities for Action

Promotional Opportunities

- Promote Raglan as a harbour and seaside town.
- Identify coastal areas which are/are not suitable for commercial ventures or other developments.
- Ensure that the harbourside is optimised for community access and use without any further environmental degradation.
- Undertake specific community consultation to investigate and evaluate options for alleviating congestion at the wharf, which may include: - Extensions to the wharf - Reclamation of land adjacent to the wharf - Provision of parking.
- Review Manu Bay Management Plan.
- Provide amenity lighting to a high standard on the wharf, Kopua footbridge, Wainui Reserve and Manu Bay – in consultation with users and residents.
- Safeguard coastal views from Wainui Reserve.
- Investigate the development of a stormwater retention/desedimentation ponding area on the Aro Aro Reserve.

Safeguarding the Environment

- Maintain the coastal and harbour views, eg do not allow the planting of big trees, or the building of high fences or large buildings that destroy existing views.
- Waikato District Council to monitor and remove illegal structures on reserves.
- Establish a sensible system of defining the boundary between public and private land.
- Erosion protection/maintenance and restoration, eg at Manu Bay, Cliff Street.
- Promote improved riparian management and planting to reduce pollutant levels in the harbour.
- Investigate ways of improving stormwater treatment systems and update Raglan stormwater management plan.
- Use environmentally friendly designs and materials for all structures in the harbour area.
- Council to seek esplanade reserves or strips wherever there is a demand for public access.
- As part of esplanade reserve development, consider opportunities for recreation.
- Provide power, water and wastewater disposal facilities at the wharf for camper vans and boats.
- Encourage community involvement in existing and future integrated catchment-based activities.

Home-based Ventures

The Waikato District Plan recognises that many people work from home by making home-occupation a permitted activity in the Residential Zone. However, the Plan defines a home occupation as a business, service, craft or profession operated from a residential site, and excludes some businesses, for example panel-beating and car wrecking, from the definition. The operation of a home occupation is subject to compliance with standards set out in the District Plan.

What We Have

- Range of activities being undertaken throughout residential areas with some creating minor adverse effects on neighbours.
- Through the current District Plan, a set of enforceable and recommended design guidelines reflecting established standards

Home Occupations Must:

- Involve permanent resident on site.
- Employ only one additional person from off-site.
- Be secondary to residential use of the site.
- Not cause interference with neighbours' electrical equipment.
- Not be open for customers between 10.00pm and 7.00am.
- Not be visible from roads or neighbours.
- Not involve the sale of liquor.

What We'll Accept

- Continued opportunities for home-based initiatives, but with small scale adverse effects from traffic, noise.

What We Aspire To

- Ensure that unreasonable constraints don't limit opportunities for working from home.
- Avoid reducing residential amenity values because of inappropriate home uses.

What We Don't Want

- The loss of residential amenity because of traffic, noise, odour or dust from neighbouring activities.
- To see small scale activities out-growing residential sites.

Priorities For Action

- Council to allow for home occupations (‘appropriate venture’) in a more flexible way, but with strict control in residential areas, for example control of noise and traffic.
- Rules for advertising signage (for a home-based venture) to be relaxed.
- Tourism-related businesses to be encouraged.
- In conjunction with the local business association, develop a Raglan business support group.
- Make more use of local and district agencies who can offer assistance and information to small businesses.
- Co-ordinate a home-based ventures trail/exploration route.
- Establish market days to provide additional opportunities for locally developed products.
- Ensure that promotional agencies are aware of products and services to capitalise on marketing opportunities.
- Promote Raglan as a small-scale local industry/manufacturing/tourism centre.

Industry and Manufacturing

Whilst Raglan is not viewed as a centre for large business and industry because of the potential detrimental effects on the environment, there is a need to allow for sufficient light industry/manufacturing activity to cater for local needs.

What We Have

- Little suitably-zoned or available land for business development.

What We 'll Accept

- With conditions, allowing industry in the rural periphery.
- Urban zoning, which includes commercial, residential and industrial land uses.
- Industrial zoning of site-specific areas to be considered in conjunction with any proposed bypass development.
- Opportunities for developing the southern end of Te Kopua (the land opposite Te Kopua Road).

What We Aspire To

- Environmentally friendly manufacturing.
- Raglan resource-based industry.
- Separation from residential areas.
- Sympathetic locations in landscape avoiding residential sites, outstanding coast and natural hazards.
- Zero waste processes.

What We Don' t Want

- Dominant buildings on the landscape.
- Industrial development in residential areas or along coastal margin.
- Pollution of land, water or air.
- Waste generation.
- The detrimental effects of heavy industry such as high noise or pollution levels.
- Industry "ruining" recreation and tourism opportunities.

Priorities for Action

Council 's Role

- Allow for business/industrial development in the rural zone providing effects are contained on site.
- Having a designated area would help people' 's real estate decisions/cluster industrial/commercial sites.
- Prepare a policy on desired growth.
- Relax rules in rural areas to allow for spot industrial development, within strict guidelines.
- Investigate the creation of a light industrial zone.
- Industrial areas should be back from main roads, but with good access for transportation.
- Allow for industries essential for Raglan' 's development (depots, yards, concrete supplies).

Role of Industry

- Strive for zero-waste processes.
- No heavy industry/no unsightly industry.
- Strict anti-pollution controls.
- To cater for Raglan' 's growth by the provision of goods, services and employment.
- Cater for marine-based industrial needs.

Infrastructure

Roading Raglan roads are still being upgraded from narrow metalled ways to sealed suburban roads. Past funding limitations have resulted in compromises where the carriageway has been sealed, but neither the drainage kerbs and piping nor the footpaths have been installed. This is the current situation for most of Raglan' 's roads.

In recent times the policy has changed so that when a road is upgraded the kerbing, drainage and paths are also installed.

The topography of the peninsula that carries the main part of town means that there are some pinch points such as the main traffic route through town passing through the main shopping street. The same topography means that it is difficult to identify alternative arrangements.

Raglan roads should all be upgraded to enable free flow of traffic, cyclists and pedestrians throughout the town. In some places this will require full upgrade with paths on both sides of the street, while in others a more limited development would be appropriate.

Council should co-ordinate services, eg roading, drainage, power and telephone, prior to scheduled road service maintenance. Continue to underground services in all new developments and investigate strategies to underground existing overhead services.

Kerb and Channel

- A priority for streets where road water impinges on private property, with all streets having stormwater management provisions.

Footpaths

- Acceleration of the footpath programme to bring Raglan facilities up to the standard expected in an urban area

- Provide paths on all key routes first, then on one side of all remaining streets or provide access using off-street paths, eg public areas, walkways.

- Improve standard of gravel path on Wainui Road between Marae and Rira Kereopa Memorial Drive.

- Improve public access along Cliff Street frontage by boardwalk or alternative.

- Explore alternative paths to difficult road footpaths. For example, a boardwalk along the water' 's edge instead of on Cliff Street grass, and behind houses rather than up Government Road. Almost all the urban area should have footpath access in the planning period, but this will probably only be one side of the street.

Water It is essential that all developed urban areas have full potable and fire fighting (secure) water supplies. It is desirable to extend this service to the coastal areas and the peripheral rural settlement, at least for potable water, and to Whaanga coast after the wastewater system is in place.

Good quality drinking water is currently obtained from a spring off Te Hutewai Road.

The town feels it is important to place reservoirs unobtrusively in positions able to serve future needs and development. Water conservation practices to be promoted and alternative supplies for non-drinking purposes to be encouraged. The coastal area and a few other areas are currently not served by town water supplies. Perhaps, more importantly, these areas have no source of fire fighting water which makes them vulnerable to serious damage.

Stormwater Stormwater systems are slowly developing from a network of open drains to ultimately become a largely buried system. Each catchment drains the land to streams and thus to the harbour. The terrain precludes a single integrated piped system. There are a lot of open drains still to be piped and there is a lot of kerbing and home drainage yet to be installed (where appropriate roof run-off can be collected in tanks for use on gardens etc). This work is currently being carried out in a planned way and is funded by the drainage rate. The stormwater system tends to collect both solid and liquid contaminants and discharges them into the harbour. It would be highly desirable to prevent this happening, preferably at source, or by somehow processing the water at the point of discharge.

- All urban areas and all closely settled areas (for example the Whaanga coast settlement) should have stormwater services to allow the impact of run-off on the local environment to be controlled.
- Ensure no particularly nasty industrial effluents are allowed to enter the harbour (eg from boat hull cleaning). Allow for gradual installation of works to condition stormwater before outfalls into the harbour.

Wastewater The disposal of wastewater in Raglan is to be upgraded shortly, once the consent issues have been resolved. This issue is typical of many that this Plan will raise, and public comment on the various options is sought. Most people will agree that the land-based option is probably preferable, but many would settle for a cheaper system and spend the extra cost on other projects. Whichever version is finally built, it should satisfy the needs of Raglan for the planning term.

The wastewater pipe system requires pumping stations to serve outlying areas. The pipe system requires careful design to ensure that it has the capacity for future development and has sufficient integrity to avoid spills.

- All urban areas and all closely settled areas (for example the Whaanga coast settlement) should have wastewater services to prevent contamination of the ground and an adverse impact on the local environment.

Refuse/Waste Minimisation Initiate implementation of the ‘Zero Waste’ concept and seek opportunities to sort waste for recycling.

Amenities

Power and Phone Distribution Overhead power/phone lines currently obstruct views and are generally thought to be unattractive. All new subdivisions require power to be underground, but over time the lines that obscure views or ridgelines should be changed. The cost makes it unlikely that all lines will be undergrounded in the term of this Plan, nevertheless the eventual placement of all service lines underground remains an objective.

Street Lighting There is an adequate level of street lighting in most parts of Raglan, but any ‘dark spots’ should be addressed. However, the current lights are of variable types and styles and the distribution is variable.

Parking Raglan has a reasonable level of parking. The provision of parking must be considered as part of any town development.

Public Toilets There are 11 public toilets in Raglan. There is a need to review the number, placement and quality of toilets to service the busy periods in summer.

Street Furniture Street fittings in the central area are of high quality and there are a significant number of seats (where possible under cover) and litter bins.

Priorities for Action

Roading

- Seal all unsealed streets.
- Continue establishing kerbs and drains on a street-by-street basis.
- Allow for street scenery to be planted or installed (see Beautification).
- Ensure road upgrades are consistent with the general beautification of the town.

Footpaths

- Acceleration of the footpath programme to bring Raglan facilities up to the standard expected in an urban area

Water

- Ensure that adequate water sources are available to provide for future developments, but that new reservoirs don't dominate the urban landscape.
- Consider extending town water supplies to the coastal developments, including, in particular, provision of fire fighting water.
- Investigate improvements to water pressure in key areas.
- Alternatively, provide storage tanks at strategic points for fire fighting.

Wastewater Top priority. Needs to be upgraded as soon as possible. Disposal to harbour to be avoided. Investigate use of compost toilets in the urban area and alternative, land based disposal of municipal waste.

Stormwater Need to slow discharge into harbour, eg wetlands or catchpits, with screens at discharge.

Refuse/Waste Minimisation

- We aim to encourage/educate the public in the Zero waste concept.
- More recycling bins/stations will be provided in the CBD and public areas.
- A more frequent pick-up by collection contractors should be provided.

Power and Phone Distribution

- Council to co-ordinate services, eg roading, drainage, power and telephone, prior to scheduled road service maintenance.
- Continue to underground services in all new developments and investigate strategies to underground existing overhead services.

Street Lighting Identify and correct 'dark spots' of concern to the community.

Parking

- Improve parking in streets around the central area when the roads are upgraded. Parking should also be considered adjacent to any other retail shop or business when the roading is

changed.

- Encourage the use of bicycles around the town and provide secure ‘park’ stands.

Public Toilets

- All public toilets to be well maintained or replaced, eg Cliff Street and Wharf area.
 - Additional toilets to be provided at eastern entrance to town, eg by Town Hall. Design and technology to reflect ecological principles.

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Promotion/Tourism

Promotion and tourism have a key part to play in Raglan's future development. Raglan has the opportunity to promote itself on several fronts -- lifestyle, adventure, holidays and visitors.

Opportunities for promotion should be created that reflect the development wishes of the town.

What is the image of Raglan we wish people to have?

What We Have

- Inconsistent provision of services, and a lack of information and facilities for tourists.
- Seasonal trade.
- A local Information Centre and an organised group of keen tourism promoters and operators.
- People that are enthusiastic and willing to have a go!

What We Aspire To

- Capitalise on our natural environment.
- Achieve a striking entrance and a "get-away feeling" when visitors come to Raglan.
- Ensure that there is "something for everyone" in Raglan. For example, the café culture we have in Raglan didn't exist until five years ago.
- Explore ways of advertising to show what makes Raglan special.
- Active outdoor adventure programmes.
- Use of the Raglan setting -- with a year round resource-based industry.
- Safeguard the health and safety of visitors.

What We Don't Want

- Commercialisation of the environment -- losing our town to the visitors
- Damage or destruction of natural resources and ecosystems by facilities or activities for tourism.
- Unplanned activities which exploit people or the environment.

Priorities for Action

Promotion/Tourism

- Continue to promote the ‘Raglan by the Sea’ theme – a seaside village concept.
- Promote Raglan as a destination for visitors picking up campervans, rental cars or landing at Hamilton Airport – pamphlets, bus/transport options, capitalise on Tourism Board promotions.
- Employ a promotion/tourism officer to publicise and promote Raglan through the Internet, travel shows, printed and audio-visual material.
- Welcome visitors to the town through adequate signs, rest areas and information.
- Investigate criteria required for including Raglan in world-wide eco-tour directories.

Facilities

- Encourage a greater range and number of accommodation options.
- Ensure that the range of available accommodation options is of high quality and is well promoted for the growing visitor market.
- Investigate a new building for a combined museum/information centre/restroom/transport centre – suggested for Wainui Road – with art gallery and craft centre.
- Develop a network of walkways/cycleways with better surfaces, seats and lighting, eg the path to the old concrete ‘pillbox’ behind the airstrip, walkways around Te Kopua and the ‘three bridges’.
- Encourage tourism related businesses – maximising opportunities for tourism on the water, eg a floating jetty at the bottom of Bow Street.
- Co-ordinated branding of, and marketing efforts for, Raglan products.
- Niche marketing: - Promote marae-based initiatives/Maori culture venture. - Promote sporting events – surfing, waka, car rally. - Support or establish regular competitions for sports – surfing, hang-gliding. - Market days, festivals which showcase local craft and culture.
- Ensure destinations and facilities are well signposted, eg Bridal Veil Falls, Waingarō.
- Develop and promote local tours of all kinds, eg fishing trips, garden tours, heritage trails, harbour cruises, Te Toto Gorge (in consultation with tangata whenua).
- Work co-operatively with neighbours and other agencies to jointly upgrade and promote the West Coast Scenic Highway linking the Port Waikato, Whaingarōa, Aotea and Kawhia Harbours.

Public Safety

Public Safety issues can arise from hazards that are easily modified -- but at a cost -- or from hazards that are long term and very hard to change, even though the cost may not be high.

What We Have

- A good level of activity from emergency services groups.

What We'll Accept

- Encourage development away from hazardous areas.
- Fully light the "three bridges" walk.
- Use manual cleaning of road drains and other public areas so as to remove toxic sprays from the environment.

The Whaanga Road area has a lot of vegetation which dries out in summer. The housing is often close to vegetation and unaware visitors may cause a fire. There is no significant water supply to fight fires.

Ideas suggested include modification of the type of vegetation in public areas, availability of a helicopter and monsoon bucket(s), construction of a water reservoir in a stream, changing requirements for domestic stored water, education of residents and visitors, fire bans and community immediate response procedures/exercises.

The algal bloom poses a severe public health risk. Whilst it is not clear what causes these blooms it is likely that improved land-care will improve the sea and its ecology. Hence, we in Raglan want to show how a community can make a difference to major environmental problems.

As with the Infrastructure section, it is hard to be "too safe", so the upper limitation of public safety is likely to be limited by funding.

What We Aspire To

A continuation of good emergency services facilities/co-ordination:

- Are quicker response times possible?
- Co-operation amongst agencies -- would a central location/shared facilities with secure parking be the answer?
- Enable ease of movement around the town for emergency appliances, for example options include upgrading Bankart Street, having a roundabout at James/Bankart Streets, and widening Nero Street.

Priorities for Action

Safer Streets

- Bylaws for parking, skateboarding and traffic infringements need enforcement.
- Improve pedestrian safety on one-way bridge to Raglan West.
- Provide additional 50km/h signs on Wainui Road near Marae.
- Speed control structures to be incorporated in Cliff Street upgrade.
- More street lighting in dark spots (and better maintenance of existing lights is required).
- Fully light the three bridges walk.
- Maintain a good footpath programme.
- Ensure all drains are safe. Some will need to be covered, while others may be planted or shaped as necessary. Investigate eco-drains option.
- Community support and funding for the ‘night owls’ scheme and the Maori wardens.
- Support the proposal to set up video surveillance, in partnership with NZ Police.

Emergency Services

- Provision at the wharf for Raglan Coastguard headquarters with combined emergency services – perhaps as part of the proposed reclamation.
- Retain existing emergency services and support provision of Coastguard/Search and Rescue common headquarters at Wharf.
- Better coverage (hours) from the Police.
- Return to using the old fire siren.
- Ensure that Civil Defence/Emergency Management systems and requirements are well-known, to cover a variety of situations.
- Support lifeguards on the beaches.
- Review roading network to ensure that appliances can move easily around the town.

Recreation

Raglan offers a range of recreational opportunities. There is a strong coastal focus. Swimming and surfing are well catered for and boating is popular but somewhat restricted by the limitations of the existing boat ramps and associated facilities. There is strong public support for harbour and coastal walkways.

Raglan has fewer playing fields than other similar sized towns. Many of the sports clubs have little or no clubhouse facilities. There is a lot of interest in developing multi-purpose facilities at the rugby grounds to cater for both sporting and non-sporting groups. If various groups combine their resources then good quality facilities could be developed and be used throughout the week and year. A smaller facility at Te Kopua may also be possible.

What We' 've Got

- Major Regional Park at the Wainui Reserve Farm Park with outstanding vistas, walkways, picnic areas, parking areas and beaches.
- Two major surfing beaches -- Manu Bay and Ngarunui Beach.
- Coastal Reserves Whale Bay, Manu Bay, Te Toto Gorge, and other smaller areas.
- Three main boat ramps (wharf, Te Kopua, Manu Bay).
- Numerous fishing "possies" , including the wharf, Suckers' ' Point, Te Akau South wharf, and the harbour generally.
- World class sea fishery and big game fishery.
- Two sports grounds: the rugby grounds and Te Kopua.
- One major playground at Te Kopua and minor facilities at two other sites.
- Esplanade reserves around much of the town, some of which are accessible to the public and some of which have been developed by adjoining landowners.
- Coastal walkways.
- Some facilities at Raglan Area School.
- Private facilities (bowling club, golf club, Raglan Club).
- Major tourist attractions outside the Raglan township, including Mt Karioi, Bridal Veil Falls, Ruapuke Beach, Te Toto Gorge, Coastal Road and the Harbour.
- Airfield.
- Opportunities for many recreational activities including land yachting, paraponting, hang-gliding, kite flying and similar activities.

What We' 'll Accept

- Protection and enhancement of reserve amenity values.
- Walkway development in popular areas.
- Enhanced esplanade reserves.
- Retaining walls on esplanade reserves, but no more private developments on reserves.
- Provision of access to beaches and foreshore.
- Improved clubhouse facilities.

What We Aspire To

- Recreational activities which support and sustain the environment.
- Multi-purpose clubhouse facilities at one, possibly two sites (rugby grounds and Te Kopua), fully used by a range of

groups.

- Improved or alternative boat ramp and/or parking facilities.
- All esplanade reserves accessible to the public.
- Private facilities removed from esplanade reserves.
- Reserves that are safe for the public, especially children.
- Walkways enhanced (eg lights, seats).
- Create coastal walkways, eg Raglan to Whale Bay, Whale Bay to Te Toto Gorge.
- A skateboard park.
- Children' 's playground kept up to date.

What We Don' 't Want

- Restricted public access to reserves.
- Unattractive foreshore development.
- Duplication and underused facilities.

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Priorities for Action

Recreation Facilities

- Combine sports into multi-purpose facilities to bring the community together so that resources are maximised and costs are minimised (facilities would cater for all ages, recreation, meetings, childcare, etc: - These plans could include Rugby, Soccer, Netball, Tennis, Softball, Swimming, Squash,

Badminton and other similar activities. - Request Sport Waikato to facilitate community dialogue on this issue and develop a strategic direction and medium term plan for action.

- Enhanced opportunities for water-based activities: swimming, model yachts, big game fishing, paragliding.

- Establish and upgrade walking tracks ‘bike paths’ and coastal walkways.

- Upgrade the heating, acoustics and toilet facilities in the Town Hall.

- Improve boat ramp facilities and parking.

- Provide campervan and boating facilities at the wharf, including power, water and wastewater disposal.

- Identify a suitable location for motor sport activities, including motorcross.

- Agree on skateboard park site and proceed to construct.

Parks and Reserves

- Upgrade parks – landscaping, seats, improved fields.

- Set aside reserve areas in new subdivisions.

- Upgrade mountain trails – promote the wilderness aspects.

- Promote walkways and heritage trails with easy access and clear sign-posting.

- Undertake public safety works on reserves, eg pipe drains, erect fencing.

- Utilise part of Aro Aro Reserve for recreation after suitable public dialogue.

- Prepare guidelines or policy, compatible with the relevant Reserve Management Plans, which enable requests for the location of retail or commercial activity on reserves to be considered by the Raglan Community Board.

Lifestyle

- Promote active, health lifestyles by encouraging people of all ages to become involved with Raglan through sport/recreation, education, craft, culture and industry.

Transportation

An efficient and effective transportation system allows people and goods to move around the area with ease and safety. This not only includes roads, but footpaths, bridges, and associated infrastructure, and methods of transport.

What we have

- Current transportation is influenced by the size of the market to be transported and by the roading infrastructure. It is recognised that market issues will be the main determining factors but there are some matters which can be addressed.

What we' ll accept

- Bike lanes or bike paths should be created. Although it is recognised that most roads are currently too narrow for formed lanes.
- There is support for a “Service Centre” on the edge of town to tie in with any new industrial development.
- Encourage public transport.
- In particular, investigate how to provide a free shuttle service between the central business area and the beaches in summer
- Also investigate how to improve public transport to and from Hamilton in the evenings and at weekends. Changing the current route times may improve the timing of the service.
- Parking in town and at the wharf needs expansion.

What we aspire to

- Satisfying apparently competing requirements for a pedestrian-friendly central business area and the status quo..... the request for a reduction in heavy traffic through the town and easy access to the beaches, and the technical difficulties of a bypass.....
- A long-term view of the transportation needs of the town, as it develops, is required -- a transport strategy which ensures that all work is consistent with the overall principles:
- Ensuring that the centre of town retains easy access for pedestrians and vehicles
- Keeping the Main Street Development programme consistent with evolving concepts such as the “village square”
- Investigating specific works which require maintenance or improvement, for example traffic calming measures on the State Highway from Greenslade Road, intersection improvements at Lorenzen Bay and Hills Roads

Priorities for Action

Pedestrian Services

- A central business district mall -- in whole or part.
- Provision of more parking areas.
- Develop and upgrade walkways/bike paths around the town and out to scenic spots.
- Any future development should allow for bike lanes along the major tourist/transport roads.

Roadways

(see also the comments about roading under the ““infrastructure”” section of this document)

- No traffic lights or parking meters -- except for temporary traffic lights being set up at each end of the one-way Wainui Bridge during the summer season.
- Investigation of options for service lanes in the centre of town.
- Consideration to be given to the options for improving pedestrian and traffic safety on the Wainui Bridge -- including widening.

Support Services

- Establish a transport centre as part of the proposed museum/information centre development (see the ““Promotion/Tourism”” section).
- If viable, opportunities to provide alternative transport methods should be taken, for example additional bus services to and from Hamilton, ferries, a taxi service.