

Shore Futures

A collective vision for healthy harbours and communities in the Kawhia and Aotea catchments.

Shore Futures update

September 2008

This newsletter finds us well into 2008, and the project has been progressing 'behind the scenes' since the last newsletter in December 2007, with the main focus being the Preferred Futures Report.

The Preferred Futures Report signals a major milestone in the Shore Futures project, and precedes the final step of the process: taking the recommendations in the report and incorporating them within council plans and budgets.

Draft Preferred Futures Report due out at the end of 2008

Since December 2007, the Shore Futures Technical Working Group (consisting of representatives from Waitomo, Otorohanga and Waikato District Councils, Environment Waikato, Department of Conservation and Federated Farmers) has been working on a 'Preferred Futures Report'. This report pulls together technical information on environmental issues of importance in Kawhia and Aotea and the main ideas that came out of the community consultation carried out in 2006 and 2007.

The purpose of the report is to identify the main issues facing the community and clarify the overall direction that the community wants to go in. The aim is to preserve the 'specialness' of Kawhia and Aotea, and ensure that any development that takes place is appropriate for the area.

In order to make sure that the community's views are well-reflected, while preparing chapters of this report the Technical Working Group has been 'checking in' along the way with the Political Steering Group and Community Reference Group. This 'checking in' process will continue until the draft report is finished.

Once the draft report is completed in December 2008, it will be distributed to the community for comment. After the report has been finalised, a number of changes will take place that will give effect to the recommendations outlined in the Preferred Futures Report. This may involve changes to district councils' district plans, changes to the Waikato Regional Policy Statement, the allocation of funding to some projects (such as Beachcare groups) and education to help the community understand more about the key environmental issues.

Shore Futures Consultation Report

During 2006 and 2007, people from Kawhia and Aotea told the Shore Futures team what it was that made the area special, and what were some of the issues they were concerned about. In December 2007, the Shore Futures Consultation Report was produced that summarised these important stories and conversations. You can view this report at www.ew.govt.nz/shorefutures.



New Environment Waikato representative for Shore Futures

Amanda Banks is the new Environment Waikato representative on the Shore Futures Project and is part of the Technical Working Group. Prior to recently joining Environment Waikato's Policy Group, Amanda worked with Hamilton City Council for two and a half years as a Policy Analyst. She was involved in corporate planning (producing the council's annual plans, long-term council community plans and annual reports).

Amanda is delighted to be working on Shore Futures, and looks forward to meeting with the community in the coming months.

Jenni Paul, the previous representative from Environment Waikato has been on maternity leave and has taken on a new part-time role in EW's Policy Group.

Natasha Hayward is no longer involved in Shore Futures as she has moved into a new role within Environment Waikato.

Contact information for Shore Futures

If you would like to talk further about any aspect of Shore Futures, please feel free to contact any of the following people:

- Amanda Banks, Environment Waikato – phone 07 859 0537
- Vicki Carruthers, Department of Conservation – phone 07 838 3363
- Hilary Gubb, Federated Farmers – phone 07 858 0815
- John Moran, Waitomo District Council – phone 0800 932 4357
- Reg Proffit, Otorohanga District Council – phone 07 873 8199
- Allan Turner, Waikato District Council – phone 07 824 8633

For more information visit www.ew.govt.nz/shorefutures

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