

Ngaruawahia

to the point



A New Era

2009-2019

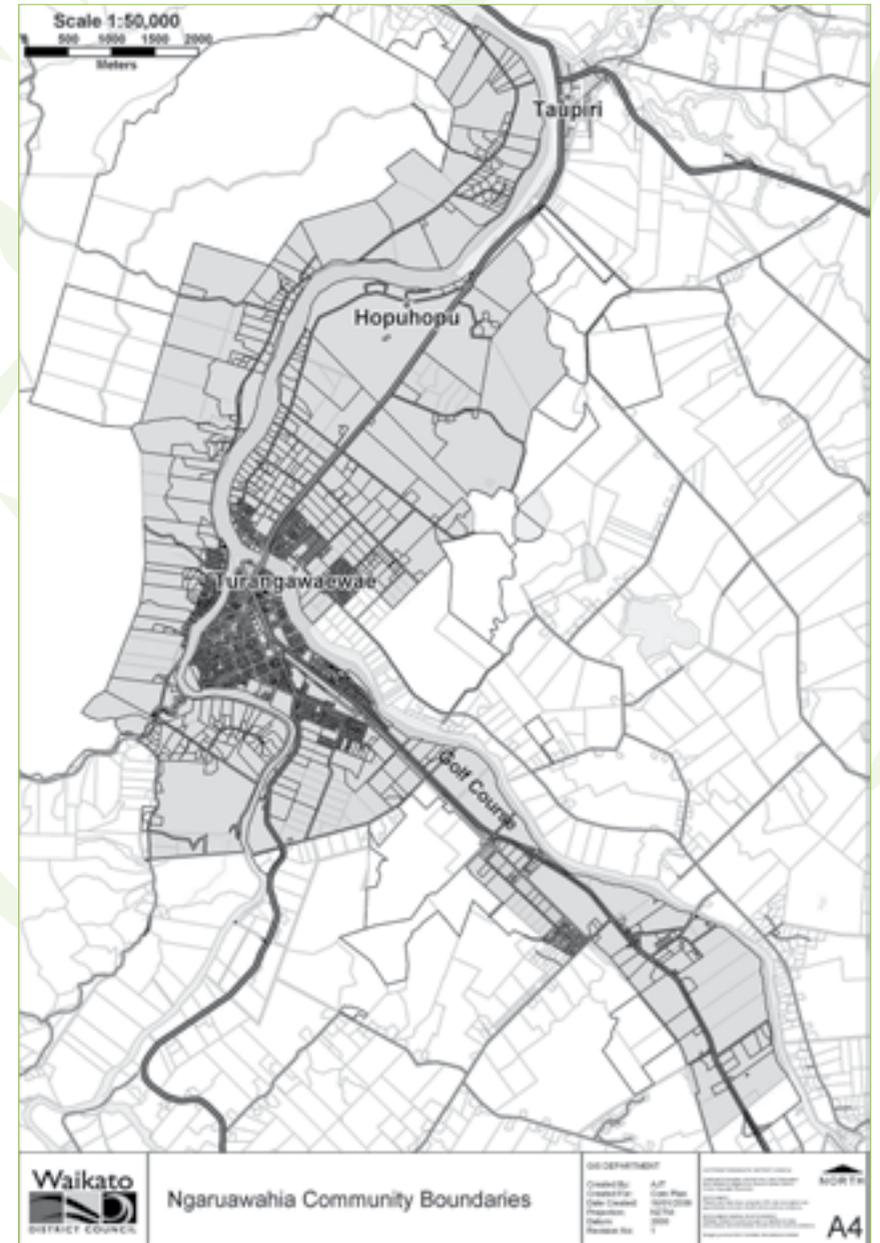
Community Plan

The Ngaruawahia Area

Ngaruawahia

Wahia nga rua
Break open the food pits

We offer you our bounty
The Hakarimata, the rivers
are the playground,
the people are the soul
Haeremai, welcome
Be our guest
We offer you the best



Vision

To be the cultural and heritage capital of New Zealand.

“An 1863 pamphlet by ‘a settler’ stressed the need for a railway line between Auckland and Wellington, and suggested that Ngaruawahia would be a suitable site for the capital of New Zealand.” It is therefore appropriate if not significant that the vision for Ngaruawahia in the “Ngaruawahia A New Era Community Plan” is “Ngaruawahia – The Cultural and Heritage Capital of New Zealand.

Foreward from the book ‘Meeting of the Waters - The Story of Ngaruawahia’

Tena Koutou

One of the mainstays of community life is the appreciation and maintenance of a common heritage;

The Maori people are proud of their history and their ancestors who, centuries ago, established a village and a pa at this meeting place, and who, 300 years ago named it Ngaruawahia.

With pride, many of the European townfolk trace their ancestry to the soldiers and settlers who established first a fort, then a township at the meeting of the waters.

In the last 100 years, both peoples have built a place and a community of interest that is “our town”.

To live in Ngaruawahia is to enter into an interesting heritage; ...”

Kia ora Koutou. Kia ora Tatou.

Te Atairangikaahu



Key Statistics

These figures are based on Census 2006 data held by Statistics New Zealand.

	Ngaruawahia	Waikato District	New Zealand
Population	5,106	43,959	4,027,947
Percentage aged under 15 years	29.0%	25.5%	21.5%
Percentage aged over 65 years	8.3%	10.0%	12.3%
Ethnicity – Percentage of Maori	57.3%	25.9%	14.6%
Unemployment Rate	11.4%	5.3%	5.1%
Median Income	\$20,300	\$25,700	\$24,400

Population Estimates 2009 – 2019

These figures are based on Waikato University figures adjusted to local known conditions.

2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
5386	5506	5626	5746	5866	5986	6106	6226	6346	6466	6586

A Community Snapshot

Waikato is the kaitiaki of Kiingitanga and Ngaruawahia is the pulse

Ngaruawahia is located at the junction of two great rivers—Waikato and Waipa. These rivers were once canoe routes of great importance to Maori, and later to European settlers. Ngaruawahia is unique, it is nestled at the foot of the majestic Hakarimata Ranges, with Puke-i-aahua to the south and it faces towards Taupiri Maunga in the north.

Ngaruawahia has a long history of Maori settlement. During the seventeenth century, Ngaere the son of a Waikato Chief, married Heke i te Rangī, the daughter of a Ngāti Maniapoto Chief (against the wishes of her father). A feast was held upon the birth of their son and an invitation was extended to Ngāti Maniapoto to attend. After everyone had been welcomed, Ngaere's father held up the baby and named him Te Mana o te Rangī in honour of the reconciliation with Ngāti Maniapoto. Ngaere then arose and called out "Wahia nga rua" – "let the food pits be opened," and from those words, Ngaruawahia was named.

With increasing European settlement in the 1800s, Maori were pressured to sell land to the settlers. The Kingitanga, or King movement, was founded in the 1850's to counter the growing spread of colonial settlement in the Waikato and beyond. It consisted of a broad federation of tribes, including many descended from the Tainui canoe. The movement became based in Ngaruawahia when local chief Potatau became the first king. He reigned from 1858 until his death in 1860, and then his son Tawhiao ascended to the throne.

When British troops advanced from the north in 1863 King Tawhiao fell back to the south into what became known as the King Country. It was many years before Maori leadership had a presence in the town. The return culminated in the establishment of Turangawaewae Marae in 1928 by Princess Te Puea who also settled the Pa families at the marae. It is the central Kingitanga marae and is the official residence of the reigning Maori monarch Kiingi Tuheitia. International dignitaries are now hosted at this site.

A new European town was quickly established and the first settlers built on what is now the Point Reserve as the rivers were the main transport routes. Later growth focused on the present site of the town to be nearer the railway station and above flood level.



*A Vice Regal visit to Turangawaewae.
The opening of Turungo House 1938.*

"This township... was first known as Queenstown, and was named as such in the first land sales notice in 1864. Soon after however, it became Newcastle, so called after the Duke of Newcastle who headed a remonstrance that was signed by most of the notables of England protesting against the way the British people of the Colony were treating the Maoris."

"The town of Newcastle had its wharf, shipyard, goods shed, three hotels, two general stores, a brewery, cordial factory, flour mills, sawmills, and other industries plus its own newspaper The Waikato Times."



This settlement reverted to Ngaruawahia in 1879.

Ngaruawahia was a thriving community in the 1800's with many types of industry – the first Waikato Brewery, a flour mill, flax mill, bone mill, sawmills, brick works and a dairy factory.

Ngaruawahia today is a community of approximately 5000 people. It has an established retail and shopping precinct and community library. Numerous food outlets, two public houses and a bar, four primary schools, a high school, a number of pre-school and kohanga reo centres, churches, community halls, two medical centres and three petrol stations. The main office of Waikato District Council is located on Galileo Street.

A Plan for Ngaruawahia



Ngaruawahia Railway Station 1910. The Railway station was opposite the Delta Hotel.

State Highway 1 and the Main Trunk Line dissect the town and heavy traffic volumes flow through the town daily.

It is one of four towns noted in the District Plan.

Ngaruawahia will keep its sense of spaciousness and heritage as a town with a predominantly residential function the earlier streets were laid out to form the Union Jack, this is still evident today. The first map of the town of Newcastle shows the streets as having English, Irish and Royal names. Herschel, Newton, Galileo and Kepler were astronomers. Maori culture adds an important dimension to the town, particularly with the presence of Turangawaewae Marae and the Office of the Maori King.

It has many passive and active recreation facilities and is home to a number of sports clubs such as rugby league, rugby, soccer and netball. The Waikato and Waipa Rivers are used for water sports such as rowing, waka ama and jet skiing.

There is local employment and employment in nearby Horotiu (AFFCO) and the city of Hamilton, 20km to the south. It previously served the military base at Hopuhopu before it was decommissioned.

What will this plan achieve?

Your Community Plan is the vehicle for community discussion, on which future outcomes for Ngaruawahia can be determined.

This plan represents the community's shared view on Ngaruawahia's future. It is envisaged that community workshops are being considered in the implementation of this plan.

It is important to remember, this is not a Council Plan. This plan is for the whole of the Ngaruawahia Community, and is owned by you!

Your Community Plan is a collection of ideas for action. It is a priority list of desired works and activities that has been identified over the past months and years.

As well as focusing community debate and getting people involved in the future of their community, the plan will help influence Waikato District Council's programme of works during its annual and long-term planning processes.



*Ngaruawahia
Waikato-Waipā River - 2002*

Ngaruawahia

A New Era Process

The original *Ngaruawahia A New Era* document was created following an extensive community consultation process.

Six years on it was time to review the document and the priorities it outlined.

Thank you for taking part and having your say in the future of Ngaruawahia.

Ngaruawahia Community Board

Name	Phone Number
Bryce Sherson, Chairperson	824 8604
Maria Henry, Deputy Chairperson	824 7917
John Deacon	824 8211
Toni Barton	824 8882
Trish Forsyth	824 7784
Allan Morse *	824 8268
Moera Solomon *	0800 104 412
Joe Wright	824 7157

* Local Councillor (appointed by Council to the Community Board)



Key Issues and Projects

Link to Community Outcomes

Under the Local Government Act 2002, Councils are required to facilitate the identification of, and report on the achievement towards Community Outcomes for their residents. Having consulted with the Waikato District community, the following Community Outcomes have been identified:

Accessible Waikato	A district where the community's access to infrastructure, transport and technology meets its needs.
Active Waikato	A district that provides a variety of recreation and leisure options for the community.
Educated Waikato	A district where education options are varied, and allow our community to be skilled for work and life.
Green Waikato	A district where our natural resources are protected, developed and enhanced for future generations.
Safe Waikato	A district where people feel safe and supported within their communities and where crime is under control.
Sustainable Waikato	A district where growth is effectively managed.
Thriving Waikato	A district where business and industry are encouraged and supported and employment contributes to a successful local economy.
Vibrant Waikato	A district where our heritage and culture are recognised, protected and celebrated.
Well Waikato	A district where people can access quality community health and care services.

Specific issues and projects

The Ngaruawahia community has identified the following key issues and projects:

Infrastructure (Links to Accessible, Safe Waikato)

- Upgrade Newcastle Street.
- Upgrade Havelock Road.
- Upgrade Waikato Esplanade.
- Upgrade Kia Toa Street.
- Upgrade Durham Street.
- Continue with footpath programme.
- Continue with kerb and channel programme.
- Under bridge connection – Old Taupiri Road to footpath.
- Improve and maintain streetlights. Lights in residential areas and on rights of way.
- Finish the removal of open drains around Ngaruawahia.
- Continue providing infrastructure to Twin Rivers Art Centre.

Community Care (Links to Safe and Well Waikato)

- Make Ngaruawahia a safe, caring town.
- More Police and policing resources to patrol the streets.
- Identify priorities for the elderly:
 - * Retirement Home
 - * Interests
- Establish a common venue for social services:
 - * Community Centre
 - * Promotion of what is available
- Lower speed limits around town – especially by school.
- Become a participative community:
 - * Encourage people to be active in community events
 - * Ensure community consultation is working well for decision-making
- Integrate the high school in Community Board and Council initiatives.

Education and Training (Links to Educated Waikato)

- Continue to support and work with the Youth Transition Service.
- Continue with after-school programmes for homework/tutoring.
- Investigate a textbook library/swap centre.
- Encourage the sharing of resources and community education programmes through the schools.
- Encourage parenting and family skills courses.
- Continue to support an art academy/art wall.
- Encourage people within the community with specialist skills to be utilised.
- Free computer training courses for the over 18s are available.
- Twin Rivers Arts Centre offers courses.

Employment (Links to Educated and Thriving Waikato)

- Investigate a large, better quality supermarket.
- Encourage business outlets.
- Stronger promotion of the Saturday morning market in Jesmond Street.
- Support training initiatives e.g. Youth Transition Service, Gateway.
- Establish a community garden for local employment and community spirit.
- Keep unemployment at a low level.
- Utilise employment incentive schemes to encourage people to work.
- Support local employment opportunities.
- Ensure public transport so that people can get to employment opportunities.
- Become a self-sustaining and user-friendly town.

Environment (Links to Green Waikato)

- Undertake gully restoration (Newton Street).
- Plant isolated pockets of Council-owned land.
- Eradicate weeds and establish native plantings on the riverbanks – return to the original vegetation. Rivers are a natural resource. Rivers are also a mode of transport.
- Transform the “dumpsite” – establish flowers, concept gardens.
- Beautify public areas:
 - * Prepare a development plan for State Highway 1 – fountain, sculpture, trees, paving
 - * Improve the railway bridge – use it as a point of character
- Continue with the annual best garden/best street competitions.

- Prepare an environmental education and protection plan:
 - * Work with schools on local projects
 - * Take part in national environment/conservation activities
 - * Ensure commercial/industrial activities do not have an adverse effect on our land, water or air
- Stop quarry defacing hillside and rehabilitate back to its former glory.

History and Culture (Links to Vibrant Waikato)

- Ngaruawahia becomes the cultural centre of New Zealand.
- Celebrate Ngaruawahia's history and culture.
- Place information boards at both ends of the town.
- Recognise the history – Union Jack shape.
- 150 year celebrations.
- Establish Turangawaewae House Heritage Centre.



Lifestyle Choice (Links to Vibrant Waikato)

- Promote Ngaruawahia as a lifestyle choice:
 - * Accommodation and easy commuting distance to Hamilton and North
 - * Well-priced real estate
- Produce a calendar showing pictures of the town.
- Produce a community directory.
- Establish a community bulletin board.
- Sections sizes to be not less than 600 square metres.

Promotion/Image (Links to Vibrant Waikato)

- Twin Rivers Art Centre should include an information centre.
- Make Ngaruawahia a tourist route and a cultural and heritage corridor.
- Ensure Ngaruawahia is an attractive and easy to get to town.
- Promote Ngaruawahia as a destination with an inland regional park (Hakarimata Ranges) and rivers (Waipa and Waikato). Promote the regional park by a gondola concept.
- Promote a café culture.
- Continue the heritage theme through the business area.
- Signage showing key facilities in town.
- Role of Turangawaewae Marae.

Recreation and Leisure (Links to Active Waikato)

- Build an Outward Bound style course.
- Involve Sport Waikato in identifying activities for youth.
- Explore the possibility of a youth centre/night club.
- Continue to support the holiday programme.
- Build a BMX/mountain bike track.
- Promote the local bush walks.
- Investigate a centralised sporting complex and convention centre. Development of Hopuhopu.
- Support the Christian Youth Camp.

Council Plans

Where does this Community Plan 'fit' with other Council plans?

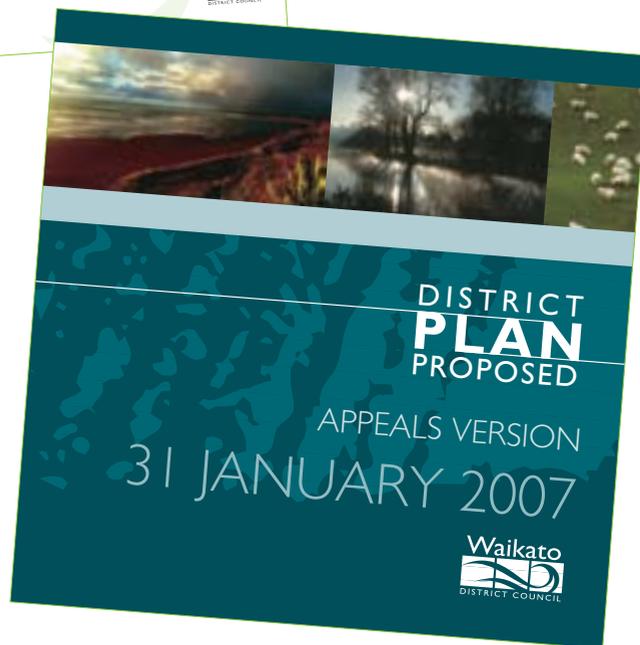
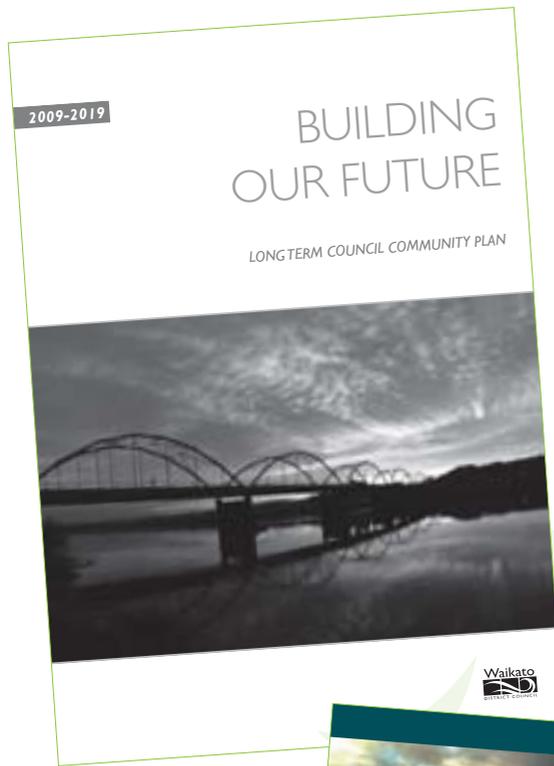
The Council has a number of other plans in place.

The Long-Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP) outlines the overall direction and expected cost of Council activities over a ten-year period. The LTCCP is prepared every three years. In the intervening years, Council produces an Annual Plan, which serves as an update on the LTCCP for that year.

The District Plan promotes the sustainable management of natural and physical resources in the Waikato District, primarily by managing the effects of land use on the environment. The plan responds to local environmental issues in terms of community needs and aspirations. If those needs and aspirations change, then plan changes may be needed.

Structure Plans assist in determining the desired future look of growth areas. These plans identify the key infrastructure needs for the local area and are incorporated into the District Plan.

Community Plans capture the shared vision of specific communities, and outline the key issues and projects facing that community over the next six to ten years. The plans provide a clear focus for Community Boards and Committees to progress key issues within their area.



Where To From Here?

The next steps

The Ngaruawahia Community Board has approved the review of the *Ngaruawahia A New Era Community Plan*.

While some of the key issues and projects listed in this document will take longer than a few years to realise – and require more resources than are available at the moment – the plan is in place.

The Ngaruawahia Community Board will continue to work with Council to prioritise issues and projects, and meets at 6pm on every second Tuesday of the month at the Ngaruawahia Council offices to discuss the community's issues and aspirations.

Please contact the Ngaruawahia Community Board, or the Waikato District Council if you would like any further information.

We look forward to hearing from you!

August 2010



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