



# *Port Waikato Community Meeting*

*1:30 – 3:30pm*

*Saturday 5 August 2023*

*Sunset Beach Community Hub*

# Agenda

- Karakia
  - Welcome, Introduction and Apologies (5 mins)– Cr Carolyn Eyre
  - Erosion / Port Waikato Resilience Group update + Key directions from 18 June Council meeting (45 mins including Q&A) – Jim Ebenhoh
  - WDC Projects (30 mins inc Q&A) – Glyn Morgan and Moyra Coutts
    - Beach Access
    - Carpark
    - Toilets
  - Stormwater issue and work (20 mins) – Mathew Telfer (Watercare)
  - Any other community matters (15 mins) – All
  - Closing (5 mins) – Cr Carolyn Eyre
  - Karakia
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# Pre-2020 Council involvement with Sunset Beach erosion



# Pre-2020 work

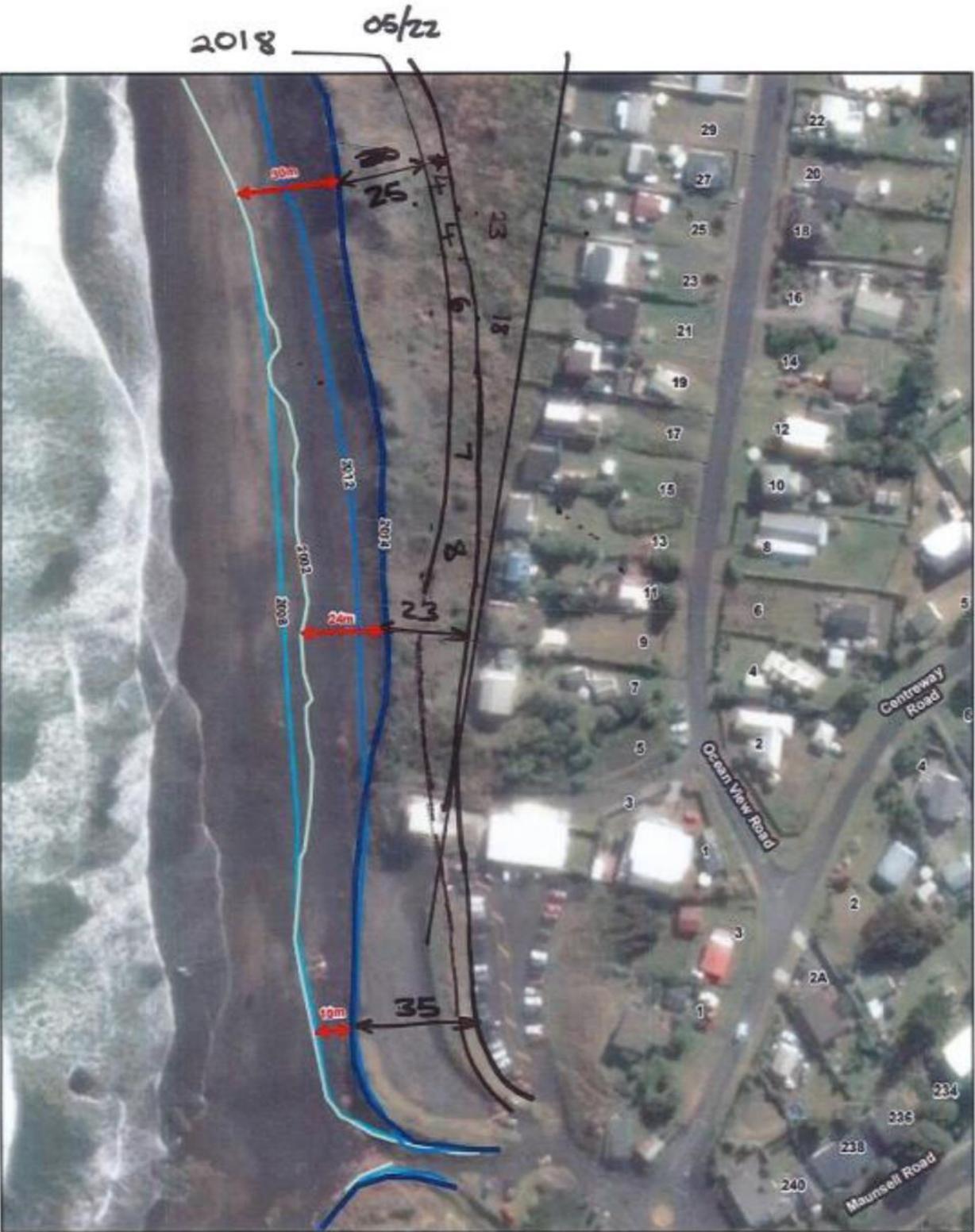
## GHD reports in 2014 and 2016

- Advised managed retreat for carpark and hall
- Advised against hard protection structures due to cost, consenting issues, environmental impact, uncertainty re: long-term effectiveness
- Analysed and consulted on alternative carpark and community hall locations

## Council decisions in response

- Relocated community hall / SLSC to new Community Hub once trigger point reached
- Carpark stayed in place – no relocation

# Recent Erosion at Sunset Beach



# Port Waikato Resilience Group Update



# Port Waikato Resilience Strategy: background

- Port Waikato Resilience Group set up 2020
  - Chaired by Jade McCormack
  - Residents & Ratepayers Association
  - Iwi and community representatives
  - Dept of Conservation
  - WRC + WDC staff
- Terms of reference include looking at all natural hazards (not just coastal erosion)
- Meetings generally held monthly (often online)

# Port Waikato Resilience Strategy

	PWRG Action Plan	Sunset Beach Erosion Response Plan	Port Waikato Resilience Strategy
Planning horizon	0 to 24 months	0 to 5 years	0 - 100 years +
Purpose	Drives projects / actions for responding to immediate natural hazards risks and other community matters in Port Waikato in the short term.	Short term slowing / halting of erosion losses at Sunset Beach to mitigate further serious damage to infrastructure and property from coastal erosion at Port Waikato while a long-term plan is developed	Long term, adaptive plan for responding to natural hazards risks and impacts including the effects of sea level rise
Pre-requisites	<p>Projects must</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Be able to be rapidly deployed.</li> <li>- Respond or be related to a natural hazards issue.</li> <li>- Have minimal or no resource consent requirement.</li> <li>- Be low cost.</li> <li>- Be undertaken on a “no-regrets” basis.</li> <li>- Complement an adaptive planning approach.</li> </ul>	<p>Project must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Represent the best practicable option for the short-term response to erosion issues at Sunset Beach</li> <li>- Be implemented within reasonable timeframe.</li> <li>- Complement an adaptive planning approach.</li> </ul>	<p>Projects must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Follow the dynamic adaptive pathways planning approach for coastal hazards as set out in the Ministry for the Environment for guidance for local government</li> </ul>

# PWRG have achieved the following:

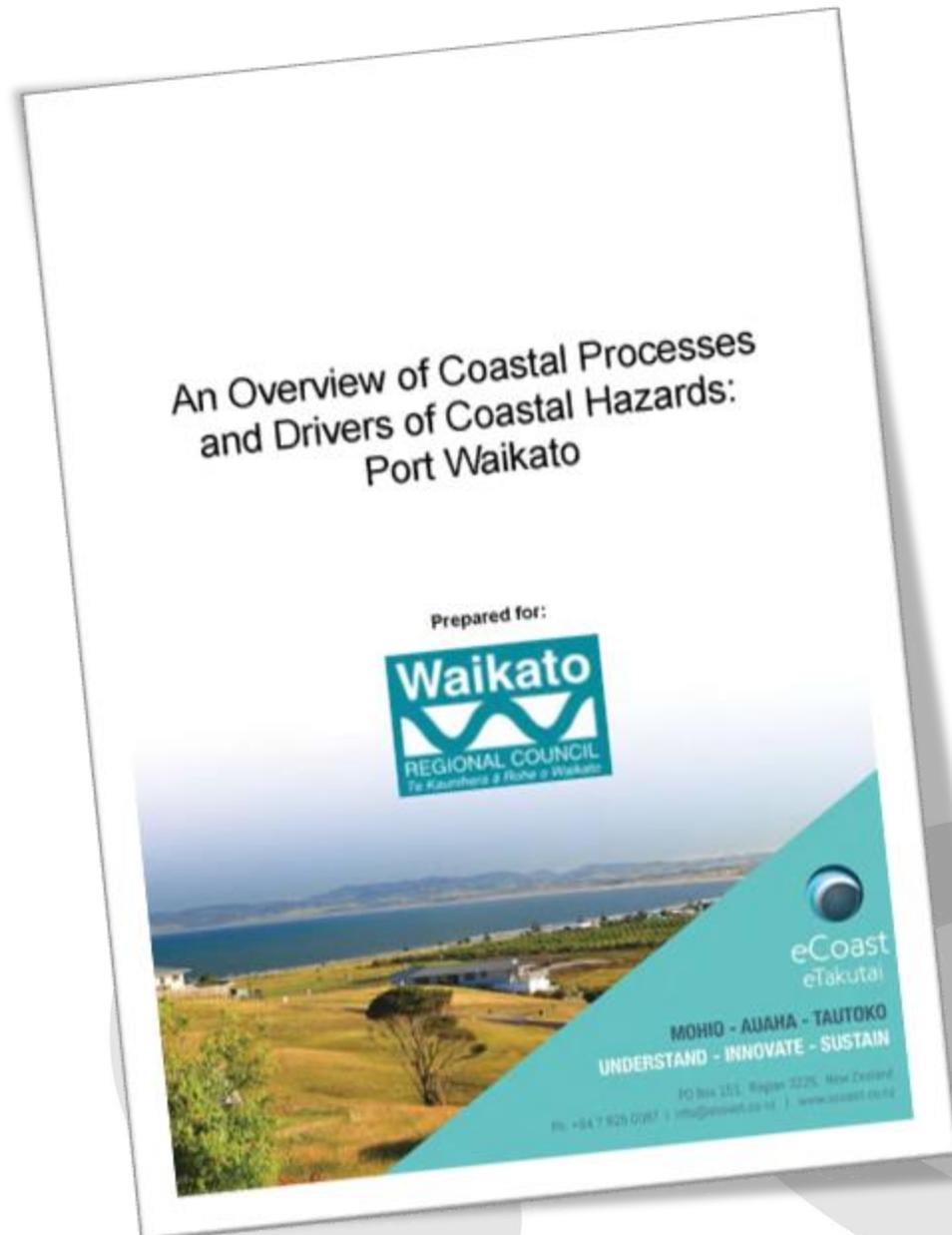
- Commissioning reports from **eCoast** and **Nature Based Solutions**
- Developing a **Sunset Beach Interim Erosion Response Plan (IERP)**
- Agreeing to develop **longer-term adaptive management plan (Resilience Strategy)**
- **Endorsing the May 2021 Co-Design Report**
- Hosting representatives from the **Department of Internal Affairs**
- Addressing issues relating to **carpark design, maintenance and function**
- Arranging for future **installation of fixed-camera monitoring** of coastal changes
- **Dune protection** via installation of **signage and netting**

- **Trialling the transfer (push-up) of 100 cubic metres of sand in front of carpark**
- **Obtaining quotes and preparing resource consent application for larger sand push-ups (1000m<sup>3</sup>) along Sunset Beach (application nearly ready to lodge)**
- **Peer review of additional proposals (sand bags, etc)**



# eCoast Report - 2021

- Prepared by Dr Shaw Mead, eCoast (Raglan)
- Peer Reviewed by Dr. Terry Hume (formally NIWA)



# Management options

The eCoast report presents the following specific recommendations for hazard management options at Port:

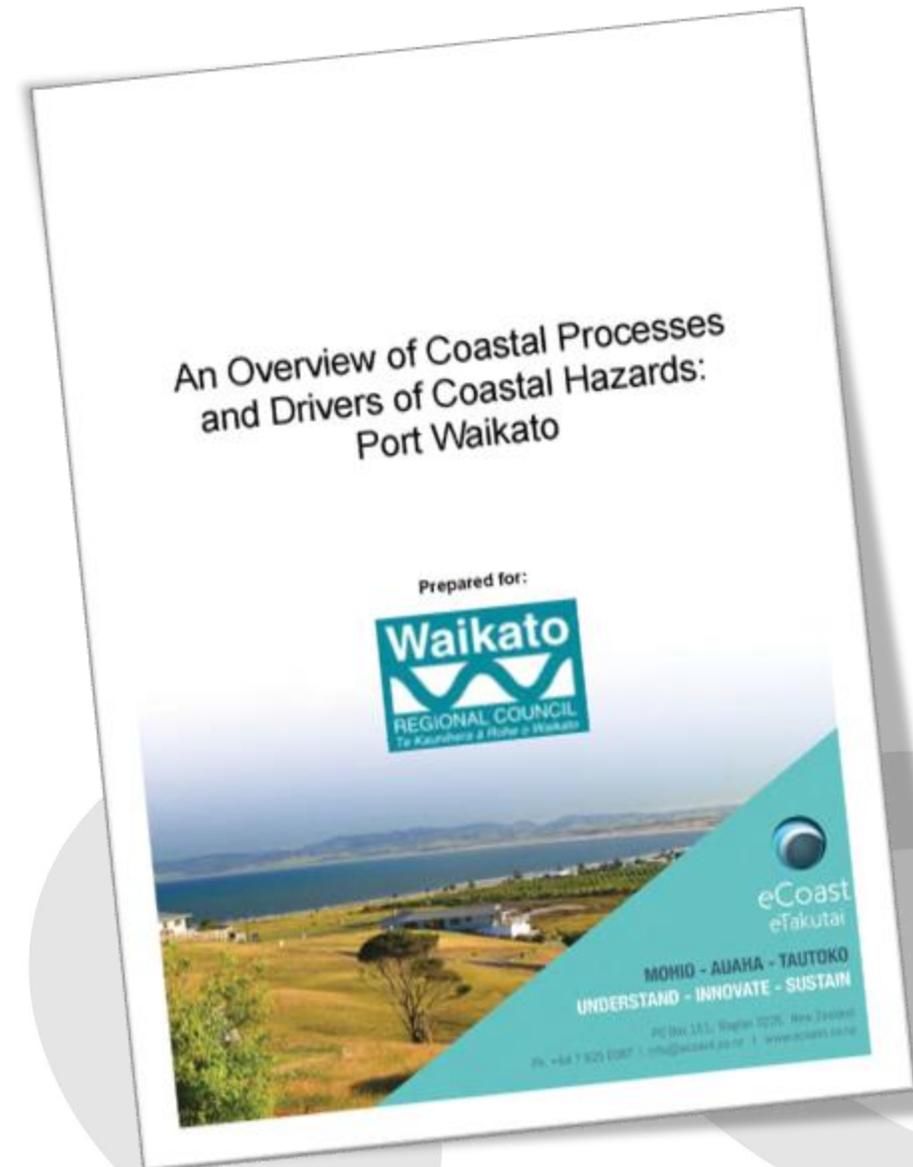
- 1. Re-establishing native dune species when erosion subsides**
- 2. Building brush fascines to capture wind-blown sand**
- 3. Providing for stormwater management**
- 4. Undertaking sand management / relocation**
- 5. Creating a raised buffer zone and raised buildings**
- 6. Increase beach space for coastal processes**



# Port Waikato Resilience Strategy

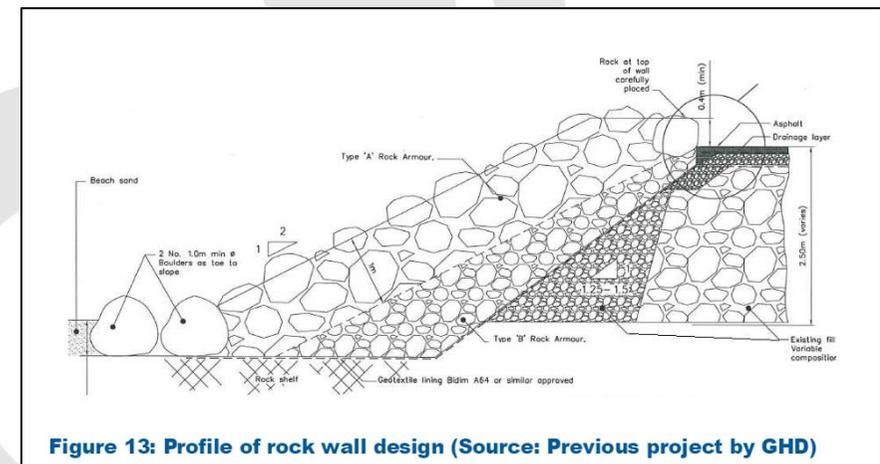
eCoast options that are not recommended:

1. Groynes
2. Breakwater
3. Revetment (rock or concrete units)
4. Seawall



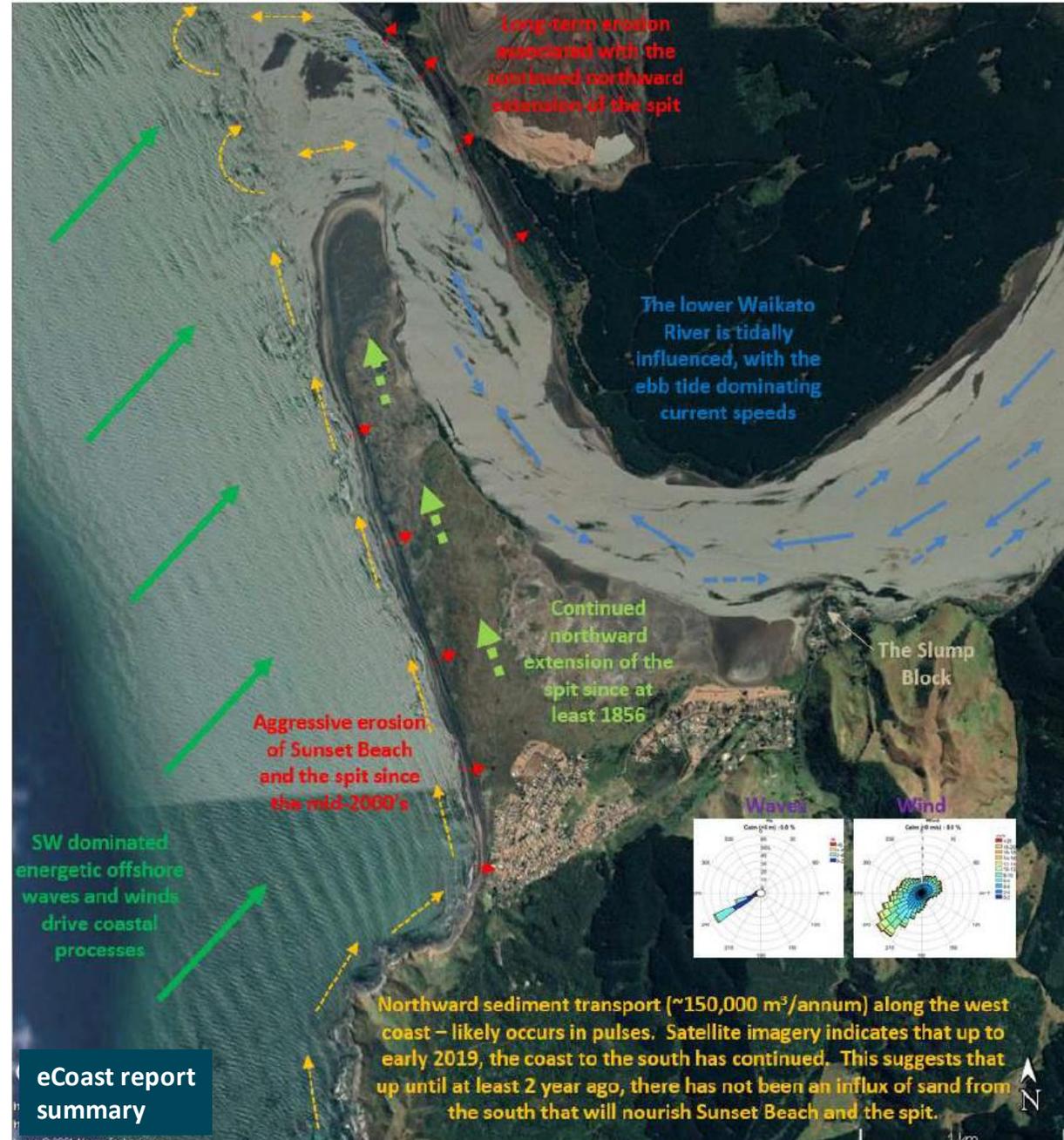
Options involving the placement of a hard structure at Sunset Beach (e.g groyne, rock revetment, sea wall, breakwater etc) are not recommended for the following reasons:

- High **visual impact** and large footprint.
- Hard-structure induced **beach lowering** and **end-effect erosion**.
- Decreased beach **accessibility**.
- Potential **health and safety** concerns.
- Structure influencing nearshore **coastal dynamics**.
- Potential **long-term loss** of sandy beach.
- Very **expensive** at this site.



# eCoast Summary

- Highly dynamic and energetic coastal environment.
- Lack of supply of new sand into the system from the south.
- Recommended actions revolve around soft-engineering and managed retreat.
- Hard structures are not recommended due to potential negative impacts.



# Port Waikato Resilience Strategy

- Key Challenges:
  - There is no “silver bullet” for responding to hazards at Port Waikato
  - Any intervention must:
    - Not make things worse
    - Be able to get resource consent
    - Be able to funded
  - Government has recognised that Councils have limited tools available to them and that this is a national issue – Climate Adaptation Act expected later in 2023

# Sand Push-Ups



# Sand Push-Ups: 1000m<sup>3</sup>: diagram



Figure 5-5. The most vulnerable 150 m of southern Sunset Beach (thin red line), and the 100 m (thick red line) where 100 m<sup>3</sup> of sand should be distributed as a buffer zone until larger volumes are available. The yellow lines denote the approximate boundaries of the DoC area and the Outstanding Landscape area to the west of the 20 m wide WDC esplanade reserve. The green box delineates the recommended borrow site, which is approximately 400 m long by 70 m wide (i.e., ~28,000 m<sup>2</sup>).

# Sand Push-Ups: 1000m<sup>3</sup>: placement

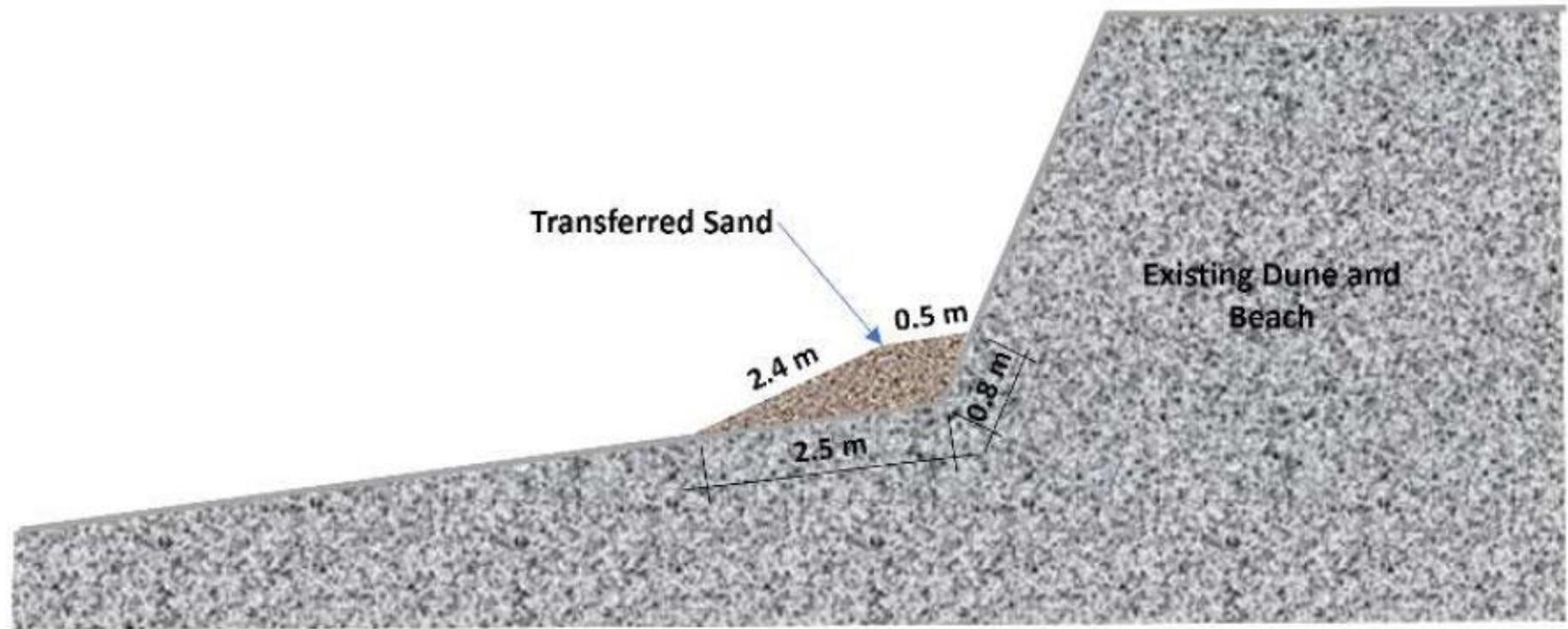


Figure 5-6. Approximate dimensions for the placement of 1 m<sup>3</sup>/linear metre.

# Recent Waikato DC Resolutions (28 June 2023)



## 28 June Council resolutions

- In response to community requests for clarity on a variety of matters including use of emergency works for rock wall
  - Preceded by public workshops earlier in June
  - Accompanied by staff report and scoping report for future work (see pp173-278 here): <https://waisite.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/docs/default-source/agenda-2023/230628-s-w-agenda.pdf>
  - Resolutions by Sustainability & Wellbeing Committee approved by full Council the same day: are now official Council policy
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## 28 June Council resolution (a)

Endorses the ongoing provision of advice to the Port Waikato community on coastal processes and short- and medium-term actions to slow coastal erosion at Sunset Beach.

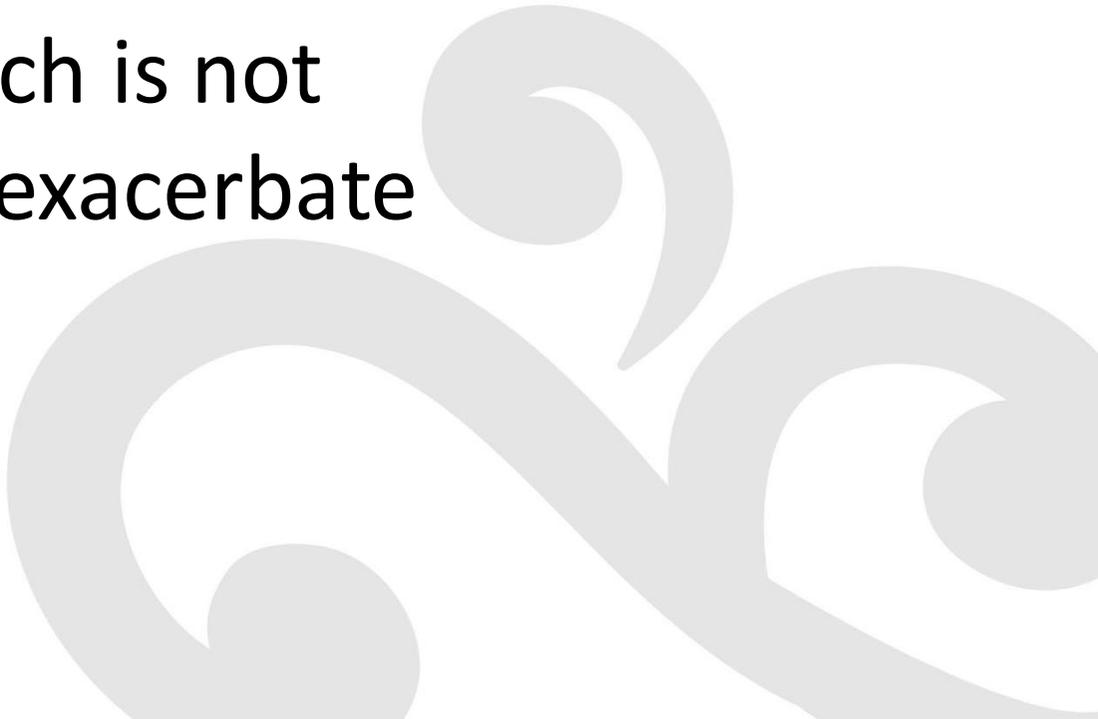


## 28 June Council resolution (b)

Confirms Council's existing position of managed retreat with respect to public assets at Sunset Beach, Port Waikato. This means that the long-term approach is to relocate public facilities rather than defend them, and that any protection works for the carpark and other community facilities would need to be short-term, cost-effective, and culturally and environmentally responsible, with the purpose of potentially slowing erosion while a longer-term relocation / retreat plan is developed.

## 28 June Council resolution (c)

Confirms that it accepts the independent expert and peer reviewed advice Council has received to date that the installation of hard structures of any kind to prevent or slow coastal erosion at Sunset Beach is not appropriate and may exacerbate erosion effects.



## 28 June Council resolution (d)

Confirms that Council will not directly fund any further sand transfer trials or other physical works aimed at protecting public or private property at Sunset Beach in Port Waikato, in the absence of a targeted rate to fund such works.



## 28 June Council resolution (e)

Resolves not to invoke the emergency works powers of Section 330 of the Resource Management Act 1991 for coastal protection works at Sunset Beach, Port Waikato, for the protection of either private or public property, and resolves not to transfer such powers to another entity.

## 28 June Council resolution (f)

Confirms it will investigate opportunities to better enable and support managed retreat for private properties affected by erosion at Sunset Beach in Port Waikato, including through the expected Climate Adaptation Act.



## 28 June Council resolution (g)

Approves the prioritisation and continuation of work towards a long-term adaptive management plan for the wider Port Waikato community, and for other communities such as Raglan, via a broader and more robust Waikato District Adaptive Management Planning Project, as outlined in the attached Scoping Report.



## 28 June Council resolution (h)

Agrees to formally invite the Waikato Regional Council to form a Joint Committee (or Joint Working Party) for the Waikato District Adaptive Management Planning Project, and to facilitate the formation of a Community Panel(s) and/or Community Reference Group(s), as recommended by the attached Scoping Report.

# Summary: next steps for WDC re: PWRG

- Secure resource consent for larger-scale sand push ups (nearly ready to lodge application) – and seek funding to do the work
- Continue to promote planting / wind-blown sand trapping
- Proceed with development of long-term resilience strategy for Port Waikato
  - Linking to new Local Area Blueprint
  - Using Dynamic Adaptative Pathways approach
  - Extending framework to share learnings / resources / across district (Waikato District Resilience Project)
  - Resetting governance structure and widening community participation
- Strengthen communication – Community / Mana Whenua / Watercare / Councils / Coast Care / DOC etc

# KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Coastal erosion at Sunset Beach is mainly driven by the amount of sand being delivered into the coastal system from the south
- We are currently in a severe erosion phase, with little sand supply over the past 2-3 years
- Independent technical advice tells us that hard structures (rocks, sandbags, etc) are not suitable for this environment and risk making things worse
- Managed retreat may be our only medium to long term solution for properties and assets affected by erosion
- Council is restricted in what it can spend ratepayer money on but will do what it can to support technically robust solutions to buy time

# MANAGED RETREAT

- Given limited viable options to respond directly and permanently to erosion, Councils are considering how they can support and implement managed retreat within current legislation
- It is not managed retreat when erosion takes away a road / house / reserve without replacement or relocation
- Managed retreat is not abandonment
- Some short-term 'defend' or 'accommodate' measures can buy us time before 'retreat', but must consider cost-effectiveness and environmental and cultural impacts
- Next slides on current WDC projects reflect this approach

# WDC Project Updates

(Open Spaces and Facilities teams)



# Beach Access

- The Environment
- Scoping
- Resolutions
- Working with directly affected parties
- Public safety and risk
- Coordinating maintenance
- Planned works
- Sustainable solutions and alternatives



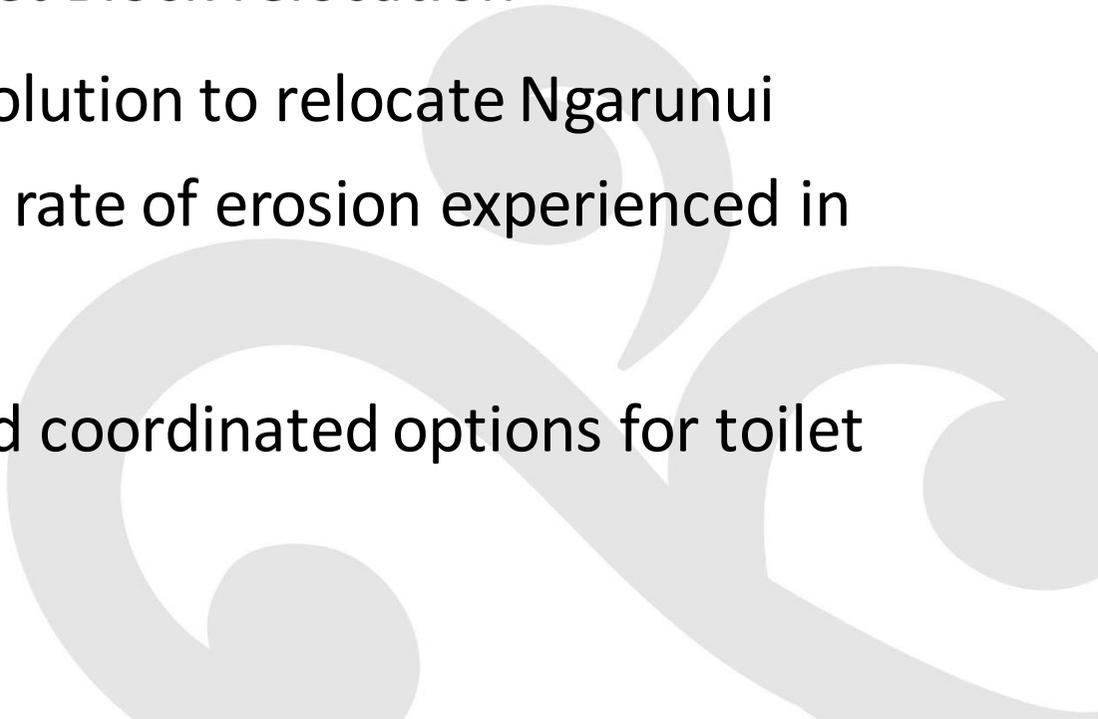
# Carparking

- Protecting what we have
- Managing overland flow and drainage maintenance
- Traffic congestion and flow
- Setback and edge protection
- Line marking
- Signage upgrades
- Traffic Bylaw 2023
- Future carparking

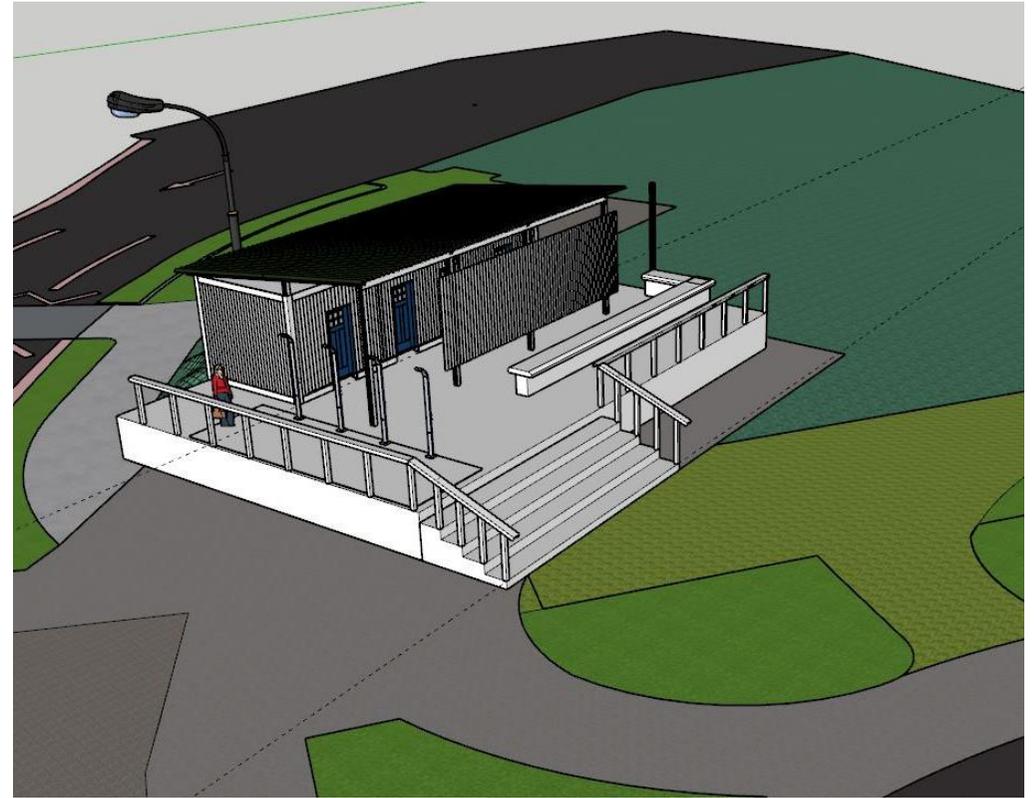


# Sunset Beach Toilet Upgrade Project

## Review and Revision of Project Scope

- Provide a contained wastewater solution within the existing toilet site
  - Assess suitability and value for the demolition of existing toilet structure to allow Ngarunui Toilet Block relocation
  - Acknowledge October 2021 resolution to relocate Ngarunui Toilet Block and the accelerated rate of erosion experienced in this time to Sunset Beach
  - Identify suitable, considered and coordinated options for toilet facilities at this location
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# Sunset Beach Toilet – Proposed Options

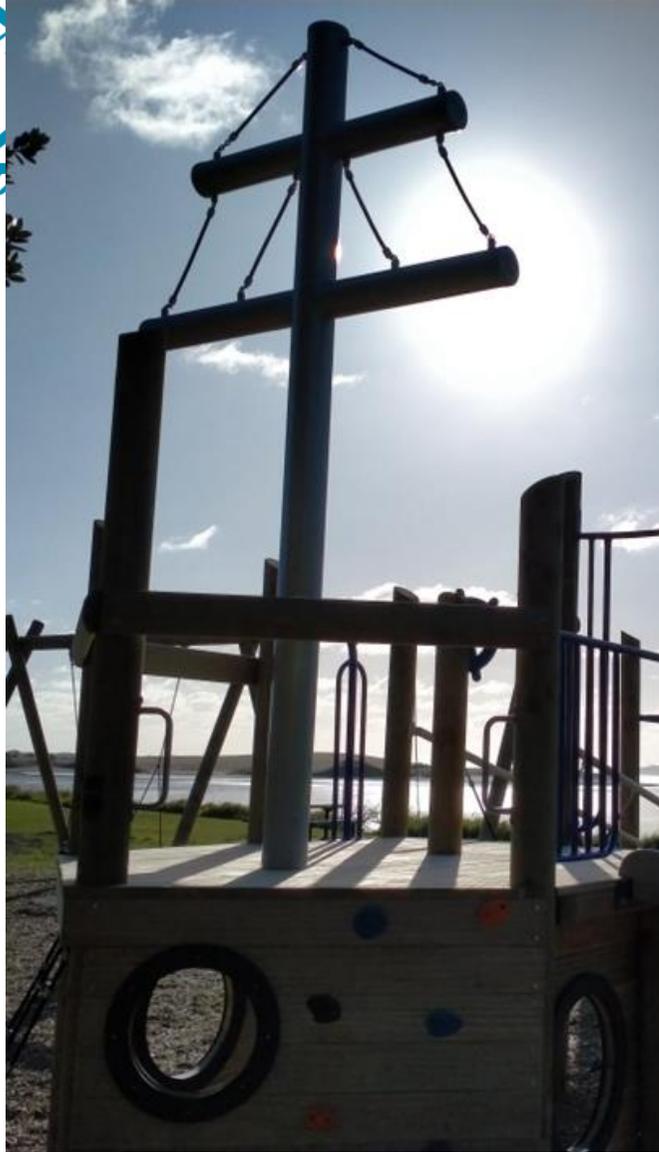


## Refurbishment of Existing Toilet Block

- Replacement of roof structure, doors, internal fittings, repaint and screed floors
- Landscaping and footpath to access the rear changing room
- Avoids disturbing the ground for demolition
- Co-ordinated planning and delivery of secondary toilet facility with other WDC facilities

## Relocation of Ngarunui Toilet Block

- In line with resolution to relocate Ngarunui Beach toilet block to Sunset Beach
- Requires demolition of existing toilet block – risk of destabilizing the area
- No changing facilities
- Structure is portable and can be relocated when erosion trigger reached



## Other Assets and Opportunities

- Blueprints
- Playground renewal
- Court remarking
- Wider Sports fields and Reserves
- Connectivity
- New seating and community shed
- Telling your stories
- Our Conduits



# Moving Forward

- Planned Maintenance regime for the existing accessway
  - Alternative access being planned for Surf lifesaving and community access
  - Safety upgrades to carpark and re-direction of flow
  - Scheduled coordinated maintenance of drainage relating to carpark and reserve areas
  - Planning of long term and sustainable carpark developments
  - Ensuring we have a cohesive and coordinated approach across all our functions at Council
  - Building functional partnerships with community to achieve practical and sustainable outcomes
  - Ability to plan for the future financially now
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# Stormwater maintenance and projects



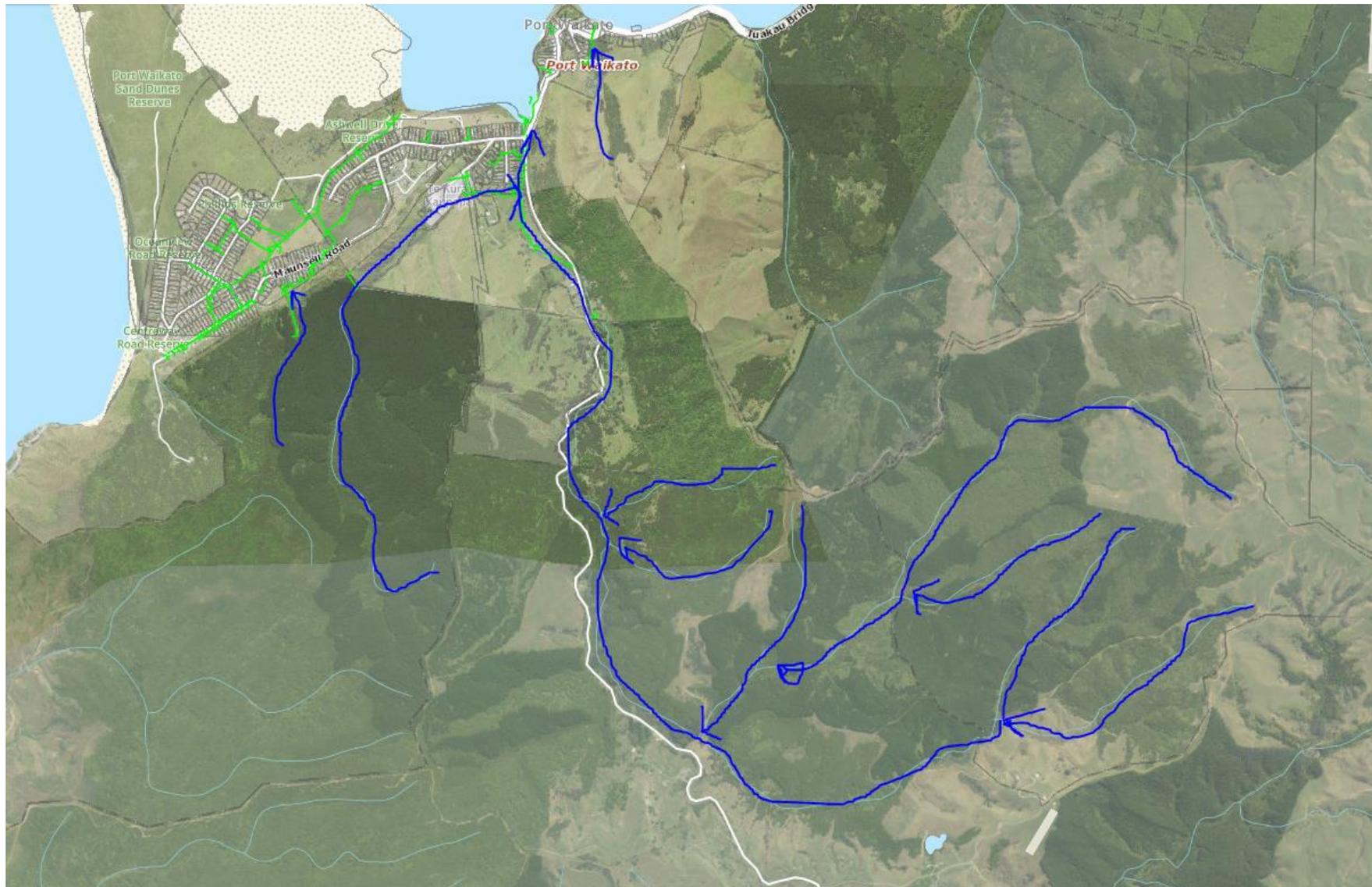
# MAINTENANCE

- Operational zones A – C
- Maintenance schedules per Operational zone
- Weather and its impact
- Mitigation planning for the future being explored



# MAINTENANCE OPERATIONAL ZONES A – D

- Port Waikato has a large catchment



# MAINTENANCE OPERATIONAL ZONES A

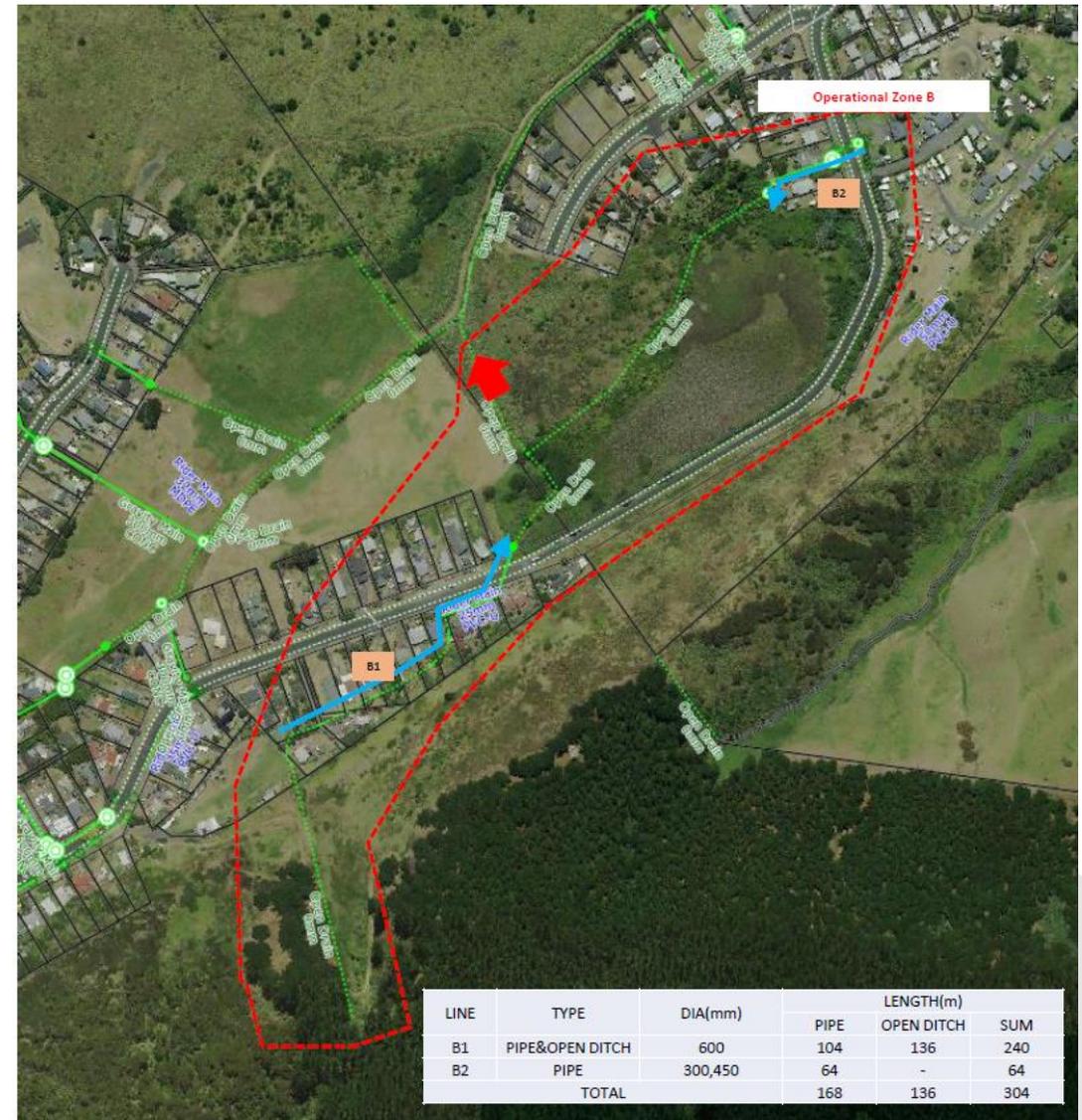
## - D

- Zone A
- Open channel
- Large pipes network from A6



# MAINTENANCE OPERATIONAL ZONES A – D

- Zone B
- Landslide affected area
- Options for the future are being assessed
- Community concerns about ongoing use of the Wetland
- Foliage removed and a New inspection point to come



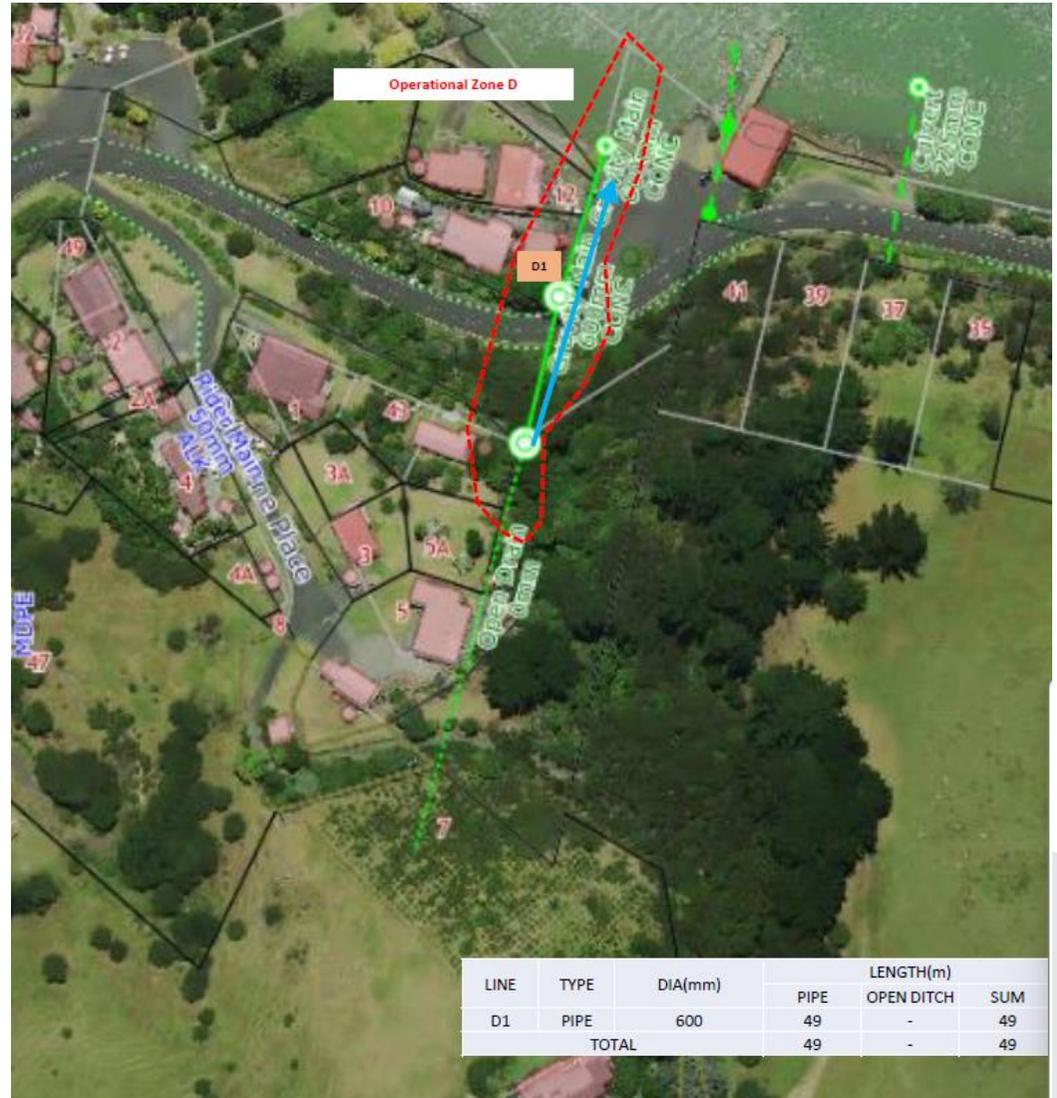
# MAINTENANCE OPERATIONAL ZONES A – D

- Zone C
- Small pump replacement
- Channel cleared in early 2022



# MAINTENANCE OPERATIONAL ZONES A – D

- Zone D
- Heavy debris and sediments during storm events

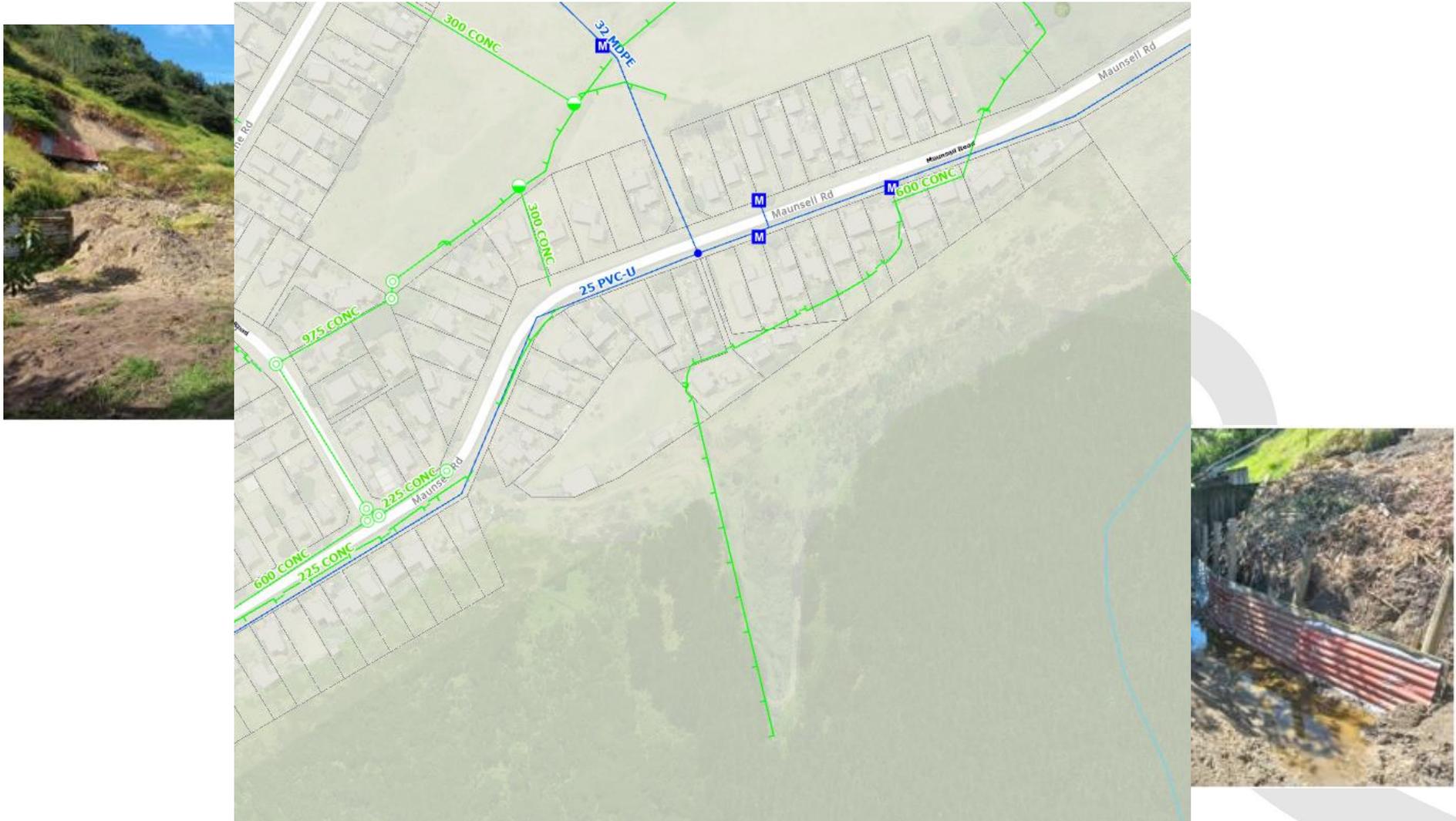


# MAINTENANCE OPERATIONAL ZONES A - C

Area	Spraying	Flushing	Foliage or sludge removal	Pump station	Monitoring frequency	Remark
Zone A	As required based on monitoring	Jan-March	Dec-Feb	NA	6 monthly	Critical asset A6
Zone B	As required based on monitoring	Jan-March (M&A)	Dec-Feb	NA	6 monthly	Maunsell Rd(Back side of properties)
Zone C	As required based on monitoring	NA	Dec-Feb	Jan-March	6 monthly	Large Channel and pump station ○ Small pump recently replaced
Zone D	As required based on monitoring	Jan-March (M&A)	Dec-Feb	NA	6 monthly	Dairy shop, Scruffy Dome suction

# PROJECT

- A review of the network operation and flow at the rear of Maunsell Road.



# Other Community Matters



# Closing



**Extra Slides If Needed**



# PWRG Timeline

2020		2022	
March	Port Waikato Community Meetings scheduled to commence, delayed due to COVID-19.	January	Tonkin + Taylor Sandbag Feasibility Report Presentation to PWRG
July	Traverse Environmental engaged by WDC	June	eCoast engaged by WDC to prepare documents for Sand Push Up Project Resource Consent Application.
September	PWRG meetings restart following change to COVID-19 restrictions.	August	Alternative Project Proposal Submitted to the Better Off Fund by Port Waikato Community Members
2021		October	Better Off Fund Application declined
March	eCoast "An Overview of Coastal Processes and Drivers of Coastal Hazards: Port Waikato" Revision 1 (commissioned by WRC)	November	eCoast issue Draft Assessment of Environmental Effects Assessment for Beach Push-Ups at Port Waikato for Resource Consent application · Issued to PWRG and Iwi Representatives for review
July	Hume Consulting Peer Review of eCoast "An Overview of Coastal Processes and Drivers of Coastal Hazards: Port Waikato" Revision 1		
August	eCoast "An Overview of Coastal Processes and Drivers of Coastal Hazards: Port Waikato" Revision 2  eCoast "Port Waikato Sand Management Options" Report  NBS Draft Sunset Beach Erosion Report		
September	Hume Consulting Peer Review of eCoast and NBS Reports		
October	100m2 sand push up trial at Sunset Beach completed  eCoast "An Overview of Coastal Processes and Drivers of Coastal Hazards: Port Waikato" Revision 3 - FINAL		
November	Hume Consulting Presentation of Peer Reviews to PWRG		
December	Sea Wall / Sandbag Project Proposal presented to PWRG by NBS		
		2023	
		February	Cyclone Gabrielle – Emergency Response and Recovery
		March	WDC Port Waikato Community Meeting WDC Meeting with Ngāti Taahinga Representatives

# ALTERNATIVE PROPOSALS

Alongside the approved work programme of the PWRG, other proposals have been put forward from the community and been discussed by PWRG over the past 2 years.

- **Sandbags and beach nourishment** at Sunset Beach - peer review was not favourable and the proposal was not advanced.
- **Installation of piles** at carpark and sand nourishment to a reinforced edge - application under the Three Water Reform Better Off Funding programme was not successful.
- Request to place rocks at the base of the dune using **emergency provisions of s.330** of the RMA - not supported by technical advice and may be challenging to retrospectively gain resource consent.

# RECOMMENDED COMMUNICATION TOOLS

- Infographic / Flow chart – clearly explain situation and reasons for Council position – supported by short video
- Public open information session(s)
- Dedicated website / page with reports, summary information etc on Port Waikato erosion and resilience – include forum for feedback?
- Direct advice and support for properties potentially facing retreat / relocation – clarity required on what Council can do (see next slide)
- Onsite signage to communicate erosion issue – causes and options etc.
- Regular e-newsletter providing erosion update