

Franklin Local Board Supporting information

Each year we plan the projects and initiatives we will deliver in your local board area. These are based on our 2017 Local Board Plan, which sets our three-year direction for the local board. We are seeking your input on our proposals for the 2018/2019 financial year.

3.1 Franklin Local Board

Message from the Chair

I am very pleased to introduce our key funding priorities for the 2018/2019 financial year. We want to do more with what we've already got; making effective use of our existing assets so we can create and maintain the best possible service to all our diverse communities.

Our funding priorities for the 2018/2019 year include starting to deliver on the routes in our trails plans; promoting and supporting pest control; planning for new recycling centres in Beachlands and Pukekohe; promoting Franklin tourism opportunities; and carrying out improvements or expansion of some of our key sport and recreation facilities.

We are also asking whether Franklin residents would be prepared to pay targeted rates to speed up the delivery of new trails across Franklin and, in the longer term, to contribute towards the operating costs of proposed improved facilities at Karaka Sports Park.

Below is a summary of our draft proposals. We look forward to receiving your views and ideas so we can move forward with putting our plans into action.

What we propose in your local board area in 2018/2019

We plan to invest \$21.0 million to renew, maintain and operate assets in your local board area as well as prioritise other local initiatives that you've told us are important:

- Reducing waste to landfill by planning for community recycling centres in Beachlands and Pukekohe. We will support local zero waste groups to set up and run new facilities, and increase recycling and re-use.
- Focus on caring for our natural environment, by continuing to support Wairoa River Action Plan implementation and by helping our community to control weed and animal pests, including creating pest-free and predator-free areas.
- Start on the ground delivery of local trails, including the Hunua cycle trail, Pohutukawa Coast trails, Waiuku trails and Pukekohe trails. We will support local communities and trails trusts to get routes in place and promote their use.
- Promoting Franklin tourism opportunities through branding, digital tools and as a motor home-friendly destination in response to recommendations in our recent motor caravanning and camping tourism study.
- Improvements to our existing community facilities and seawalls, as well as some new facilities to cater for housing growth, including:
 - Franklin Swim Sport and Fitness centre
 - New playgrounds and reserve improvements as part of housing developments
 - Skate parks at Clarks Beach and Te Puru
 - Seawall renewals at Big Bay, Clarks Beach, Glenbrook, Sandspit Reserve.

Our key advocacy project

We firmly believe that council can make more effective use of its existing assets to provide **fit for the future** community facilities that cater for Franklin's significant population growth. Your feedback on the 2017 local board plan made it clear that you agree with this approach and we received a lot of support for improving the sports facilities at Karaka Sports Park.

Over the next 30 years the number of people in the age groups participating in recreation and sport in Karaka and surrounding areas, is set to grow by 600 per cent. Drury, Kingseat, Pukekohe-Paerata, Clarks Beach and Glenbrook will all see significant housing development.

We are asking the Governing Body to provide funding of up to \$30 million in the 10-year Budget, for developing the Karaka Sports Park as a multi-sport and community hub, including upgrades to the playing fields, replacing buildings, and new cycling and walking routes. The Karaka Sports Park Trust is confident that with a clear council commitment in place, it can attract a significant amount of external funding, which will then reduce the total council contribution.

If the funding is included in the 10-year budget, work on the playing surfaces could start in late 2018 and the new buildings could be finished by 2022.

What do you think?

Have we got our priorities right? We welcome your feedback.

Do you support the development of new community recycling centres at Beachlands and Pukekohe?

Do you support assisting private landowners to control pests using funding provided by the local board?

Would you be prepared to pay a targeted rate towards building new trails and links for walking and cycling across Franklin?

Do you support our key advocacy item being the improvement and expansion of Karaka Sports Park, to deal with the growth in demand for sports and community facilities in the area?

If you are in the area that will directly benefit from improvements to Karaka Sports Park, would you be prepared to pay a targeted rate if this was to be used specifically towards the ongoing running of the improved facilities?

Note on targeted rates:

- Saying YES indicates your support, in principle, for using targeted rates to provide increased services for Franklin residents. Further consultation will be undertaken on the specific proposals before a final decision is made on any targeted rate to be charged.
- A targeted rate shows as a separate line on your rates bill. Targeted rates can only be used to fund the services for which they are raised. Used in this way targeted rates provide increased transparency and accountability.
- A targeted rate can either be charged to all Franklin ratepayers for projects that benefit the entire local board area, or to smaller groups in defined catchment areas for projects that benefit only those ratepayers.
- A targeted rate can be charged as either a fixed dollar amount per property or based on the value of each property. The basis for charging would be consulted on as part of any proposal.