

# Henderson-Massey Working Together for Environmental and Social Wellbeing

Prepared for:  
Auckland Council Low Carbon Team  
Henderson-Massey Local Board  
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# Working Together for Transformative Change

In 2016 the first Environmental Action Report for Henderson-Massey was developed. It establishes a detailed inventory of environmentally focused projects and programmes, and a framework for assessing Local Board's priorities, support and involvement. It also provides a platform from which to have further conversations regarding:

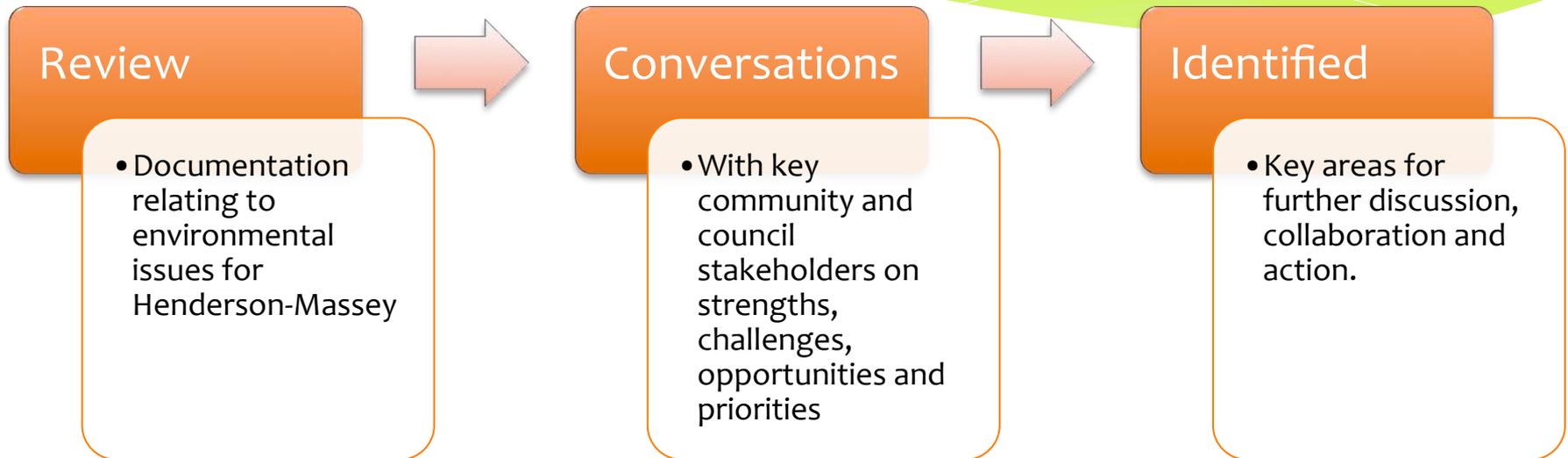
- \* local environmental and community strengths;
- \* opportunities to progress environmental outcomes;
- \* focus areas for collaborative planning and action.

The following presentation builds upon this, bringing together both a high level review of key documentation along with a summary of community/council conversations. This will provide the Local Board with insight into stakeholder views on environmental focus areas, as well as suggest an approach to further collective conversations in identifying the drivers and opportunities for transformative change.

*Nāku te rourou nau te  
rourou ka ora ai te iwi*

*With your food basket  
and my food basket,  
the people will thrive*

# Process



As a part of this process key documents were analysed at a high level, and face to face conversations were had with eight community organisations, eight council teams and a CCO . It is envisaged that this work supports further collaborative conversations where shared priorities and outcomes are identified.

# Henderson-Massey Context

Strong  
community  
identity

Ecological and  
social  
challenges

Significant  
opportunities for  
transformative  
change

Henderson-Massey was formed in 2010 and merged legacy projects and programmes from Waitakere City Council and a number of other legacy councils, including Auckland Regional Council. As the centre of the former Waitakere Eco-City, the area has a strong legacy of environmental action that sets it apart as a hot spot of community activity and collaboration.

Located between the foothills of the Waitakere Ranges and the Waitemata Harbour the population, while being culturally diverse, has a strong identity. There are many locally valued ecological treasures which also contribute to the North West Wildlink. There is significant community leadership and many strong community organisations engaging and supporting local people. There are also many council teams working across the area providing support and expertise.

Continuing to build on this good work is essential in protecting and further enhancing the local environment and contributing to improved outcomes. Water quality continues to be a concern, pests and predators threaten biodiversity, future development could compound issues, and people are unaware or unable to make sustainable choices.

With strong community and council leadership across the many different projects and programmes, and with strong community pride in an Eco-City legacy, there is immense potential to further improve outcomes through collaboration, innovation, and joined up planning and action.

# Strengths Based Approach

What people interviewed saw as unique and valued

## Eco-City Legacy

Cultural shift focused on a common vision  
Waitakere City seen as leading the way on environmental issues  
Created connections across the landscape

## Mountains to the Sea

Gateway to the Waitakere Ranges and a part of the North West Wildlink  
Many 'environmental assets' green spaces and biodiversity  
Streams still intact – not underground

## Project Twin Streams

Big picture approach covering a range of issues  
High level of community knowledge and engagement  
Engendered long term commitment

## Active Organisations Engaged Community

Strong relationships and identity – a pride in the west  
Strong active community organisations  
People choose to live here

# Identified Opportunities

What people interviewed saw as opportunities going forward

Opportunity	Overview
<b>Eco-City Vision</b>	Continue the legacy of an Eco-City vision – connecting local projects and programmes to a bigger narrative. Overall support for Local Board being the champion of the Eco-City Vision.
<b>Relationships and Collaboration</b>	Build on the good momentum and strong relationships with Local Board and have more impact through collaboration. Take a whole of community approach, grow local leadership, share information and skills, and build community knowledge – engage deeply. Allow for innovation and get buy in from all levels of Council.
<b>Healthy Streams, Healthy People</b>	Support a community led process to review, re-prioritise and re-energise Project Twin Streams or a similar model. Connecting people across the area to further improve water quality, biodiversity, ecological and community linkages.
<b>Sustainable Low Carbon Living</b>	Work with local community leaders, Council, iwi, CCOs and business to more clearly define the drivers and opportunities of low carbon living and develop a plan of action.
<b>Te Whau Pathway</b>	Take a community centered approach to the development of the Te Whau Pathway integrating it within a wider network of connection across the Henderson-Massey local board area.
<b>Community Food Basket</b>	Develop initiatives such as My Backyard Garden Project and community garden initiatives to inspire and teach families to grow their own organic and edible gardens, connecting community and promoting healthy living.
<b>Future Urban Development</b>	Influence the direction of the Red Hills / Massey urban growth, promoting sustainable development including appropriate storm water infrastructure and reserves built into development contribution.
<b>Harbourview-Orangihina</b>	Support the protection and enhancement of the unique ecology and biodiversity hub of Harbourview – Orangihina and surrounding harbour and coastal areas of the Te Atatu Peninsula.

# Identified Opportunities Cont..

What people interviewed saw as opportunities going forward

<b>Opportunity</b>	<b>Overview</b>
<b>Community Hubs</b>	Continue to support local centers such as EcoMatters and Waitakere Community Recycling Centre as local low carbon living hubs, enabling greater opportunity for community to make choices, and further develop centers including Triangle Park
<b>Pest and Predator Control</b>	Contribute to the regional North West Wildlink encouraging local establishment of pest control initiatives around key biodiversity hubs, linkages and identified Wildlink wonders. Support community led approaches in the development of predator control.
<b>Henderson Town Centre Upgrade</b>	Support Panuku in the revitalisation of the Henderson Town Centre advocating for an integrated approach that takes into consideration surrounding areas. Establish a local advisory group that can enrich the vision and inform the development. Revisit the identified opportunity for a 'Skills Sharing Hub' within the Henderson Town Centre.
<b>Green Network</b>	Re-invigorate the 'Green Network' – a network of ecological functionality and people achieving biodiversity outcomes and green participation which may include projects such as Manutewhau. Explore how this could be a local component of the North West Wildlink.
<b>Zero Waste</b>	Invest in sustainable living locally, connecting more people to the environment and sustainable living choices through neighbourhood hubs; enable Community Recycling Centres to further support social enterprise development around a Zero Waste philosophy.
<b>Movement and Connections</b>	Support for better integration and service improvements for public transport based on user experience including express trains to central city, local shuttle links, bus routes based on resident needs. Find better ways to get people out of their cars – cycling and walking.

# Building on Strengths and Success

## Identified Opportunity Areas



# Healthy Streams, Healthy People

- \* Support and resource a community led review and re-energisation of Project Twin Streams or a similar model which could:
  - Use a strengths based approach to clarify existing value and success of Project Twin Streams and redefine the scope of the project going forward
  - Identify shared goals and measures, current activities and ongoing opportunities
  - Work with council's Healthy Waters team to access good quality information relating to stream health, water quality and pollution vectors to make informed decisions about the most effective interventions (such as retrofits for illegal storm water improvements).
  - Identify linkages with other initiatives such as North West Wildlink, Te Whau Pathway, Healthy Waterways programme, Henderson Town Centre Upgrade and community hub projects.
  - Collaborate with Healthy Waters and Panuku to implement 'quick wins' including the completion of cycle and walkways along streams, and storm water improvements,
  - Support council and community organisations to explore opportunities to further citizen science initiatives with schools and community, building on the good work previously undertaken by the Wai Care programme

# Henderson Town Centre Revitalisation

- \* Advocate and support the revitalisation of Henderson as an Eco-City Centre and contribute to developing pride of place
- \* Advocate and support a process that enables key community organisations, business, and council to work alongside Panuku in the design and implementation to:
  - Support the transformational shift ‘Strongly commit to environmental action and green growth’
  - Enhance the vision through a low carbon and restoration lens
  - Integrate the development within the context of the wider environment, local connections and alignment with other initiatives such as Project Twin Streams
  - Revisit the concept of a ‘Skills Sharing Hub’ within the Henderson Town Centre
  - Ensure user perspectives on issues including public spaces, transport and walking and cycling connections are sought and incorporated
  - Promote and engage with the wider community to activate and enhance the project at different stages

# Sustainable Living

- \* Continue to support community hubs such as Waitakere Transfer Station, EcoMatters, and Triangle Park as local centres of sustainable living and innovation, providing choice opportunities, education and skill sharing in:
  - Community and backyard gardens
  - Zero waste and upcycling
  - Energy and water conservation
  - Social enterprise development
  
- \* Explore further with key stakeholders the desire for a community-led collaborative Sustainable Living initiative that could:
  - Map current projects and programmes – understanding the value of what currently exists and opportunities to further transform Henderson-Massey into an energy resilient low carbon local board area
  - Engage with diverse local communities to establish drivers of and barriers to making low carbon living choices
  - Develop an action plan that identifies shared outcomes and measures, actions and opportunities to support an Eco-City Vision.

# Wildlink Wonders

- \* Support and be guided by local community approaches that respond to the kaupapa of the North West Wildlink (such as Pest Free Kaipatiki) to protect and enhance bird life and biodiversity in Henderson-Massey. This could evolve into:
  - Predator/pest control and restoration projects focused around specific landforms such as the Te Atatu Peninsula
  - Initiatives focused around wildlink wonders, biodiversity hubs or SEAs – such Manutewhau and Harbourview-Ōrangihina Park
  - Neighbourhood predator control networks to buffer stream linkages or reserves and that connect with Project Twin Streams
  - Initiatives that grow community and neighbourhood connectedness and ‘sense of place’ through pest management and restoration activities
- \* Explore further North West Wildlink ‘missing linkage’ opportunities including the Ngaongatepa and Bringham Creeks to engage local landowners in stream restoration and address a gap in ecological linkages between Massey and Paeremoremo.

# Connected Henderson-Massey Te Whau Pathway

- \* Advocate for a ‘whole of landscape’ approach to connectivity across the local board area:
  - Support the ‘creation of a connected trail and greenways network’ (Open Space Network Plan) for the Henderson-Massey local board area.
  - Support processes that take a strengths based approach and complete unfinished connections (Henderson Town Centre revitalisation).
  - Advocate for community perspectives to be sought and incorporated in walking and cycling design and implementation.
- \* Support the ongoing development of an integrated ‘Master Plan’ with a staged programme of detailed design work for the Te Whau Pathway:
  - Map work around the Whau River, Harbourview-Orangihina Park and surrounding estuarine habitats
  - Support and resource continued opportunities to engage diverse local communities and design connections which include local perspectives

# Eco-City Vision and Forum

The Local Board were recognised as the champion of the Eco-City vision.

- \* Strengthen the Eco-City vision by working collaboratively:
  - Explore further the establishment of an Eco-City Forum as an opportunity to collectively drive forward the Eco-City vision including representatives from local community organisations, council, iwi, business and CCOs.
  - Explore further the scope of a forum and how it links to Healthy Streams Healthy People, Henderson Town Centre Revitalisation, Sustainable Living, Wildlink Wonders, and Connected Henderson Massey
  - Support and resource the establishment of an Eco-City Forum if desired by community and stakeholders
  
- \* Strengthen and enrich future development of the Local Board Plan as the strategic framework for the Eco-City vision guided by an Eco-City Forum

# Role of the Local Board

Participants see the Local Board's role as...

## Champions of an Eco-City Vision

Providing local leadership, holding the vision and long term thinking, and 'walking with us', strongly reflecting community need

### Advocates

- Be the community advocate - support community led process and a place-based approach across council, advocating for greater communication and coordination and influencing council operations.
- Proactively advocate to Council's Governing Body and Council Controlled Organisations

### Supporters

- Share the stories of success and find more opportunities for council and community to tell their stories
- Continue to courageously support environmental priorities, collaboration, community leadership and innovative solutions that allow for new ways of working

### Funders

- Continue to actively invest in local leadership, community organisations and projects
- Explore alternative funding models including resourcing the facilitation of community process, endorsing community organisations seeking alternative funding, operational support and other innovative mechanisms

# Key Messages

- **The community are looking to the Henderson-Massey Local Board to champion and provide strong leadership and advocacy to forward the Eco-City vision.**
- **Collaboration is well understood and highly desirable within the community sector.**
- **Continued investment in, and support for local community organisations and leadership enables community empowerment and wider participation and connection.**
- **Sustainability initiatives are being delivered through a number of community hubs and local partnerships, and opportunity may exist to build on this through collaborative conversations and action.**
- **Project Twin Streams has a strong legacy, ongoing support and potential to be re-invigorated.**
- **The revitalisation of Henderson Town Centre provides an opportunity to develop community pride and exemplify 'green growth'.**
- **Growing ecological connections and community responses to the North West Wildlink could greatly improve biodiversity outcomes locally and regionally.**
- **Te Whau Pathway is a significant project with opportunity to enhance community connectivity and low carbon living incorporating local perspectives.**

# Next Steps

- \* Provide Henderson-Massey Working Together for Environmental and Social Wellbeing report to participants
- \* Advocate for, support and resource a stakeholder workshop with key community groups, council, business groups and CCOs which:
  - \* Is independently facilitated
  - \* Reflects on the five opportunity areas
  - \* Explores further the idea of an Eco-City Forum, its purpose and focus
  - \* Identifies who might be represented on a Forum
- \* Hold a hui with mana whenua to explore their interest and engagement with an Eco-City vision

# Appendix One

## Interviews

### **Community Organisations**

Community Waitakere – Charlie Moore, Chris Burton and Belinda Studholme

McLaren Park Henderson South (MPHS) – Katherine Lawlor and Esteban Hevia

Sustainable Asset Management International – Tony Miguel

Forest and Bird Waitakere – Robert Woolf and Annalily van de Broeke

EcoMatters Environment Trust – Damon Birchfield

Massey Matters – Laurel Belworthy

Ranui Maori Women's Welfare League – Emma Frost

Te Ukaipo – Cecily Mantell

### **Council and CCOs**

Biodiversity Team – Ben Paris and Chris Ferkins

Low Carbon Living Team – Robbie Sutherland

Healthy Waters – Shelley Hackett

Waste Solutions – Jenny Chilcott and Megan Beard

Parks Services – Huw Hill-Male, Sinead Brimacombe and Jacki Byrd

Empowered Communities – Betty MacLaren

Local Board Services – Tracy Wisnewski

Environmental Services – Dot Dalziel

Auckland Transport – Simon Vincent

# Appendix Two

## Documentation

Henderson-Massey Local Board Plan; 2014; Henderson-Massey Local Board  
Project Twin Streams Report Card; 2016; Auckland Council  
North West Wildlink Prioritisation Report; 2017; Auckland Council  
Community Waitakere Annual Report 2015/16  
EcoMatters Annual Report 2015/16  
Whau Coastal Walkway LTP submission; 2015; Te Whau Walkway and Environment Trust  
Becoming a Low Carbon Community – an action plan: 2015; Waitemata Local Board  
Waitakere Central – a catalyst for urban enrichment; Mackay, Joyce, Bielby  
Henderson Implementation Plan; 2014; Henderson-Massey Local Board  
Waitemata Greenways Plan; 2013; Waitemata Local Board  
Regional Prioritisation for Local Outcomes; 2016; Auckland Council  
Henderson-Massey Environmental Action Report; 2016; Auckland Council  
Waitakere Forest and Bird News; March 2016; Waitakere Forest and Bird  
Project Twin Streams; Rachael Trotman  
The Henderson-Massey Open Spaces Network Plan; 2015; Auckland Council  
Skills Sharing Hub – An Opportunity for Henderson: 2016; Community Waitakere