

Infrastructure and Environmental Services Work Programme 2018/2019

ID	LB Plan Outcome	Lead Dept/Unit or CCO	Activity Name	Activity Description	Activity Benefits	Further Decision Points for LB	Timeframe	Budget Source	FY18/19
438	Waiheke's environment is treasured	I&ES: Environmental Services	New project: Ecological community assistance fund	<p>This fund would support ecological restoration and management outcomes and aligned with the local board's environmental priorities. The fund's purpose is to support and grow community and landowner ecological restoration and management initiatives which create safe, healthy and connected habitat in priority ecological areas within the Waiheke Local Board area. As this is a new fund, staff propose a development phase prior to the opening of the fund to applications. This development phase would include defining the outcomes and priorities for the fund, and the development of criteria and a scoring matrix to assist the review and assessment of funding applications.</p> <p>This budget will cover a once-yearly funding round, administered by the council's funding team alongside other Waiheke community grants, with Environmental Services coordinating assessment and allocation of the funding on behalf of the local board.</p>	<p>The benefits of this fund include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> community groups and landowners being supported and enabled to lead and undertake ecological restoration and management action improving alignment between council and community priorities for ecological restoration on Waiheke the senior panel will ensure coordination and alignment across internal council departments and better monitoring of funding allocation and outcomes people taking action to protect their local native biodiversity – controlling pest animals and weeds. people taking action to enhance native habitat (e.g. planting native trees to provide food for wildlife; planting native ground or shrubs to add structure and resilience to native forest) local native ecosystems protected and enhanced – providing safe refuge for native wildlife people encouraged to work together and connect with nature people more engaged and partnering with council to protect biodiversity. 	TBC	Q1;Q2;Q3;Q4	LDI: Opex	\$ 50,000
592	Waiheke's environment is treasured	I&ES: Environmental Services	New project: Sustainable Schools Waiheke – Marine Education Initiative	<p>Sustainable Schools would like to initiate some experiential learning and citizen science with interested schools on Waiheke, with the aim to develop some student-led action to restore and protect the marine environment. Educational sessions will focus on identifying local issues and exploring potential solutions, whilst local experiences will connect students to the marine environment and surrounding catchment. This will include activities such as snorkel surveys, shellfish monitoring, freshwater quality and fish monitoring, rocky shore studies, beach and snorkel clean-ups, and bird or pest surveys. A Waiheke student action group will be developed to connect all schools, identify and initiate student ideas for actions to improve biodiversity and water quality in the marine environment. Expected costs to undertake this project in the 2018/2019 financial year are as follows: teaching resources (\$1,000), facilitation and support (\$7,000), experiential providers (\$5,000), and action resources (\$5,000). The total project value is \$18,000.</p>	<p>Benefits of this project will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> raising awareness of Waiheke students around their local marine environment and efficacy in deciding how to take collective and personal action for the environment engaging Waiheke students in the connections between their land and the marine environment connecting Waiheke schools with local community and government organisations working to restore or protect the marine environment empowering students to take action and to influence their families and wider community to adopt sustainable behaviours for the island and marine environment. developing long-term student-led projects that improve the biodiversity and/or water quality of the marine environment. 	TBC	Q1;Q2;Q3;Q4	LDI: Opex	\$ 18,000

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594	Waiheke's environment is treasured	I&ES: Environmental Services	Giant kōkopu protection at Awaawaroa wetland	<p>This is a continuation of a project to protect and restore the only known breeding site of the nationally threatened giant kōkopu on Waiheke (at the Awaawaroa wetland reserve). Year one of the project, supported by the Waiheke Local Board, has focused on pest animal control with the immediate priority of protecting giant kōkopu fish eggs from predation by rodents (rats and mice). This proposal is to continue year two - animal pest control. The project is being implemented by the community and is a collaboration between Friends of Awaawaroa and Forest and Bird. The local board funded animal pest control is being complemented by the community's work on enhancing the wetland habitat through planting and fencing the reserve boundaries. The Friends of Awaawaroa (in partnership with Conservation Volunteers New Zealand) have received funding from Auckland Council's Regional Environment and Natural Heritage Fund towards planting and fencing costs in 2018. A budget of \$11,000 for year two of this project will cover implementation and coordinator costs, supply of bait and any additional equipment. The coordinator will liaise with neighbours and volunteers, review bait station layouts, make adjustments, undertake equipment replacements, and pre and post-monitoring checks.</p>	<p>This project will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> support the protection and restoration of Awaawaroa wetland reserve, which is part of the larger Awaawaroa wetland complex. This wetland is a site of ecological significance in the Hauraki Gulf Inner District Plan. This wetland ecosystem is classified as 'critically endangered' in the Auckland region control pest animals, specifically rodents, which predate freshwater fish, fish eggs and invertebrates in the wetland reserve and threaten the survival of giant kōkopu, classified as a nationally "At Risk – declining" species extend the natural areas of Waiheke being actively managed for rodents and compliments existing predator control projects at the Eco Village in Awaawaroa and community aspirations for a predator free Waiheke align with the Community Facilities ecological contract to ensure a complimentary approach to the pest control at this site support of surrounding residents and is been coordinated by Forest and Bird. The project compliments a 2017/2018 Regional Environment and Natural Heritage Fund application which has funded \$24,000 towards planting and fencing of the wetland. 	TBC	Q1;Q2;Q3;Q4	LDI: Opex	\$ 11,000
663	Waiheke's environment is treasured	I&ES: Healthy Waters	Project Little Oneroa and wider Waiheke community engagement	<p>This project will involve continued community engagement on issues related to water quality in Little Oneroa stream, and wider catchments including Blackpool, Ostend and Surfdale.</p> <p>The key focus areas for 2018/2019 include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - checking and maintaining onsite wastewater systems, and upgrading where necessary - using septic-friendly products - reducing water usage - reducing animal faeces in waterways (e.g. duck feeding management, and picking up after dogs) - promoting the importance of riparian planting and stock exclusion. 	<p>The benefits of this project include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the ability to build upon existing education and civic engagement around waterway health - working towards recreation water contact standards; avoid health risk to public especially children - restoring mauri, cultural and community values. <p>If the project is successful, it will work in collaboration with the roll out of Auckland Council's regional programme for onsite wastewater. Mana whenua and the local community will have a sense of kaitiakitanga/guardianship, and will consider that the cultural and community values of their local waterways have been restored.</p>	TBC	Q1;Q2;Q3;Q4	LDI: Opex	\$ 26,000