

Regional Land Transport Plan 2021-2031.

The Waihi Beach Community Board is pleased to submit on the draft Regional Land Transport Plan 2021-2031.

Topic 1 - Mode Shift

We support the aim to provide for alternative means of transport such as cycling, walking and public transport. We support retaining the inclusion in the RLTP of the Waihi to Waihi Beach Cycle Trail. We would also like the proposed Waihi Beach to Athenree Cycleway to be included in the RLTP for construction as soon as possible as it will form a vital link between those two communities.

We are disappointed to note that there is nothing in the draft RLTP regarding improving access to public transport in Waihi Beach.

Topics 2 & 3 - Climate Change

As a coastal community the potential effects of sea level rise are an important concern for Waihi Beach. We are also vulnerable to the effects of storm water and the potential for the frequency and severity of storm events to increase. We are disappointed that there is nothing in the draft RLTP for Waihi Beach that improves network resilience, provides for more sustainable forms of transport or assists in reducing emissions.

Topic 4 - Other Thoughts

In order to improve resilience, we support the construction of the Katikati Bypass. Climate change and storm events are a threat to our ability to connect with the Katikati township and beyond to Tauranga. This is especially important for situations such as emergency access to Tauranga hospital, which would be impossible to reach when the Uretara River floods and closes SH2.

We also support retaining the inclusion of the pavement rehabilitation for Waihi Beach Road as listed in the draft RLTP.

Signed

Ross Goudie

Chairman of the Waihi Beach Community Board