

PALMY[®]
2021-31



**TE MAHERE MŌ TE AWA
O MANAWATŪ
MANAWATŪ RIVER PLAN**

Ahunga rautaki



Strategic direction



Te Awa o Manawatū: Te ahunga rautaki a te Kaunihera

Manawatū River and Council's strategic direction

The Palmerston North City Council vision is He iti rā, he iti pounamu Small city benefits, big city ambition. The Manawatū River plan primarily contributes to the Palmerston North City Council's goals of an Eco city and a Creative and exciting city. The plan describes Council's activities for the first three years of the 2021-2031 10-Year Plan.

Ngā tino Priorities

The priorities of Goal 4: An eco city are:

1. He kauanuanu, he hapahapai i te mauri o te awa o Manawatū

Respect and enhance the mauri of the Manawatū River
2. He mahitahi ki te hapori ki te whakaiti i te tukutanga o te waro

Work with the community to reduce carbon emissions
3. He whakahaumanu i te kanorau koirā māori.

Regenerate native biodiversity
4. He whakapau pūtea ki ngā momo pūnahahanga e whakamarohitia ai, e whakapūmautia ai te taiao

Invest in infrastructure that services to protect, enhance and preserve the environment

5. He whakamahi i te mana ā-ture o te Kaunihera me ana kaupapahere kia toitū ai te whanaketanga o te tāone i te wātonu, ā, haere ake nei

Use Council's legislative powers and policies to ensure urban development is sustainable now and into the future

6. He whakaako i te hapori, mātua rā ko ngā kaupupuri whare, ki te whaihua o te whakapau moni kia hoahoaina ai he whare toitū, whare kākāriki hoki

Educate the community, in particular, property owners, on the benefits of investing in sustainable building design and green buildings

7. He whakaatu i te hautūtanga me te mahi tika, mā te whakawhanake me te whakatinana i tētahi mahere taiao toitū mō te Kaunihera me ōna takunetanga, taiwhanga anō hoki

Demonstrate leadership and best practice by developing and implementing an environmental sustainability plan for the Council, Council-run events, and facilities

Te take o te mahere Purpose of the plan

The 10-Year Plan levels of service for this plan are:

- Understand the relationship Rangitane o Manawatū has with Manawatū River
- Increase use of the Manawatū River environment for passive and active recreation
- Increase the health and amenity of the river environment through increased biodiversity

Ngā hononga ki mahere kē Links with other plans

The Manawatū River Plan includes environmental improvement actions that link to achieving Goal 4: An Eco city, however it strongly contributes to Goal 2: A creative and liveable city. This is because delivery of the actions will improve the vibrancy of the urban environment thereby making the city a more attractive place to live and play.

As the River is one of the foremost geographical features in the city it is the focus of a range of Council initiatives. As such it has links to all plans and most chapters within them. However, in the context of Goal 2 and 4 it is most directly linked to:

- The Active communities plan
- The Environmental sustainability plan
- The Transport plan
- The City shaping plan

Te mahitahi me Rangitāne o Manawatū Rangitāne o Manawatū partnership

Council will work in partnership with Rangitāne o Manawatū and:

- acknowledge the River is a significant cultural feature in the rōhe of Rangitāne o Manawatū
- collaborate and partner with Rangitāne o Manawatū on activities along and within the River
- provide opportunities for Rangitāne o Manawatū to be involved in project delivery to achieve the best outcomes for the River
- support Rangitāne o Manawatū in the retention and expression of mātauranga Māori and Rangitānenuiarawa¹

These commitments will guide the implementation of all aspects of this plan.

Ngā puka Kaunihera e whai wāhi mai ana ki tēnei mahere Council documents that contribute to this plan

The implementation of this plan is shaped by these Council-adopted documents:

- Ahimate Reserve Development Plan
- Auahi Kore Smokefree and Vapefree Policy
- Citywide Vegetation Framework
- District Plan
- Dog Control Policy and Bylaw
- Manawatū River Framework
- Policy for the Use of Public Space
- Reserve and Walkway Naming Policy
- Signs and Use of Public Spaces Bylaw
- Sun Protection Policy
- Te Āpiti Manawatū Gorge Master Plan
- Te Motu o Poutoa Anzac Park Management Plan
- Trade Waste Bylaw
- Victoria Esplanade Master Plan
- Wastewater Bylaw

Te ine i te angitutanga Measures of success

Council will monitor these measures of success and report on these through the City Dashboards:

- Increase in the public use of the river environment
- Increase in native planting and observed biodiversity improvements in suitable locations in the river environment
- Greater connectivity of features within the Manawatū River Park

¹ Rāngitanenuiarawa is the Rangitāne expression of kaitiakitanga, or customary authority and guardianship, and affirms their customary leadership in ensuring the health and regeneration of their tribal rohe



Kupu whakataki Introduction

The Manawatū River is a significant natural and cultural feature of our city. Implementation of the Manawatū River Framework guides the development of the river environment. The purpose of this chapter is for the Manawatū River to be a cultural, environmental and recreation resource which is connected with all aspects of city life.

Kei hea tātou i tēnei wā? Where are we now?

- The Manawatū River occupies a length of 42km between the eastern (Te Āpiti) and western (Longburn) boundaries of the Palmerston North territorial area and is predominately managed by Horizons Regional Council, however Council is actively involved as the main adjoining landowner of parks along the true right (northern) bank of the city section.
- A huge amount has been achieved along the River through the ongoing delivery of the Manawatū River Framework in the last three years ranging from plenty of activations (such as community bonfire events), Rangitāne o Manawatū collaborations (such as the Urban Eels Platform near the mouth of the Turitea Stream) and the shared path extension to Linton.
- There are now over 21km of shared path available for public use of which 11km has a limestone surface, 10km has a tarseal ('hotmix') surface and 1km has a concrete surface.
- The He Ara Kotahi Bridge (190m long) and the associated shared path extension (over 7km) on the true left bank of the River from Fitzherbert Bridge to the end of Bells Road in Linton were opened in mid-2019.
- He Ara Kotahi Bridge has attracted huge interest from local residents, with one million visitors in its first two years of operation.
- Access for water recreation has been significantly improved at Ahimate Park and this has resulted in a large increase in swimming in that area.
- Rangitāne o Manawatū is increasingly involved in working with Council on a range of projects in order to provide better expression of interwoven history with the awa.
- The River is a changeable and often volatile natural feature with regular flood events so any form of development or public event, including biodiversity enhancement, needs to be carefully considered.
- There is a good level of access to and along the River within the city reach, however it remains a disconnected system as there is a significant gap in the rural area where the shared path link to Ashhurst between Te Mātai Road and Raukawa Road is not yet complete.
- There are ongoing conflict issues between users of the shared path network, most notably between cyclists and dog walkers, and while Council has sought to address this conflict via a passive 'courtesy and respect others' approach there remains a need for more education.

He aha ngā hiahia hei whakatutuki? What do we want to achieve?

- The Manawatū River Framework is delivered.
- Council understands the contribution the Manawatū River makes to the city as its key cultural, environmental and recreation resource.
- Rangitāne o Manawatū is involved in all aspects of planning and delivery of Manawatū River projects and services.
- There is increased use of the river environment by the public for active and passive recreation.
- There is a biodiversity corridor extending along the river environment and the tributaries to it (notably the Mangaone, Turitea and Kahuterawa Streams) for amenity and water quality improvement reasons where this does not compromise the integrity of the flood protection system.
- There are recreation opportunities along and within the River.
- Transport and car parking by the River are managed effectively.
- There are opportunities for rongoā (connecting people to the whenua through traditional medicine) and māra kai (food garden) within the Manawatū River Park.
- Access to and along the river is as easy as possible for the public, with wayfinding signage and physical works that provide for all abilities.
- Legal access agreements along the true right bank (northern side) of the River are secured and extend the shared path from the city to Ashhurst.
- The River is a core city destination.
- Te Āpiti is the gateway to the Manawatū River Park and is the leading area for the appreciation of biodiversity and provision of an outstanding recreation and cultural experience.

He aha ngā mahi e tutuki ai ngā hiahia? What actions will we take to get there?

Ongoing actions	Start date	Involvement of partners
Make biodiversity improvements to Te Āpiti Manawatū Gorge	2021/2022	Te Āpiti Gorge Governance Group
Implement Manawatū River Framework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Marae Tarata Development Plan ➤ Hokowhitu Lagoon Development Plan ➤ Bridge lighting ➤ Key entranceways (Esplanade, Albert St, Raukawa Rd, Ashhurst Domain) ➤ Land purchases and shared path extensions 	Rangitāne o Manawatū Environment Network Manawatū Private landowners affected	
New and one-off actions	Completion date	Involvement of partners
Te Motu o Poutoa Anzac Park - Reserve Development	2023/2024	Rangitāne o Manawatū
Te Motu o Poutoa Anzac Park – Purchase of entranceway land	2021/2022	Rangitāne o Manawatū Massey University
Review and update the Manawatū River Framework	2022/2023	Rangitāne o Manawatū
Implement the Victoria Esplanade Master Plan	2023/2024	Rangitāne o Manawatū Esplanade User Group Forum
Implement the Ashhurst Domain Master Plan (see Active communities plan)	2023/2024	Rangitāne o Manawatū
Implement Te Āpiti Manawatū Gorge Master Plan	2022/2023	Rangitāne o Manawatū Te Āpiti Gorge Governance Group
Provide lighting around shared path loop between Fitzherbert Bridge and He Ara Kotahi Bridge	2021/2022	Rangitāne o Manawatū
Light the Manawatū River Park	2023/2024	



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Our north arrow draws directly from “North” in our city’s name. An upward arrow perfectly symbolises our ambition for a city that’s smarter, continually growing and evolving, innovating, collaborating and finding enlightened ways to work with nature.