

1. Introduction

Welcome to the first community plan for the Ohariu Valley rural area.

The Community Planning process was one of the most extensive community consultation exercises undertaken by the Council in association with the Makara/Ohariu Community Board. Its intention was to give the people of Ohariu Valley the chance to spell out the things they held to be important about their area, and their vision for the future of that area. The Community Plan records those values and aspirations which make up that vision. It summarises a process in which a large proportion of the community were involved, including students of Ohariu Model School (whose wonderful mural representing the character of Ohariu Valley graces the front cover of the plan).

Of course not every individual will agree with every statement of recommended action, and there will be those who would argue just as passionately for methods that have been omitted. Consensus has not been possible on all issues. That is to be expected in a community with diverse and often strongly held views. Nor is that necessarily a bad thing – the Community Plan is not a document set in stone, but rather a record at a particular point in time, of an essentially dynamic process. The Community Plan does not seek to present one strongly unified world view, but rather reflects the diversity of views presented throughout the process. However, whilst recognising this diversity, it should also be recognised that the community did define some common goals and aspirations which were near-universally accepted. The Community Plan reflects that too.

This document sets out a plan for the future of Ohariu Valley, and the steps (both non-statutory and statutory) toward achieving that vision. It also provides a reference point from which new ideas may evolve. The Makara/Ohariu Community Board extends its gratitude to the residents of Ohariu Valley for their enthusiastic participation in the planning process - the Ohariu Valley Rural Community Plan has benefited tremendously from the input of the area's committed and passionate residents.

How has it all come about?

Community input	Community Board and Council response
Provided views on visions for the rural area and the future of subdivision (Questionnaire in January 2000)	Formulated 'Rural Area Objectives' that capture the community's visions and the Community Plan process (South Karori, Makara, Ohariu Valley and Horokiwi)
Commented on 'Rural Area Objectives' and the Community Plan process (Discussion paper and questionnaire in October 2000)	Adopted revised set of 'Rural Area Objectives' and Community Plan process and timetable (January 2001)
Participated in "Ohariu Valley community planning day" providing local responses to the 'Rural Area Objectives' (10 June 2001)	Listened and Summarised local community response to 'Rural Area Objectives' and explored ideas for subdivision and land use management
Participated in Local Resident Workshops: Ohariu Crossroads (26 June 2001) Ohariu Farming (9 July 2001) Ohariu Valley Meeting (19 July 2001)	
	Formulated and released draft Ohariu Valley Rural Community Plan (August 2001)

Commented on draft Ohariu Valley Rural Community Plan (August/September 2001)	Considered the submissions and a revised Ohariu Valley Plan – Makara/Ohariu Community Board decided plan did not accurately reflect community feeling and recommended the Council not adopt it (20 September 2001). Council Committee decided to let plan lie rather than adopt plan in its current form (26 September 2001).
	After further thought and examination of the submissions the Board asked for the plan to be revised in accordance with the community response and brought back to them as a draft for further consideration
	A revised Community Plan prepared
	Local Body Elections October 2001 – New Community Board and Council Elected
	November/December 2001 - New Makara/Ohariu Community Board considered the revised community plan, made amendments and resolved to recommend to the Council that it adopt the community plan
	The Council adopted the community plan on 20 February 2002.
Community members can continue to discuss local issues, service delivery and lobby for special projects with members of the Makara/Ohariu Community Board and Councillors	Implementation of the community plan through the annual plan process, asset management plans and the district plan is commenced where appropriate
	The Board and the Council updates residents on progress in implementing the Ohariu Valley Rural Community Plan