

Online feedback on the Draft Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan 2026]

Response Summary:

We want your feedback

You can provide your feedback until Thursday 23 July 2026, 11.59 PM.

We want to make sure the plan reflects what matters most to you and our community. Before sharing your feedback, please take a moment to review the draft [Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Local Board Plan](#).

You need to click the 'Submit Feedback' button on the final page of the feedback form to make sure we receive your feedback.

Your name and feedback will be included in public documents. All other personal details will not be made publicly available.

The personal information that you provide in this form will be held and protected by Auckland Council in accordance with our [Privacy Policy](#) and with the [Privacy Act 2020](#).

The privacy policy explains how we can use and share your personal information in relation to any interaction you have with the council, and how you can access and correct that information. Please familiarise yourself with this policy before submitting this form.

Your feedback

(all questions are optional)

Please note:

- Your feedback will be included in public documents. Please do not include any personal information in your feedback.
- To ensure a fair process we only consider one submission per person. If you submit more than once, we will consider your latest submission as your full and final feedback.

- We may use AI-assisted tools to support analysis of feedback, with staff reviewing results for accuracy before finalising findings.

Q1.

1. Overall, do you think the draft Plan reflects the needs and aspirations of our community over the next three years?

- I don't know

Q1 Tell us why.

Tell us what we've got right, what we've missed, or what you would change

N/A

Q2.

2. Community

We see a future where mana whenua aspirations are upheld, their role as kaitiaki is recognised and relationships are strong. A place where our community can look after one another, access the services they need to stay well and where our shared spaces are welcoming, fit for the future and connected.

Are we on the right track with our 'Community' priorities?

- I support most priorities

Q2.

Tell us what we've got right, what we've missed, or what you would change

Thanks for the opportunity to give feedback on the draft Aotea Great Barrier Local Board plan. We recognise the challenges and opportunities that the plan highlights. In particular we support the Community Objective: Well-used open spaces, and the key initiatives for achieving the objective:

- Ensure our village spaces, parks, reserves and beaches are safe, well-maintained and reflect our natural way of life.
- Partner with mana whenua, Department of Conservation and the community to investigate connecting track networks.

We see that progress on connecting track networks has stalled in the past – we think that there are two main challenges to address:

1. cost estimates for building and maintaining tracks have relied on incorrect assumptions, and the local board has lowered its sights because of this
2. a minority of private landholders claim public road land for private use – and are tying up a precious community resource.

Regarding the first challenge – this is something that will require local buy-in and volunteers to overcome.

In response to the second challenge, the Local Board has also now become the Roothing Authority under the Local Government (Auckland Council) (Transport Governance) Amendment Act 2026. That means it has a direct responsibility to ensure public right of passage along legal roads – including unformed legal roads (also known as “Paper Roads”).

We note that Ngā Ara Hikoi Ki Aotea project – which has local funding – aligns strongly with achieving the plan’s objectives. The funding is administered by Herenga ā Nuku Aotearoa the Outdoor Access Commission, and seeks to enable local use of existing public land to connect villages in the southern parts of Aotea. We ask that the Local Board actively partner with mana whenua, DOC, the Outdoor Access Commission and the community to investigate connecting track networks along unformed legal roads.

Ngā Ara Hikoi ki Aotea also aligns with other objectives in the draft plan:

- Safe local roads: the project recognises the challenges the community and visitors face on the island’s narrow formed roads, and with rising fuel costs. The project seeks to use existing unformed legal roads, allowing people to get around safely on foot, and joining up a network of tracks for recreation close to where people live.
- Flourishing island culture and the key initiative to support mana whenua aspirations to share storytelling and te reo and protect and recognise wāhi tapu sites: Many of the unformed legal roads across the island follow ancestral trails that are hidden from current generations – and the project team has agreed to coordinate with Ngāti Rēhua Ngāti Wai Ki Aotea to ensure that their stories and special places are identified, protected and celebrated, in line with tikanga.

Q3.

3. Environment

We see a future where our community works together to manage pests and protect our native species, where our food and water are secure and our waterways are healthy and drain freely. A place that protects and celebrates its night sky and where we reduce waste and lower our impact on the environment. An island where our whenua is restored and thriving and our moana is protected, healthy and full of life.

Are we on the right track with our ‘Environment’ priorities?

- I support most priorities

Q3 Comment.

Tell us what we've got right, what we've missed, or what you would change

Public access along an expanded network of trails will help the local community in their efforts to protect the environment. Ngā ara hīkoi ki Aotea project aspires to enable the local conservation community to utilise ULRs and expand their reach in the southern part of the island. We think that this will attract new volunteers through access to remote parts of the island - this is one of the perks of volunteering.

Q4.

4. Economy

We see a future where local businesses thrive, an island where people can make a living locally and afford to live well, and a place that continues to attract visitors in a way that supports our way of life.

Are we on the right track with our 'Economy' priorities?

- I support most priorities

Q4 Comment.

Tell us what we've got right, what we've missed, or what you would change

Expanding the network of walking tracks in the southern part of Aotea - utilising existing public land - could add value to the visitor economy, by providing a wider array of walks, enabling visitors to extend their stay on the island and spend more in the local economy.

Q5.

5. Transport

We see a future where our transport network is resilient and able to support connection to and from the island, where our wharves and airfields are reliable and meet our needs, and where our roads are safe, well maintained, and shared.

Are we on the right track with our 'Transport' priorities?

- I support most priorities

Q5 Comment.

Tell us what we've got right, what we've missed, or what you would change

The network of trails that Ngā ara hīkoi ki Aotea seeks to establish would:

- * improve transport network resilience by providing marked walking connectivity along ULRs
- * help improve road safety by providing safer and more pleasant alternatives for walking connectivity off the islands formed roading network.

Q6.

6. How would you prefer to hear from us and have your say in the future?

Tick your preferences below.

N/A

Q7.

7. Do you have any other feedback on the draft Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan 2026?

N/A

Supporting Documents.

Upload any supporting documents

N/A

Sub Name.

Your details

Your name and feedback will be included in public documents. All other personal details will not be made publicly available.

First Name:	Dot
Last Name:	Dalziell

Ind/Org.

Are you providing:

- Feedback as the official representative of an **organisation**

Org Name.

Name of organisation or business

The Outdoor Access Commission Herenga ā Nuku Aotearoa

Sub Contact Address.

What is your preferred contact address?

- Email

Sub Email.

Email address

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ORG Local Board.

Your local board

Which local board area is organisation based in?

If based in more than one local board area, please select Regional Organisation.

If you don't know your local board area, see [Find your local board](#) for more details.

- Regional Organisation