

# Henderson Valley/Opanuku Community Consultation Report



*A summary of Local Area Plan consultation with the Henderson Valley/Opanuku community March 2009 to June 2010*

Version: Proposed LAP, June 2010



## Table of Contents

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Introduction.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Community workshops.....</b>	<b>5</b>
2.1	Henderson Valley Residents Association LAP Brainstorm – 18 March 2009 .....	5
2.2	Henderson Valley School Arts Workshop – 24 September 2009 .....	6
2.3	Community Meeting and Open Day – 14 October 2009 .....	7
2.4	Waitakere Community Board Meeting - 3 November 2009 .....	9
2.5	Henderson Valley Residents Association Meeting – 04 November 2009.....	9
2.6	Community Feedback Meeting - 8 December 2009 .....	10
2.7	Tangata Whenua and Maori .....	11
2.8	Submissions to the District Plan on Proposed Plan Changes 35 and 36 .....	12
2.9	Other community communications between October 2009 & June 2010 .....	12
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Appendix 1: Henderson Valley Residents Association ‘SWOT’ Analysis.....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Appendix 2: Community Meeting Feedback October 14th 2009.....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Appendix 3: Summary of issues from informal meetings with local residents.....</b>	<b>22</b>

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Act 2008 (the Act) provides for the Council to determine for itself the process of developing a Local Area Plan (LAP). Section 26 of the Act states:

*In preparing, amending, revoking, or replacing a LAP, the territorial authority concerned may decide for itself the process that it uses but, in doing so, it must—*

- (a) ensure that the process encourages interested or affected persons to participate in and contribute to the LAPs preparation, amendment, revocation, or replacement; and*
- (b) comply with the principles of consultation in section 82 of the Local Government Act 2002; and*
- (c) if the LAP is for a local area that is adjacent to or includes a part of the Waitakere Ranges Regional Park, have regard to the current management plan for the Park prepared under section 19; and*
- (d) consult with tangata whenua, namely Ngati Whatua and Te Kawerau A Maki*

In Compliance with s26, the Council's Policy and Strategy Committee has resolved to adopt an approach of community engagement in the development of the LAP through a community enquiry workshop process. Details of the process have been amended to reflect changing circumstances in each LAP area, but the key aspects of the engagement with the community have included:

- i. Identification of the local area and its boundaries.
- ii. Identifying heritage features valued by the community.
- iii. Identification of local amenity and potential opportunities and threats to those heritage features and that amenity.
- iv. Imagining a vision of the future of the area, including accommodating different perspectives.
- v. Identification of methods to achieve that future vision.

On 7 August 2008 the Committee resolved to:

3. **Agree** to adopt the Local Area Plans under the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Act 2008 report for the purpose of engaging with communities on the purpose of Local Area Plans and the process of developing Local Area Plans.
4. **Agree** that the priority area for an initial Local Area Plan under the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Act 2008 be the Foothills area as outlined in option 3 of the report and that a report regarding the process and priorities for this be reported back to the Policy and Strategy Committee meeting scheduled to be held on Thursday, 4 September 2008.

1300/2008

On 4 September 2008 the Committee further resolved to:

2. **Agree** that the first Local Area Plan should be prepared for the Oratia Local Area, because this is a distinct local area where the Local Area Plan process will reveal many issues that are common to the wider "Foothills" area.
3. **Agree** that the process for undertaking the preparation of the Local Area Plan should include:

- preliminary research on the characteristics and issues of the area that includes economic analysis;
- definition of the local area, in consultation with the local and wider community; and
- an informed but open and participative “enquiry by design” process, similar to the process that has been used to develop plans for New Lynn and Westgate.

1522/2008

On 4 June 2009 the Committee further resolved to:

2. **Agree** that further Local Area Plans for the remainder of the foothills be developed through the 2009/2010 financial year in a sequence beginning with Henderson Valley/Opanuku, then Swanson and finally Anzac Valley.
3. **Agree** that the process for undertaking the preparation of the Local Area Plans follow the process used for the development of the Oratia and Waiatarua Local Area Plans including:
  - preliminary research on the characteristics and issues of the area;
  - definition of the local area, in consultation with the local and wider community;
  - consultation through a mixture of small group and larger public meetings; and
  - a “community enquiry” workshop to develop the draft Local Area Plan.

875/2009

There has been consultation over key issues and themes with the local community for many years. A table of some of the key areas is detailed below.

**Table 1: Previous consultation between Henderson Valley/Opanuku residents and Council officers in Waitakere City**

Year	Consultation
1994-95	Consultation on the Proposed District Plan.
1998	District Plan consultation- final notices
2003-2005	Project Twin Streams walk and cycleways consultation
2003	Telephone surveys on public perceptions of the Waitakere Ranges and community workshops on values and threats
2005	ARC telephone survey on protection of the Ranges and foothills. Public open days and meetings were also held.

From September 2009 Council staff undertook a series of meetings and workshops with members of the Henderson Valley/Opanuku community and interested organisations to discuss the proposed LAP. This report provides a summary of those conversations and outlines key matters raised by participants. Detailed information is provided on the main workshops and meetings held in October, and December 2009, along with a summary of other meetings and discussions that occurred. Information was also distributed using newsletters, letters and the Council's website. This report is not a complete record of all communication with the local community concerning the LAP. Discussions are continuing with residents and this report records those conversations until June 2010

Feedback was received from participants on the boundaries for the LAP. This is described in the accompanying Boundary Report.

## 2.0 COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS

### 2.1 Henderson Valley Residents Association LAP Brainstorm – 18 March 2009

Following discussions with the Oratia and Waiatarua communities around the LAPs for those areas, a brainstorming session was held by the Henderson Valley Residents Association to begin discussions on planning for the future of Henderson Valley, and the forthcoming LAPs process. The discussions centred around a 'SWOT' analysis (of the various Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) of the issues facing Henderson Valley. A detailed summary of these discussions is provided at Appendix 1, and brief summary is included below:

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heritage Area</li> <li>• Fairy Falls</li> <li>• Police Contact</li> <li>• Geographically – not a through road</li> <li>• Close to beaches</li> <li>• Privacy</li> <li>• No sewage system</li> <li>• Blend of rural / commercial (i.e. Superb Herbs, Pleasant Valley Wines, Kiwi Valley)</li> <li>• Artists / Musicians / Writers</li> </ul> <p>Rural Character / Aesthetic Beauty:</p> <p>Sense of Community / Belonging</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stream access – fencing</li> <li>• Proximity to the city brings boy racers/ drinking parties</li> <li>• Rubbish &amp; animals being dumped</li> <li>• Community apathy</li> </ul> <p>Roads</p> <p>Identity of Henderson Valley:</p> <p>Amenities:</p>
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WCC more open – consultative for any decisions.</li> <li>• Explore local Maori history</li> <li>• Build closer bonds with local Iwi</li> <li>• Museum with local history</li> </ul> <p>Rural Aspects:</p> <p>Commercial Opportunities:</p> <p>Land use for the future</p> <p>Community:</p> <p>Amenities:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roads</li> <li>• Sewage</li> <li>• Decrease in property size</li> <li>• Potential development</li> <li>• Increase crime rate</li> <li>• Henderson Valley won't be a destination – just someplace to drive through</li> </ul> <p>Commercial Growth:</p> <p>WCC:</p> <p>Environmental:</p>

## 2.2 Henderson Valley School Arts Workshop – 24 September 2009

A group of Henderson Valley School students took part in an Arts workshop at the School, facilitated by a professional artist and assisted by Council staff, in which they discussed three questions:

1. what they liked about Henderson Valley,
2. what they didn't like and
3. what they thought should be protected for the future.

The third question formed the basis for the art activity in which students depicted those elements of the area that they wanted to protect for the future using oil sticks (solid oil paints) on primed wooden tiles. The tiles were then displayed at the Community Open Day and LAP meeting, and are now permanently on display inside the Community Hall.

Twenty two students (2 each from year 2-6) took part. Of these 18 lived in Henderson Valley. The student's likes included their natural environment (the streams, waterfalls and forest), native animals including the birds and fish as well as insects, family, friends and neighbours and their eco friendly school. Their dislikes included rubbish, graffiti, pollution and threats to native wildlife including pests, weeds and cutting down native trees to build houses. The students wanted the school, the natural environment, farms, culture and love for other people to be protected for future generations.



## 2.3 Community Meeting and Open Day – 14 October 2009

A community open day and meeting was held on 14 October 2009. An invitation to attend was sent to over 850 households in the Henderson Valley/Opanuku area, along with posters at local businesses and the school, and advertisements in the Western Leader and Waitakere City News:



The poster features a photograph of a rural landscape with a red barn and a large tree. The text is arranged in a structured layout with various fonts and colors.

**Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area**

### An invitation to discuss Henderson Valley/Opanuku's future

**What will Henderson Valley/Opanuku look like in 2060?**

You're invited to come and find out how you can help prepare a Local Area Plan (LAP) that will have a big impact on Henderson Valley/Opanuku's long-term future.

Waitakere City Council has organised an **Open Day and Community Meeting on Wednesday 14 October 2009 in the Henderson Valley Hall at Henderson Valley Primary School, 389 Henderson Valley Road.**

**The Drop in Open Day runs from 2pm-6pm and the Community Meeting will start at 6.45 pm.**

We want to hear your views about the future of the area and discuss how your community will look, feel and function in 70 years.

The Open Day is a chance to find out more about the Ranges Act, the LAP process and to discuss issues with Council staff. Drawing on local knowledge is important so come along and find out more.

For further information please call Lorraine Maguire on 836 8000 extn: 8447 or email [ranges@waitakere.govt.nz](mailto:ranges@waitakere.govt.nz)

**Drop in...**

*eco city* Waitakere City Council  
Te Taiāo o Waitakere  
[www.waitakere.govt.nz](http://www.waitakere.govt.nz)

More than 80 members of the community attended. A series of talks provided background to the LAP project and why it is important for protecting the character and amenity of Henderson Valley/Opanuku:

The 'Streamettes' provided a musical introduction to the night based on their prize winning Project Twin Stream Song Quest entry and the Green Team from Henderson Valley School gave a presentation on the many interesting and effective measures being undertaken at the school to reduce waste and improve sustainability:



Dr Graeme Campbell, Waitakere City Council's Director of Strategic Planning, encouraged people to think about the bigger picture and emphasised the need to put people at the centre of thinking. He also highlighted the need to think long-term, in generations rather than in years.

Mary Ann White, a local resident gave a fascinating insight into the history of the valley in relation to the Baha'i's 50 year presence in the area and the inter-relationships with other religious retreats that have existed and continue to exist in the area. She also detailed why this area was chosen as the location for the Baha'i National Centre, and the degree of change that has been observed in the area.

Melean Absolum a local resident and distinguished landscape architect gave her perspectives on the rural elements of Henderson Valley/Opanuku and how they contribute to the character and amenity of the area.

The following Visioning exercise and workshop provided a chance for Council to listen to residents about the kind of future character and amenity they wanted for Henderson Valley/Opanuku. The focus was on gathering ideas about the way the community looks and feels. Discussions were framed around three key questions:

- What do you like about the area?
- What do you dislike about the area and what would you like to see change?
- What would you like the area to look and feel like in 50 years?



Overall, residents liked the way the community was now and wanted to preserve the rural character of the area. During the course of the meeting several key themes were identified and participants' opinions varied around each of these themes. Full responses of the discussions are attached as Appendix 2. These are summarised below:

### **Community**

- Universal agreement that the Valley is a great place to live
- Safe and friendly, peaceful and quiet
- Least developed area in the foothills= 'jewel of the crown'
- Identified the school as the focal point for the community
- Better use could be made of the hall and school facilities
- Rural feel but still close to amenities

### **Subdivision**

- No structure plan
- Maintain 4ha sites
- Ensure sensitive design especially for visible sites/ locations
- Limits for future development
- Urban edge
  - Soften edge- graduated density

- Creep of suburbia visually imposing
- Rural/urban contrast appropriate- is the MUL in the right place?

### **Business**

- Upgrade to faster internet connections- broadband
- Need for a community focus/meeting point
- Promote food/wine production especially niche and/or organic opportunities
- Limited through traffic (good for residents but not for business)
- Limited potential for further large scale business but existing ones seen as part of the area
- Encourage/enable small home businesses
- Promotion of camps in the area (Carey Park/Baha'i)

### **Access and Transport**

- Encourage walking and cycling to school- alleviate congestion and parking around school
- More footpaths (safe berms to kerb and channel- location dependant)
- Concern about vehicle speeds- speed limits too high in some areas
- Concern about traffic volumes on Candia Road
- Pavement surfacing is patchy- full tarsealing not done so the area looks tatty
- Potential for bridle paths, cycleways- extend past Candia Road
- Little/no public transport available – potential for a bus to train service

### **Natural environment**

- Love the mix of pasture and bush
- Great streams, birdlife, bush
- Issues around weeds and pests and suggestion that the council could do more including
  - Direct intervention (as per old weed inspectors)
  - Better access to assistance (subsidies, identification, education, bins, sprays)
  - Lead by example on roadsides and reserves
- Pests (possums and rabbits) need catchment wide approach
- Increases in rubbish dumping/fly tipping
- Encourage restoration on private properties initially focussed on riparian margins (to maintain pasture/bush contrast and also address flooding and water quality issues)

### **Built environment**

- Development needs to be sympathetic with the area
- Develop design guidelines for rural areas
- Promote sustainability when building e.g. eco design, rainwater reuse, energy efficient buildings

## **2.4 Waitakere Community Board Meeting - 3 November 2009**

Council staff presented an update to the Waitakere Community Board that highlighted key elements of the developing LAP. The meeting provided an opportunity to outline progress with participants, and discuss in more detail the findings from the initial community meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> October 2009. Discussions centred on the key themes that arose during the community meeting (subdivision, walking and access, business).

Minutes available from: <http://www.waitakere.govt.nz/AbtCnl/cb/waitakere.asp#2009>

## **2.5 Henderson Valley Residents Association Meeting – 04 November 2009**

Council staff presented key elements of the developing LAP to the Henderson Valley Residents Association meeting. The meeting provided an opportunity to outline progress with participants, and discuss in more detail the findings from the initial community meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> October 2009.

There was agreement over what people liked about the area; however there was some concern about safety and issues of people walking on the road to school and also into town. There were mixed views about the issue of subdivision, with discussions around how better outcomes could be achieved. Discussions around the future of rural land and activities on the land included how to make the land viable for the future.

There was a general agreement that Henderson Valley needs to move towards a future vision while maintaining the elements that make it special.

## 2.6 Community Feedback Meeting - 8 December 2009

A Community Workshop was held in early December to explore some of the key issues that were highlighted during the first community meeting in October. Invitations were sent to each household and ratepayer in the area (over 850 individual addresses), with adverts in both the Western Leader and the Aucklander:

**Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area**  
*Henderson Valley/Opanuku Local Area Plan*

# Have a hand in planning the future of Henderson Valley/Opanuku

**Workshop**

**The workshop will be held on Tuesday 8 December 2009 at 6.45pm in the Henderson Valley Hall, Henderson Valley School, 389 Henderson Valley Rd.**

For further information please call Lorraine Maguire on 836 8000 extn 8447 or email [ranges@waitakere.govt.nz](mailto:ranges@waitakere.govt.nz)

[www.waitakere.govt.nz](http://www.waitakere.govt.nz)

**eco city** Waitakere City Council  
Te Taiao o Waitakere

Picture courtesy Roy Lenny. Artist: unknown.

**A major step in developing the Henderson Valley/Opanuku Local Area Plan is the December Community Workshop.**

*We have been listening to what you want Henderson Valley/Opanuku to look and feel like over the next 50 years.*

*While we have had almost universal agreement on many issues, we want to explore further some of the issues\* on which there has not been strong consensus.*

*Council staff will briefly present findings of their work to date and then, working in groups, participants will be asked to explore these issues in greater detail.*

**\* Issues on which we have received a range of views include:**

- What is rural character and landscape in the context of Henderson Valley/Opanuku?
- Managing subdivision and development
- Enabling rural business and activities
- Safer walking and access.

The issues discussed included rural character and landscapes, rural business and activity, safer walking and access and subdivision and development, with Council staff and consultants presenting findings of their work to date on each of these themes which were then used to support the group discussions. 36 people turned up and participated in the group workshops with a wide range of perspectives represented.

Feedback from the participants on these issues included:

### Rural business and activities

Participants thought that the existing level of horticultural and agricultural business should be maintained and not expanded on. There were discussions on the types of businesses that would be suitable in the area and some of the suggestions included boutique type businesses such as accommodation (bed and breakfast), restaurants, wedding retreats, farm experiences and farm stays. Some participants thought there should be more opportunities for horse riding businesses to operate including provision of safer roadside riding. Discussions over where to cluster business development suggested utilising

existing opportunities generally towards the city end of Henderson Valley Road where many existing businesses are and much of the traffic is.

### **Walking and access**

There was a wide range of views from participants over the potential to create a walkway across the foothills. Many people supported the idea but there were some general issues that most participants agreed on. These included ongoing maintenance, funding, security of private property general safety and the need to address the relationship between road safety, traffic and footpaths. Others thought that a walkway could link through to the PTS walk and cycleway and that there was potential for a bridle trail to sit alongside a walking track. Construction-wise most people preferred gravel paths and permeable surfaces to a wide concrete path. A strong response was that while the idea was generally a good one, priority should be given to maintenance of the existing footpath network and addressing known issues with it, prior to spending money on what would be primarily recreational trails.

### **Rural subdivision and development**

Discussions centred on the current District Plan provisions and the 4 hectare rule for lot size in the valley. Many thought that there should be a more flexible approach such as a 4 hectare average when it came to new subdivisions, but perhaps not an increase in numbers. Participants were divided over whether clustering to contain infiltration of new housing was suitable with some people open to the idea, while others thought this would spoil the visual landscape and could lead to increased expectations regarding smaller lot sizes and management issues with any large parent lot. It was suggested that the council should prepare a rural housing design guideline; this could also allow for some flexibility in road and driveway design. Participants did not want suburban style streetlights and sidewalks, and there was some resistance to the idea of gated communities in the valley. Participants thought perhaps there might be potential for smaller lot sizes closer to the MUL (such as a graduation of density) and the group was divided over whether there should be more blurring of the hard/soft edge towards the MUL and whether allowing more subdivision was the correct approach to managing or addressing this issue.

## **2.7 Tangata Whenua and Maori**

Council staff have engaged in ongoing discussions and dialogue with Tangata Whenua, the Te Taumata Runanga Committee, and the wider Maori community of Waitakere. This continued from long-standing relationships and a common purpose, expressed through the strong support received from Tangata Whenua for the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Act, and support in the Act for these discussions.

Discussions with Te Kawerau a Maki utilised the Council's fortnightly iwi consultation meeting. This provided an opportunity to update Te Kawerau a Maki on the development of the LAP and for matters, particularly associated with cultural heritage to be discussed.

The fortnightly iwi consultation meetings also provided a forum to engage with Ngati Whatua O Orakei, ensuring information and progress was shared. The key values expressed in the Act were considered to be essential to the development of the Henderson Valley/Opanuku LAP.

Council officers provided regular updates on the project to Te Taumata Runanga and the Chair Warahi Paki via verbal updates and chairs briefings. A meeting held on the 17<sup>th</sup> May 2010 with the group provided updates on the LAP as well as providing a forum for discussions around the proposed cross foothills walkway.

A hui held at Hoani Waititi Marae on 11 May 2009 also provided an excellent background to the LAPs process generally, and discussed issues from a Maori perspective on the Ranges and Foothills which have been utilised in the development of the Henderson Valley/Opanuku LAP.

Ongoing discussions between Te Kawerau a Maki, Ngati Whatua and other iwi of Tamaki Makaurau in relation to the ongoing Treaty Claims process have meant that tangata whenua's limited resources have been focused on this major issue. However, through this treaty claim process significant iwi effort has been directed towards gathering and organising historical documents, stories and data to support treaty claims, and this information will be used when it becomes publicly available to update the LAP.

See also:

<http://www.tekawerau.iwi.nz/>

<http://www.ngatiwhatua.iwi.nz/>

For more information on the treaty claim process and progress: <http://www.ots.govt.nz/>

## **2.8 Submissions to the District Plan on Proposed Plan Changes 35 and 36**

Further Submissions to the proposed Plan Changes 35 and 36 closed on 12.04.2010. A number of submissions were made from residents or citizens from the Henderson Valley/Opanuku area. A very brief summary of those submissions received from submitters resident in or associated with Henderson Valley is detailed below:

### **Plan Change 35: Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Act, Oratia and Waitarua LAPs**

The majority of submitters were in support of the plan change. Many of the submitters agreed in principle with the inclusion of the principles and objectives of the Ranges Act and the Oratia and Waitarua LAPs into the District Plan but were opposed to the Oratia Rural Village Non-Residential Activity Overlay and the concept for development of the Oratia Village.

### **Plan Change 36: Rural Economic Wellbeing**

The majority of submitters from the Henderson Valley area support the proposed plan change but a number suggested amendments to the proposal. However, many people did not support the plan change and others thought the change should be suspended until there had been further consultation with the communities who had not been through the LAP process to date.

## **2.9 Other community communications between October 2009 & June 2010**

Between October 2009 and May 2010 Council staff also met with a range of people and organisations to discuss the LAPs. These discussions included looking at what people liked, disliked or wanted to change about the Henderson Valley area and the future that these individuals/groups wanted for their area.

Below is a summary of who those discussions were with, the form that they took and the key points that were discussed. In addition to these discussions, Council staff also provided regular updates to the Council's Policy and Strategy Committee, Waitakere Community Board and Te Taumata Runanga Committee and had discussions with various teams at the Council.

The issues raised by individuals were considered in the development of the LAP, although the names of those individuals have been withheld from this report for reasons of privacy and the confidence of these frank discussions. A brief summary of the key issues raised during the informal meetings is attached at Appendix 3.

This list will be updated as the LAP progresses.

Date	Who	Type of Communication	Key Points of Discussion
16/07/2009	Henderson Valley residents Association	Meeting	Background on LAPs to date in Oratia and Waitatarua. Introduced planning for LAP for Henderson Valley. Questions from the local community centred around policy and planning, boundaries, changes to the Valley over the next 50 to 100 years.
01/10/2009	Auckland Regional Council (policy staff)	Meeting	Regional Parks Management Plan submission, streamlining of the RMA, Oratia LAP and background on the HVO LAP.
04/10/2009	Henderson Valley Primary School (Maree Stavert - Principal)	Meeting	Background on LAP and the schools role in the community and the Henderson Valley/Opanuku LAP.
06/10/2009	Waitakere Community Board	Monthly update	Update on Henderson Valley/Opanuku LAP progress.
06/10/2009	Te Kawerau A Maki (Saul Roberts)	Council fortnightly iwi consultation meeting	Discussed Henderson Valley/ Opanuku LAP. An agreed historical account of iwi history of the Henderson Valley and wider Waitakere Ranges area to follow lodgement of treaty claim.
19/10/2009	Te Taumata Runanga	Meeting	Introduction to the Henderson Valley/Opanuku LAP
29/10/2009	Henderson Valley School Board of Trustees	Meeting	Update on Henderson Valley/Opanuku LAP process. Discussed broadband options, maoritanga consultation, council funding and/or support for community as well as road safety. Discussions also included initiatives and how the LAP could contribute to shared school and community goals around the environment, education and wellbeing.
03/11/2009	Te Kawerau A Maki (Saul Roberts)	Council fortnightly iwi consultation meeting	Update on LAP progress. Discussed feedback from the community meeting and delaying hui until next year. The issues over the name Opanuku (Mt Parekura) were also discussed as well as obtaining more historical information for the area.
16/11/2009	Te Taumata Runanga	Meeting	Update on Henderson Valley/Opanuku LAP.
17/11/2009	Auckland Regional Council (policy and parks staff)	Meeting	Discussed LAP, Regional Park Management Plan and the regional parkland.
01/12/2009	Te Kawerau A Maki (Saul Roberts)	Council fortnightly iwi consultation meeting	Update on the LAP progress. Invited Saul to the community meeting in December and discussed employing an archaeologist to consult on heritage features in the ranges.

Date	Who	Type of Communication	Key Points of Discussion
09/12/2009	Ngati Whatua o Orakei (Bernadette Papa)	Council fortnightly iwi consultation meeting	Update on LAP. Discussed the four themes that were highlighted during meetings with Henderson valley residents. Provided updates on the plan changes associated with the Oratia and Waitatarua LAPs.
18/12/2009	Te Kawerau A Maki (Saul Roberts)	Council fortnightly iwi consultation meeting	Update on the LAP progress.
12/04/2010	Waitakere ward ratepayers association	Presentation/ meeting	Presented the findings of the Waitakere Ranges cross foothills walkway feasibility study to local residents and the combined members of the ratepayers association.
15/04/2010	Auckland Regional Council (policy staff)	Meeting	Update on LAP progress. Discussed features of the Act in relation to Henderson Valley, the 4ha rule, and edge effects along the MUL. The policy basis for any changes to subdivision rules were also discussed.
04/05/2010	Waitakere Community Board	Meeting	Presented the findings of the Waitakere Ranges cross foothills walkway feasibility study
05/05/2010	Henderson Valley Residents Association	Meeting	Discussed headline issues as considered for the draft LAP.
06/05/2010	Policy and Strategy committee	Verbal update/ presentation	Discussed headline issues as considered for the draft LAP including subdivision issues.
17/05/2010	Te Taumata Runanga	Meeting	Update on the LAP- agreed to report back to TTR during the consultation process for Henderson Valley. Cross foothills walkway discussed.
22/05/2010	Life in the Valley Community Day at Henderson Valley School and Hall	Stall	Staff attendance at stall. Provide verbal update on LAP process and response to community questions on LAP
01/06/2010	Waitakere Community Board	Meeting	Present overview of draft LAP.
03/06/2010	Policy and Strategy committee	Meeting	LAP approved for notification.

### 3.0 APPENDIX 1: HENDERSON VALLEY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION 'SWOT' ANALYSIS

18 March 2009, LAP Brainstorming Session

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
<p>Rural Character / Aesthetic Beauty:            Trees / Orchards            Bush Reserves            Streams            Vineyards            Stables            Wild Life / Walking Tracks            Peace and quiet</p> <p>Sense of Community / Belonging            Long term residents            School            Family environment            Common mind set about amenities (like minded people)            Close knit community            Fairly Safe</p> <p>Heritage Area</p> <p>Fairy Falls</p> <p>Police Contact</p> <p>Geographically – not a through road            - One way in            Close to beaches</p> <p>Privacy</p> <p>No sewage system</p> <p>Blend of rural / commercial (i.e. Superb Herbs, Pleasant Valley Wines, Kiwi Valley)</p> <p>Artists / Musicians / Writers</p>	<p>Roads:            Quality            Speed            Maintenance            Increase of traffic on Candia Road</p> <p>Identity of Henderson Valley:            Lack of a boundary            Geographic confusion            No community centre</p> <p>Amenities:            Sewage issues            Clay soil            Insufficient &amp; poor quality footpaths            Poor broadband &amp; cell phone access            No place for skateboarders</p> <p>Stream access – fencing?</p> <p>Proximity to the city brings boy racers / drinking parties</p> <p>Rubbish &amp; animals being dumped</p> <p>Community apathy</p>

OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
<p>Rural Aspects:  Last chance to maintain rural aspect  Increased demand for rural lifestyle  A desirable place to live – value of land</p> <p>Commercial Opportunities:  Cottage industries  Gondola over treetops  Tourism</p> <p>Land use for the future  Whanau  Allowable building per acreage</p> <p>Community:  Reinforce our boundaries  Dedicated community centre  Increased community spirit</p> <p>Amenities:  Improve communication infrastructure  Better bus service  Provide a dedicated cycle / walk ways  (i.e. Piha – Titirangi)</p> <p>WCC more open – consultative for any decisions.</p> <p>Explore local Maori history  Build closer bonds with local Iwi</p> <p>Museum with local history</p>	<p>Commercial Growth:  Tourism / Light Industry  Gondolas  Chicken Farms (smell, rats, pollution)  Cafes  Commercialization of our rural area</p> <p>WCC:  Our name / lack of identity  Unsustainable rate increases by WCC  Large properties with native bush are not recognized by WCC rates (i.e. weed eradication)  WCC greed / rigid rules  WCC enforcing its vision of our area  Lack of personal choice  Ad hoc subdivisions / commercial Ventures which WCC puts through  Weed control</p> <p>Environmental:  Cockatoos / doves / wild pigs  Kauri die back  Global warming</p> <p>Roads</p> <p>Sewage</p> <p>Decrease in property size  Potential development</p> <p>Increase crime rate</p> <p>HV won't be a destination – just someplace to drive through</p>

## 4.0 APPENDIX 2: COMMUNITY MEETING FEEDBACK OCTOBER 14TH 2009

### What do you like about the area and would like to see more of?

- Peace and quiet, serenity
- Close to Henderson, yet lifestyle of rural living, gravel drive and pukeko's
- Perception of being in country, yet close enough to city life of Henderson
- Security, not burgled in 20 years
- Pastoral/bush mix is important
- Economic viability - Henderson Valley vineyards 100 yrs, motor business, tourism
- Opanuku Stream
- Bush tracks
- Rural landscape - foothills mix of pasture/bush/housing
- Seeing flora and fauna
- The people - spirit of the community
- Rural community
- Space
- Rural nature - amenities
- Peace, tranquillity - no "urban" noises
- People (nice sort of people), friendly, care for each other, knowing each other
- Distance from neighbours
- Privacy and space
- No busy through road - just residents - in tune with others using road
- No street lights (not unanimous)
- Sound of wind in pine trees
- Birdlife
- People walking, running, horse riding, cyclists
- Area is in heritage area (WRHAA) protects area
- School and environmental programme
- No negativity in the valley
- Bush and birdlife
- Rural character
- Peace and privacy
- History of the area
- Rural characters
- Stream running through (rocky bottom, glow worms, floods?)
- No structure plan!
- Least-developed area in foothills
- Good walking and cycling areas
- Thriving pony club (need people with land)
- Want to see more bridleways and recognition of non-vehicular/low impact activities
- Sense of community - want to improve that generational connection with valley
- Protect/preserve/enhance valley as it is
- Opportunity to protect 'legacy'
- Environment/trees/streams
- Improvements to riparian margins - PTS
- No change - rural, community
- Proximity to Henderson CBD - transport rural barrier
- School centre of community
- Cross over urban rural
- Great for children rural experience
- Juanita Gardens border/gateway Candia
- Mix of bush - paddocks - some industry that blends in with the area
- Community initiatives - stream etc, PTS
- Lifestyle business
- Public walking tracks bordering streams - main streams

- Primary school
- Closeness to CBD and Auckland Council - railway - commuting
- Vibrant living community environment
- Boutique accommodation
- Cafés, arts, crafts, natural health
- Encourage tourism
- Healthy lifestyles and biodiversity
- Development - subdivision - 1,000 - 4,000m<sup>2</sup>
- Bush, connection to trees fundamental to where live
- Positive, openness, farmland - like rural - animals
- Features make different from other areas
- Access to bush, reserves, trails - places to access, walk through and enjoy bush
- School as heart - its open, accessible - no issues vandalism
- Unique in no other activities
- Low traffic volumes, effectively a cul-de-sac
- Quietness, beauty, peaceful
- Enjoy lack of infrastructure (lights, kerbs, etc) - it clearly says not suburban
- Proximity to urban services, transport, facilities
- The bats
- The streams, sound of running water
- Community spirit
- Twin Streams - exciting to community
- Strong community bonds
- School hub
- Bush
- Rural - sheep, pasture, mixture
- Proximity to town, CBD
- Vineyards
- Bush restoration
- Ecological
- Escape to bliss
- Soft urban edge
- Aquatic stream life
- Walkways
- Concrete close to school for paths, less hard surfaces further away
- Exotic trees - lots of oaks - they're important

### **What do you dislike about the area and would like to see change?**

- Roading safety issues particularly calming measures at Candia Rd
- Rubbish being dumped - Opanuku Rd and stream, Vineyard Rd. An emerging issue but has been there for a while.
- Growing issue of pests - particularly dogs worrying sheep. Also have some rabbits, but hawks too.
- Weeds - gorse, privet, W/N, ginger, bamboo
- High density housing "at our throats"
- Wasps
- Animal pests - possums, mustelids, rats, etc
- Quality of roading
- Drainage, septic tanks
- Stormwater
- Dangerous drains
- Postal delivery
- No street lighting
- Boundaries - southern ones determined by other areas like Oratia/Waiatarua
- Would like more Council involvement on properties - private properties. Used to be a team who came around ARC issue, clarity, weed inspectors

- Roads not user friendly - cyclists, pedestrians
- Population changes - residents moving on; short term
- Lack of WCC consultation on name change of community (e.g. Opanuku-Henderson Valley)
- No footpaths
- Weeds and pests - possums, rats, wasps
- The speed people drive down Mountain Rd/Henderson Valley Rd
- Traffic/fumes when walking
- Speed limits too high
- Poorly maintained roads (patch here/there fixed only)
- Deterioration of road surfaces (because of increased traffic)
- Hard edge to urban area/uneasy boundary between rural/urban
- Need planting/shelter belt to screen and soften
- No phoenix palms
- WCC hard to deal with; expensive and difficult e.g. building
- Weeds
- Large land-owners may be rated out
- Way of improving road-side areas/berms, weed removal
- The chicken place - smelly
- Lack of Broadband connection over all area - stops small business
- Henderson Valley Road - upgrade, mend potholes, dangerous to cross
- Reduce speed limit to 50kph by Carey Park
- Parking outside school
- Clearly define what can and can't be done re: property and not 'forced' to leave the area (business)
- Elevating the Environment over Human Rights
- Loss of property rights
- No public access over private property
- Low comparative land values to urban
- Uneconomic land due to large size of land
- Rates excessive for value we get returned
- Forest Hill Road needs more footpaths
- Need for a more formal park area
- Traffic management for school
- Demand on school - infrastructure access; \*broadband; septic upgrades; not classified as either urban or rural school
- Cell phone access - this inhibits work from home
- Weeds and pests
- Roads e.g. Candia not safe to walk and ride bikes e.g. school children. Walking is community interaction; provide for kids to get to school safely
- Candia has become a bypass
- Clutter of road signs
- Limit on future subdivision
- Merging of urban/rural boundary
- Footpaths - differing views; concrete vs. gravel/grass; dependant on location
- Possums, stoats, rats, cockatoos
- Gorse, privet - education, Council Assistance - subsidies, community workers/services, promotion
- Competition from exotic species
- Do not want cafes - close enough to Henderson

### **What would you like the area to be, look and feel like in 50 years time?**

- For every property to continue to be developed
- Don't want character and infrastructure to change from what it is now
- Great place to walk, not big traffic issues
- 27 types of birds in area you can hear them as you walk
- Maintain and enhance character as it is
- Development of business must be consistent with rural character i.e. Superb Herbs

- Businesses should have sustainable aspect to their business plan
- Work as a community to discuss future business development. Can be tension between long term residents and newcomers (relatively speaking) or aspiring ones
- Scale of development is important, create strong community voice to protect environment yet allow sustainable businesses
- Some challenges could come from liability as people want to go on private property
- Environmental (stream) restoration (weed free)
- Footpaths for safe walking/biking for kids
- Future-proofing - climate change - carbon neutral
- Parks/playgrounds/skate parks for kids in the Valley
- Better accessibility (people with limited mobility, etc), safer walking, cycling
- Improved visual amenity on roads
- The same as 2009 - plenty of space, no suburbia pushing onto us, rural feel.
- Sustainable houses - energy efficient; rejuvenation of existing houses
- Broadband (reliable)
- Community hub - particularly for "home" workers - appropriate to a modern rural area where many people work from home; facilities exchange of information; school is heart of the community hub
- Supportive policies from Council to facilitate home-based employment - local services
- Development (commercial and residential) strictly limited. Would like grandchildren to have the same experience of the valley as others had growing up.
- Rural! (not suburban) Retain character - minimal housing - 10 acre block minimum?
- Shelter belts/planting requirements along front yard and/or side boundary
- Re-ruralise from Candia Rd to urban 'fence'
- Maybe different "styles" within the valley [Residents Assoc - strong vision]
- Careful consent process
- Want area to stay as foothills area
- Safe/non-vehicular traffic
- Dwellings blend into environment
- March '09 consultation - refer to this for reference to natural environment
- School stays the heart of the community and community comes closer together in adversity
- The same - place people choose to live in; rural bush lifestyle; limited/spaced housing; sense of community
- Centre of community around the school
- Modern communications
- Access to services in Henderson
- Another modern community meeting space (replace hall) for a range of local community activity e.g. dances, etc - available day and night
- Business - family, potters/craft/ food production, if economic - do not want Gondola's, cider bars
- Place to visit (if infrastructure to get there) as a destination
- Some centre of community developed
- Some regeneration of native bush
- Eradication of pests and weeds
- More people and more houses
- Graduating density from urban to rural - 1-4,000m<sup>2</sup> sections with covenants to require quality design with native landscaping. Along urban edge - Forest Hill Rd both sides to Candia Rd graduating to larger sites - but up to them
- Cafes
- More local business with less vehicle movement constraints
- Convention Centres
- Rural in its character - open, spacious, quiet, peaceful
- Support rural businesses (like Kiwi Valley - compliant area) - celebrate way area is
- Subdivision needs to retain rural
- Is connected to world by broadband
- Environmental enhancements - streams pristine
- Maintain local shops
- All weeds gone

- Low impact rural land uses - micro scale productive use of the land; diversity of crops; diversity of animals; local production; organic
- Maintain, actively use the existing community hall e.g. barn dances. Keep good quality facilities; hall owned as a community resource
- Roads are safe for children to cross and walk to school
- Bike paths
- Keep it the same
- People are neighbourly
- Can live and work in area
- Community feel
- Subdivision half-protection of foothills
- Safety in the area - neighbourhood watch; isolation; security; awareness/education
- Promotion of camps
- Appreciation of area
- No new businesses - enough in area
- Special area
- Generally to stay the same
- Replanting
- Revegetation
- Wildlife protected
- Bahai - plan/learning residential
- Facilities - small scale
- Some rural based businesses OK
- Kiwi Valley and Pleasant Valley Wines OK. Don't want more wineries, etc.

## **5.0 APPENDIX 3: SUMMARY OF ISSUES FROM INFORMAL MEETINGS WITH LOCAL RESIDENTS**

- Land purchased in expectation of future subdivision- not allowed under current District Plan provisions
- Traffic speeds are too high, ongoing issues with traffic volumes
- Property sizes are too big to maintain but too small to farm/operate for horticultural purposes
- Need to find a balance between managing the landscape and managing the business
- Current District Plan provisions do not suit large property owners
- Properties/businesses used to be profitable but the bottom has fallen out of the market for many of the smaller industries and increased costs mean the land is not productive or profitable
- Tourism opportunities as an alternative to traditional uses of the land
- Constraints to development and expansion of some businesses- flooding and site sizes
- Site specific approach to property management for larger lots