

4.0 Hamilton's Community Outcomes

(NGA HUA A TE HAPORI O KIRIKIROA)

4.1 Progressing Hamilton's Community Outcomes

The Local Government Act 2002 requires councils to get their local communities thinking about and identifying how they would like to see the area they administer develop over the next 10 years and beyond and to translate this thinking into what are known as Community Outcomes and priorities.

Community Outcomes can be thought of as the things the community thinks are important for its well-being and for Hamilton's future - the community's goals. The outcomes identified by the community indicate the community's desire for how the city should progress socially, economically, environmentally and culturally (known as the four well-beings). In late 2004 Council invited a range of community-based organisations, iwi/Maori, central/local government and other representatives to develop and oversee a consultation process throughout 2005 to develop Hamilton's Community Outcomes.

The set of Community Outcomes for Hamilton that were agreed to by the community towards the end of 2005 are shown on the following page.

While it is acknowledged that Council performs a wide range of activities and contributes in different ways to a number of Hamilton's Community Outcomes, it needs to be emphasised that Council is only one of numerous organisations whose actions and direction assist in progressing the outcomes and overall community well-being in the city. Organisations such as the private sector, government agencies, health and social service agencies and iwi/Maori organisations also have the mandate, resources and ability to influence and make significant progress towards Hamilton's Community Outcomes and to promote community well-being.

The Community Outcomes enable increased participation and collaboration between such organisations and also assist in making Hamilton a more sustainable city. However, it is the promotion and ongoing implementation of the eight City Strategies by Council and other organisations that provide the main means of giving effect to the Community Outcomes and the community's priorities.

In keeping with the requirements of Section 91(1), of the Local Government Act 2002 (which states that Community Outcomes will be reviewed every six years), Council will be reviewing and updating Hamilton's current set of Community Outcomes in 2011.

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HAMILTON'S COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

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SUSTAINABLE AND WELL-PLANNED

"An attractive city that is planned for the well-being of people and nature, now and in the future"

HAMILTON PEOPLE WANT A CITY THAT:

- 1.1 Is easy to get around so everybody can access services and facilities.
- 1.2 Is safe and enjoyable for walking and cycling, encourages innovative transport options and has quality public transport.
- 1.3 Has integrated transport systems that connect it to New Zealand and the world.
- 1.4 Protects and enhances its green spaces and natural environment for everyone to value and enjoy.
- 1.5 Uses processes of sustainable urban design that enhance neighbourhood communities.
- 1.6 Sustainably manages resources such as water and energy.
- 1.7 Encourages and enables people to recycle and minimise waste.

VIBRANT AND CREATIVE

"A city that encourages creativity for a vibrant lifestyle"

HAMILTON PEOPLE WANT A CITY THAT:

- 2.1 Is recognised for its wide range of events, activities, attractions and entertainment for everyone, including iconic events.
- 2.2 Has a vibrant arts and music scene and supports and celebrates its artists, festivals and facilities.
- 2.3 Acknowledges and celebrates the creativity of Maori arts and culture.
- 2.4 Respects and celebrates its diverse communities.
- 2.5 Values and protects heritage sites, buildings and landmarks.
- 2.6 Has an attractive and lively city centre.
- 2.7 Celebrates and promotes its talent and creativity.



UNIQUE IDENTITY

"A city with a strong identity that recognises the significance of its river and history"

HAMILTON PEOPLE WANT A CITY THAT:

- 3.1 Treasures and enjoys the Waikato River.
- 3.2 Acknowledges and celebrates the unique place of Waikato Maori.
- 3.3 Is not too big and not too small, providing everything that makes life convenient without the problems of other cities.
- 3.4 Fosters pride in its natural and built environments and encourages people to work together to keep these clean and tidy.
- 3.5 Is a great place to learn, work and play, where people are proud of the education sector and embrace student culture.
- 3.6 Supports research, education and innovation, and is recognised as a centre of excellence.
- 3.7 Supports its significant youth population by providing targeted activities and services.

SAFETY AND COMMUNITY SPIRIT

"A safe, friendly city where all people feel connected and valued"

HAMILTON PEOPLE WANT A CITY THAT:

- 4.1 Has safe roads and low crime rates, where people can feel secure at all times.
- 4.2 Promotes awareness and involvement in community activities and events.
- 4.3 Enables ethnic communities to feel connected and valued.
- 4.4 Addresses social issues and values volunteers.
- 4.5 Builds socially engaged, responsive communities.



HEALTHY AND HAPPY

"Active and healthy people with access to affordable facilities and services"

HAMILTON PEOPLE WANT A CITY THAT:

- 5.1 Provides opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to access and participate in sport and leisure activities that meet their diverse needs.
- 5.2 Provides affordable, responsive and accessible activities and health care for people of all ages and abilities.
- 5.3 Is an ideal place for family and whanau, with lots of activities and places for tamariki and rangatahi to enjoy.
- 5.4 Provides access for all people to a range of healthy, affordable, quality housing.

INTELLIGENT AND PROGRESSIVE CITY

"Business growth that is in harmony with the city's identity and community spirit"

HAMILTON PEOPLE WANT A CITY THAT:

- 6.1 Is recognised as the thriving economic hub for the Waikato region and provider of regional services.
- 6.2 Attracts and retains sustainable, innovative businesses.
- 6.3 Offers a range of job opportunities throughout the city to suit all skill levels.
- 6.4 Is progressive and cosmopolitan, creating an environment for business success.
- 6.5 Attracts and retains people and investment and grows great ideas.

WORKING TOGETHER

"Collaborative decision-making and planning are common practice"

HAMILTON PEOPLE WANT A CITY THAT:

- 7.1 Engages all local communities in planning and developing the city's future.
- 7.2 Ensures Maori are respected as a partner in decision-making and have a voice on issues that affect the city.
- 7.3 Has organisations that work together to achieve all community outcomes.

LET'S TAKE HAMILTON FORWARD TOGETHER

4.2 Community Priorities

As part of developing Hamilton's Community Outcomes, the community was also given the opportunity to provide feedback on what they felt the top priorities were for Hamilton over the next 10-years. The community priorities that emerged in late 2005 were:

- Transport (including traffic congestion, public transport, parking, cycleways).
- City safety (including streets and neighbourhoods, policing, crime).
- The Waikato River (as a focus for the city).
- Community spirit (through use of promotion, events and activities).
- Arts and culture (including promotion).
- Activities for young people (focusing on positive opportunities).
- Urban planning (including suburban areas).

As evidenced through results from Council's various monitoring programmes (in particular the Quarterly Residents Survey), a number of these priorities are still very much 'top of mind' for Hamilton's community. The priorities are being addressed through ongoing implementation of the eight City Strategies (in particular through the flagship projects), through various Council projects and programmes, and through the initiatives and actions of other organisations and the wider community.

4.3 Monitoring and Reporting of Community Outcomes

Council is required to report at least once every three years on the progress being made towards Hamilton's Community Outcomes. The city's progress is measured through a set of 116 Community Outcomes Progress Indicators, which are grouped under the seven themes of the outcomes.

Indicators provide ways in which we can measure, directly or indirectly, changes to social, environmental, economic and cultural well-being over time. They provide a picture of what is going on around us that we can use to guide our future planning. Indicators can assist in identifying areas where progress is being made toward the Community Outcomes and alert us to areas that require action.

The indicators draw on a number of monitoring programmes that Council is involved in and were confirmed through Council's 2007/08 Annual Plan process.

Results from the 2009 report on Hamilton's Community Outcomes Progress Indicators⁴ show that the city is progressing well on a number of fronts including:

- Central city growth and development.
- Bus patronage.
- Remediation of contaminated sites.
- Planting of street trees.
- Youth unemployment.
- Visitor numbers and nights.
- Recycling volumes.
- University research levels.

Areas where Hamilton is not doing so well as a city include:

⁴ 2009 Hamilton Community Outcomes Progress Report (Report prepared for Hamilton City Council by APR Consultants).

- Traffic congestion and travel times.
- Housing affordability.
- Voter turnout (local authority and central elections).
- Access to General Practitioners.
- Student stand-downs and suspensions.
- Truancy.
- Deaths and injuries from motor vehicle crashes.
- Persistently above-average rates of reported criminal offending.
- Lower reported sense of community than residents in other parts of New Zealand.

Information from the 2009 Hamilton Community Outcomes Progress Report that identifies aspects where the city is not doing so well can be used by Council and other key stakeholders to address and take action where appropriate.

Council's website - www.hamilton.co.nz/communityoutcomes - contains further information on Hamilton's Community Outcomes; including the Community Outcomes Progress Indicators and the full 2008 Hamilton Community Outcomes Progress Report.

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