

Coastal Advisory Panel Engagement – Ōtaki workshop



Coastal Team – Takutai Kāpiti

Insights from workshop held on
24 September 2022

Purpose of this document

This document summarises the responses from the CAP Northern Kāpiti Adaptation Area engagement workshop that was held in Ōtaki, Ōtaki Rotary Lounge, 2-4 pm on Saturday 24 September 2022.

There were 24 participants residents from Ōtaki, Peka Peka, Te Horo township and beaches. Views expressed in this document are not to be treated as a complete representation of the views from each community.

NOTES:

This summary provides an indication of community responses only, and represents the view of 24 participants based on their responses to 4 questions from the Coastal Advisory Panel. The workshop was organised using a “World Cafe” approach, with participants seated at 5 tables. This enabled group discussion, responses to questions were recorded on paper, and tables were able to report key findings back to the wider group.

After the workshop, the responses were collated and coded by the Coastal Team to a main theme, and sub theme. The broad insights in this document were gained by analysing a mix of qualitative and quantitative data. Quotes in this document come directly from the information recorded by the groups. When specific locations were mentioned by participants, the comments were attributed to the relevant community.

SUMMARY A: Questions and Insights

QUESTION 1

What do you value most about living in this area?



Consider -

- Why do you choose to live here?
- What makes this area special?
- What are the most significant risks facing residents in this area?
- If you could change anything what would it be?

Q1: RESPONSES - Summary of insights

Why live here? (10 Responses) - Predominantly grouped under themes:

- Natural environment values: *Great growing land & weather - Food basket; Scenery*
- Community values: *emptiness – low population*

What's special? (20 responses) Predominantly reflecting themes of:

- Community: *A caring community*
- Cultural: *Proud Maori heritage input, proactive; and*
- Natural Environment: *Restoration of "natural" environment by action groups so we might find solace in living here because we have a community that cares; proximity to beach and open spaces - parks rivers, beach etc.*

Most Significant risks? (43 responses) statements on risks relate to:

- Risk to our community's uniqueness and peacefulness, e.g. *future population growth*
- Risks from the poor level of service of infrastructure maintenance, e.g. *Our current infrastructure maintenance / management is not sufficient; Stormwater - Have none, eg. Ōtaki Beach North; Peka Peka Beach south; Water supply - could be affected by ground water rise; Septic tanks and Quality of water supply.*
- Risk to natural environment
 - from human activities: *coastal erosion compounded by people & motor bikes damaging the dunes*
 - from natural hazards: *Ōtaki Beach Erosion from sea is destroying sand-dune barrier; T.H - Flooding from streams, e.g. No access to T.H/SH1 when it floods*
 - from climate change: *Wind / storms / elements connecting with warming ocean e.g. Increasing flooding and rising ground water contributing to greater inundation events*
- Governance and Regulation: *risks of inappropriate cumbersome regulation; Council needs to be held accountable for OK'ing consents into the future if the buildings are subject to water level rise*

Change anything? (17 responses) Statements related to:

- Governance and regulation: concern about maladaptive responses e.g. *Poor zoning & development decisions; No more houses on marginal land; Shared responsibility between GWRC; KCDC; Govt; Landowners; Insurance Companies (on issues such as Managed retreat, qualifying matters)*
- Natural environment – More restoration of dunes and wetlands

Question 1: LOCATION Wordcloud – 50 words (All prompts, all locations)



QUESTION 2:

2. How important is our coastline to you?



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Consider -

- To what degree do you feel that coastal erosion and increased flooding are a threat to your lifestyle?
- How will community values be affected by coastal and flooding hazards
- What amenities, values and interactions could be affected?

Q2: RESPONSES - Summary of insights

Threats to our lifestyle? (9 Responses) Predominantly grouped under themes:

- Natural hazards: *If protective dunes are eroded faster than they rebuild after storm events OR sea water floods behind the dunes through the Waimea Stream, our lifestyles are affected, by groundwater levels rising coupled with sea water flooding. This is starting now in some respects.*
- Community: *(Results of climate change) Inconvenience to me at present but in 100 years' time, I don't think these beach communities will exist in their present form - We can't stop nature.*

Values affected? (8 responses) Predominantly reflecting themes of:

- Community: *Increase in tension between communities, inhabitants & regulators; our community has really got together because we have come together to address a common ground flooding issue. A common interest to open up the stream to let water out of the wetland. Putting pressure on Council.*
- Economic: *Hard to know if house prices will go up or down.*

Other things affected? (20 responses) Statements on amenities, values and interactions included:

- Community: *Values affected - aesthetic, ecology, financial*
- Governance and regulation: *Community dealing with 3 tiered responses - KCDC GWRC & DOC (make it difficult for communities to get action); Bogged down by RMA - Consents inside council.*
- Infrastructure: *Power, roads, sewage, and water*

QUESTION 3:

3. How do you think our coastline should be protected?



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Consider -

- What would you like the CAP to include in its recommendations to the Council?
- Where do you think our priorities should be?
- What timeframes should we be recommending?

Q3: RESPONSES - Summary of insights

CAP recommendations? (21 Responses) - Predominantly grouped under themes:

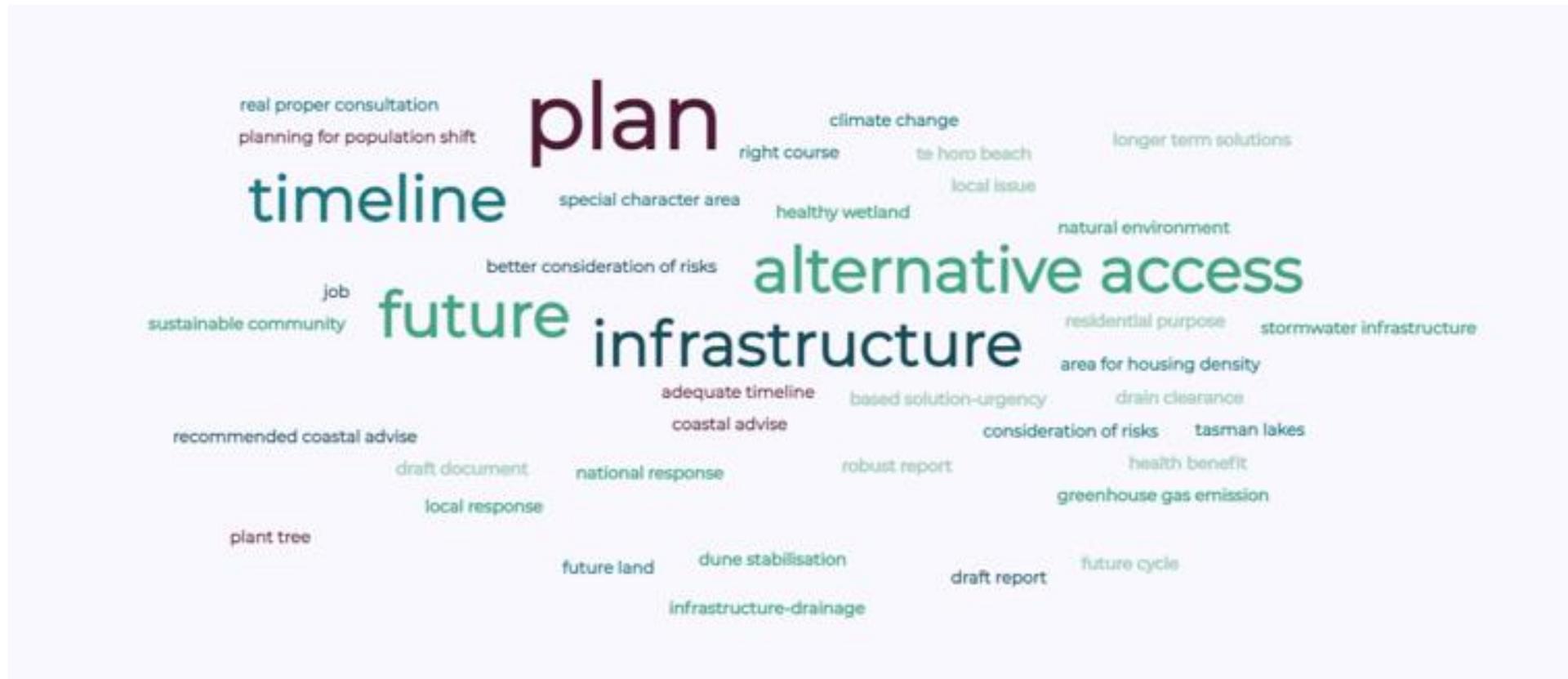
- Natural hazards: *If protective dunes are eroded faster than they rebuild after storm events OR sea water floods behind the dunes through the Waimea Stream, our lifestyles are affected, by groundwater levels rising coupled with sea water flooding. This is starting now in some respects.*
- Infrastructure: *Stormwater infrastructure required now - at the moment left to individuals to deal with stormwater; Build infrastructure to hold back effect to give time to develop longer term solutions*
- Natural environment: *Care of Natural environment – NOW; Drain clearance*

CAP Priorities? (7 responses) Predominantly reflecting themes of:

- Community: *A REAL PROPER CONSULTATION*
- Process improvement: *Please do a draft document so we can see what you are thinking; Allow an adequate timeline for a draft report to be consulted on.*

Question 3: CAP PRIORITIES Word Cloud

WORDCLOUD – 40 WORDS (ALL PROMPTS, ALL LOCATIONS)



QUESTION 4:

4. Who Should Pay?



What are your preferences about paying the costs of keeping our communities safe?

Consider -

- Should people forced to move be reimbursed? If so by whom?
- How should the costs for essential infrastructure be met?
- Should ratepayers cover all, some, none of the costs?

Q4: RESPONSES - Summary of insights

Funding: Paying to keep communities safe; for infrastructure and ratepayer contribution? (16

Responses) - Predominantly grouped under themes:

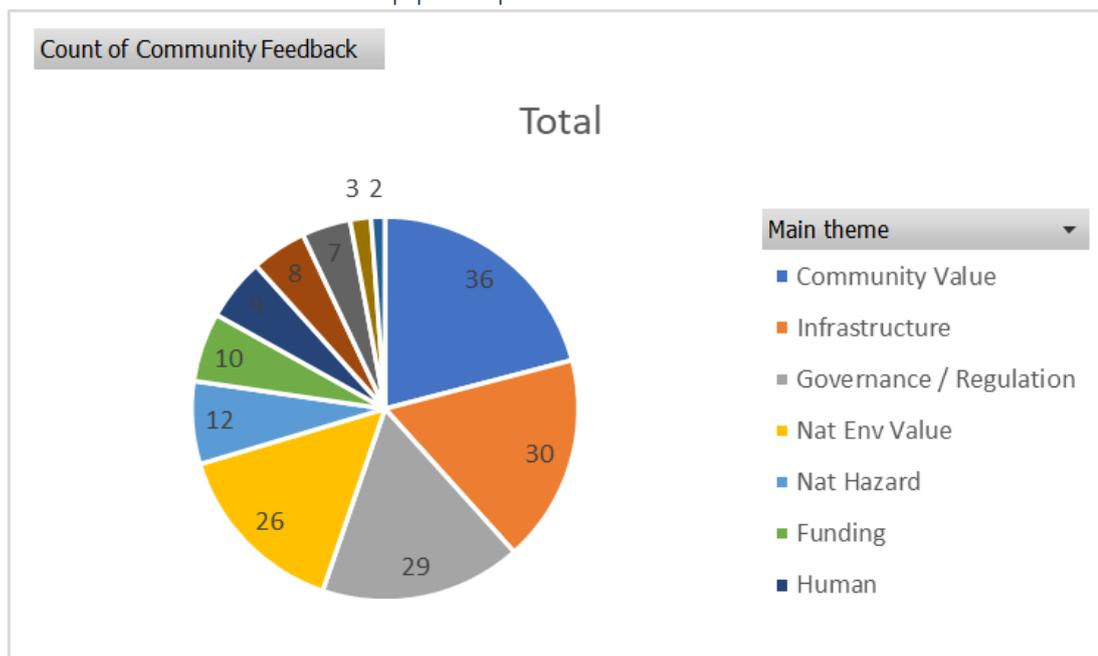
- Funding: *"In the end we all pay Indirectly through Taxes or directly through Rates"; Global approach - Biggest polluters & multinationals should contribute. "Yes, to being reimbursed to the Council. They can't be the consenter then walk away".*
- Governance and regulation: *Models that are closer to the community for decision making; adapt - understand effects. Use Christchurch post-earthquake as a template for managed retreat. We have time to plan and consult; LTP 2024 - ensure contribute to LTP.*
- Infrastructure: *Equity of infrastructure (not same assets north of Waikanae); Creation and maintenance*

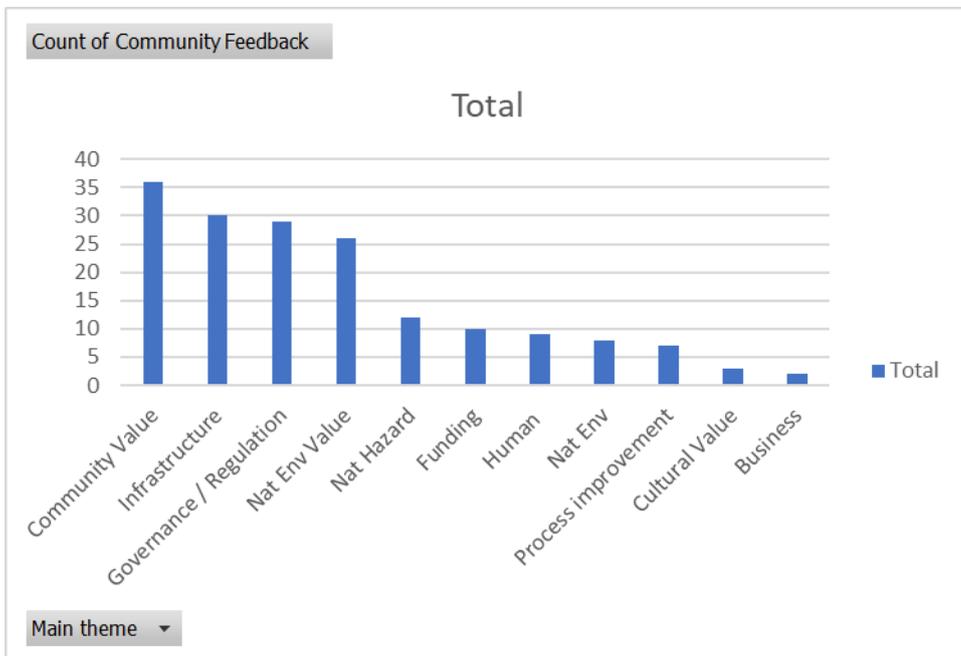
SUMMARY B: Main themes

1. Number of Responses and Main themes

All Questions & Main Themes	No. of Responses	Groups of statement based upon
Community / Social	36	Includes statements that indicate social values, sense of well-being, lifestyle, and potential issues that may impacts people either individually or as a community.
Infrastructure	30	Includes statements about roading, stormwater, sewage, septic tanks and roading
Governance / Regulation	29	Includes statements about Local and Regional Government, long term planning, RMA, and decision making
Nat Env Value	26	Includes statements about ecological or aesthetic values
Nat Hazard	12	Includes statements on earthquakes, storms, coastal erosion, flooding
Funding	10	Includes statements on taxes, rates, and other sources of funding
Human	9	Includes statements on human activities
Nat Env	8	Includes impacts to the natural environment from both ecological or human actions.
Process improvement	7	Includes suggestions to CAP, and Council
Cultural Value	3	Includes statements that relate to Maori cultural and/or other historical references
Business	2	Includes statments that identify commerical interests
Grand Total	172	

1.1 Main themes: All workshop participants





Shared Insights and sentiments

Northern Kāpiti Adaptation Area - Responses from residents of Ōtaki, Peka Peka, Te Horo township and beaches)

“Tangata whenua - bicultural town (central issue), multi-cultural (broader issue).”

“Restoration of 'natural' environment by action groups so we might find solace in living here because we have a community that cares.”

“Water supply - could be affected by ground water rise / water quality affected”

“SLR is going to happen - we have to prepare for it!” I'm not going to be here but I'm not doing it for me, I'm doing it for my kids and their kids”

“Manage development - No more houses on marginal land”

“Risks of inappropriate and cumbersome regulations”

“Increase in tension between communities, inhabitants & regulators”

“Plan for the Future - NOW - Identify future land for redevelopment and areas for sustainable communities / towns to be built in the future”.

SUMMARY C: By Community

Some comments were specifically attributed to certain communities or locations. This section covers responses to all questions, and includes example statements from insights (location specific)

Ōtaki and Ōtaki Beach (93 responses)

“Great growing land and weather - Food basket

“History of occupation / colonisation / religious history”

“Any big coastal or flood is immediate threat to our lifestyle”.

“Restoration of 'natural' environment by action groups so we might find solace in living here because we have a community that cares. “

“Infrastructure maintenance / current management not sufficient”

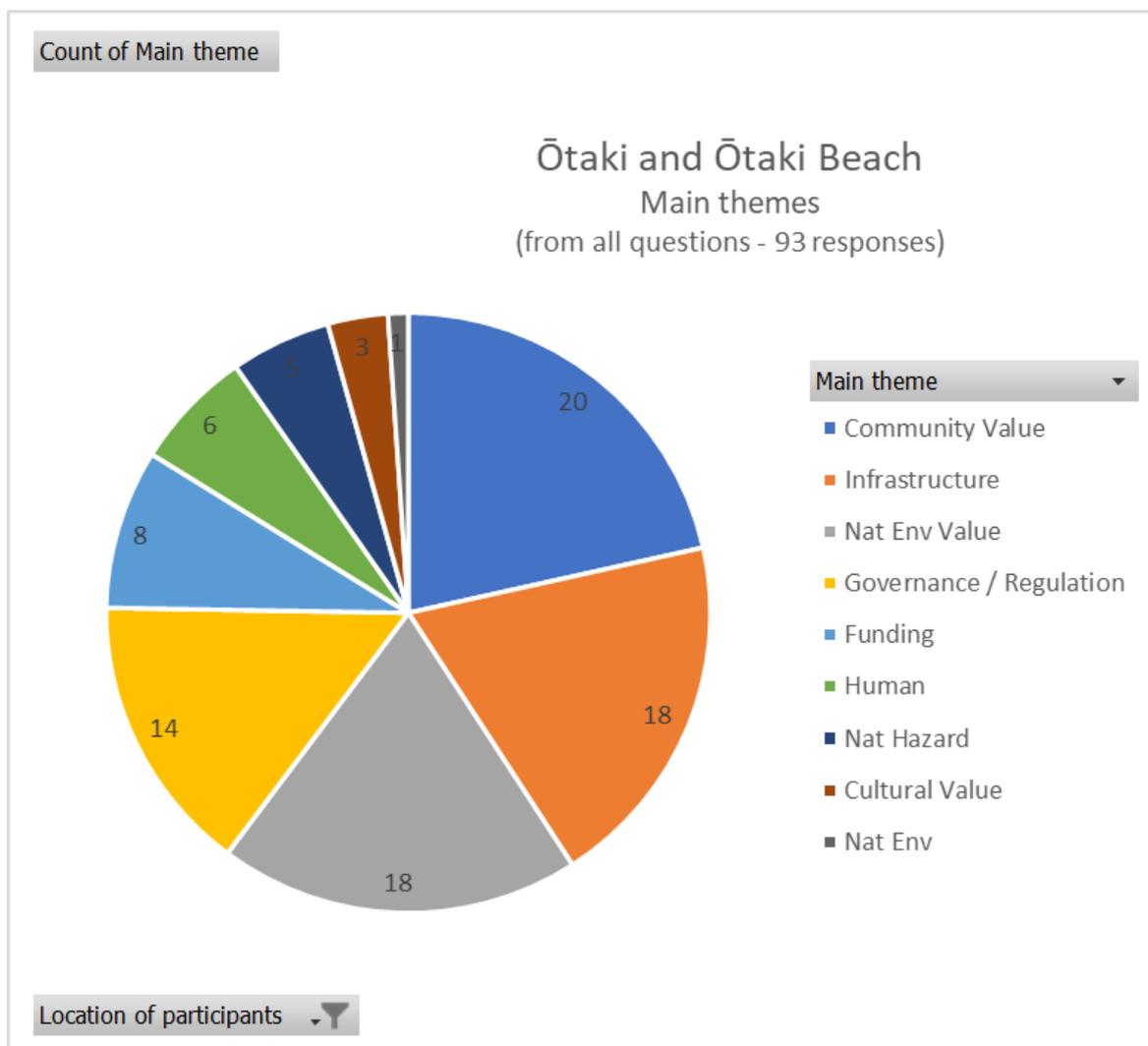
“Degradation of dunes - human activity”

“Risk of complacency because Ōtaki is considered "safer"”

“Risk to property values - lead to social tensions”

“Build infrastructure to hold back effect to give time to develop longer term solutions”

“Global approach - Biggest polluters & multinationals should contribute”



“Environment - beautiful, spacious, treed”

“Sense of community with some shared concerns

“Lack of trust in Council - Regular maintenance of stream beds and dredge drains”

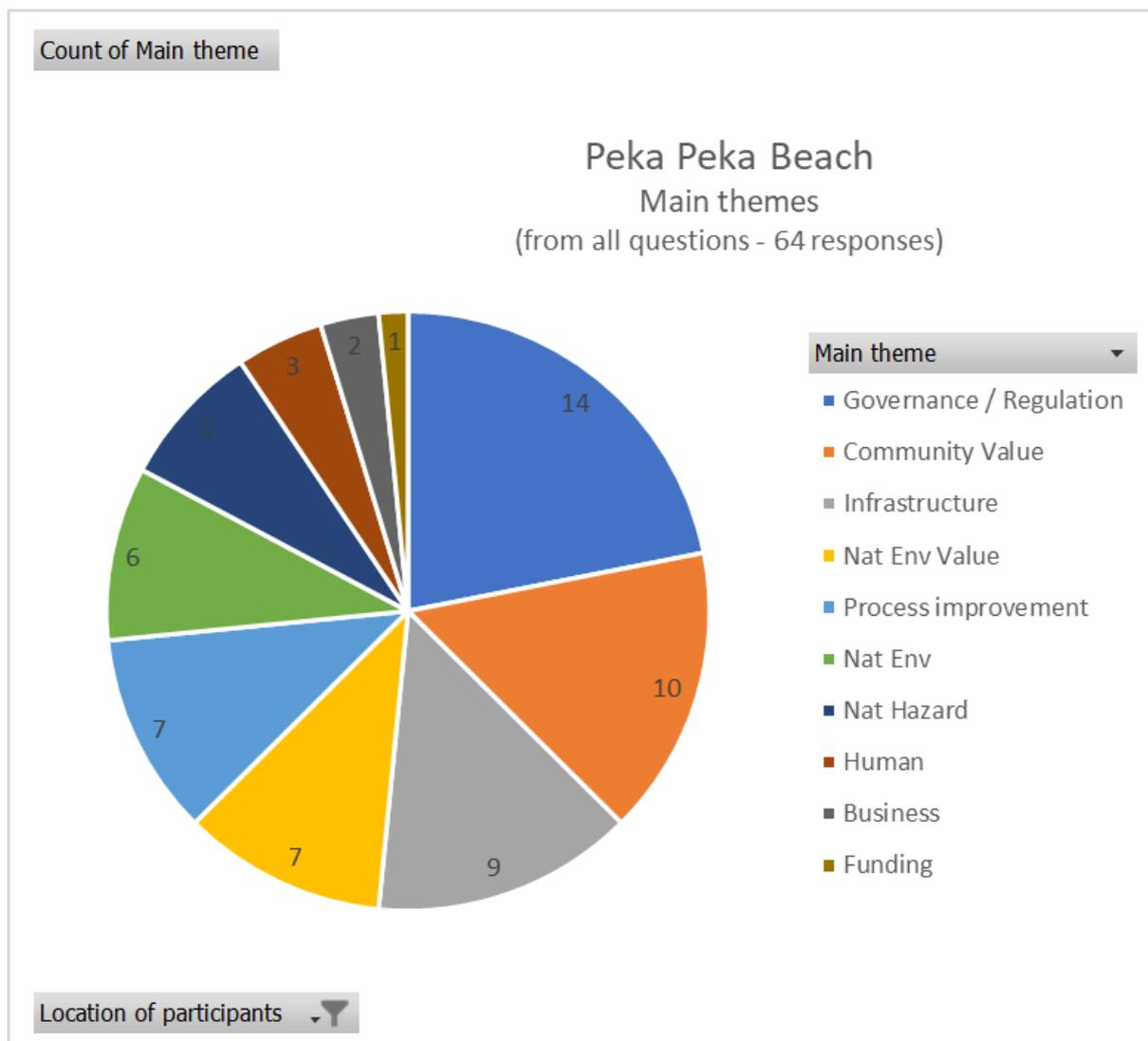
“Council needs to be held accountable for OK'ing consents into the future if the buildings are subject to water level rise”

“Ground water rise: The wetlands are flooded and the wetland plants are dying”.

“Flooding risk to septic tanks and health issues due to increased water, mosquitoes & risk of effluent contamination.”

“Erosion of sand dunes: Vehicles speeding in dunes and up and down the beach. Rabbits are a problem - huge craters - burrowing into sandhills.”

“Models that are closer to the community for decision making. Allow an adequate timeline for a draft report to be consulted on.”

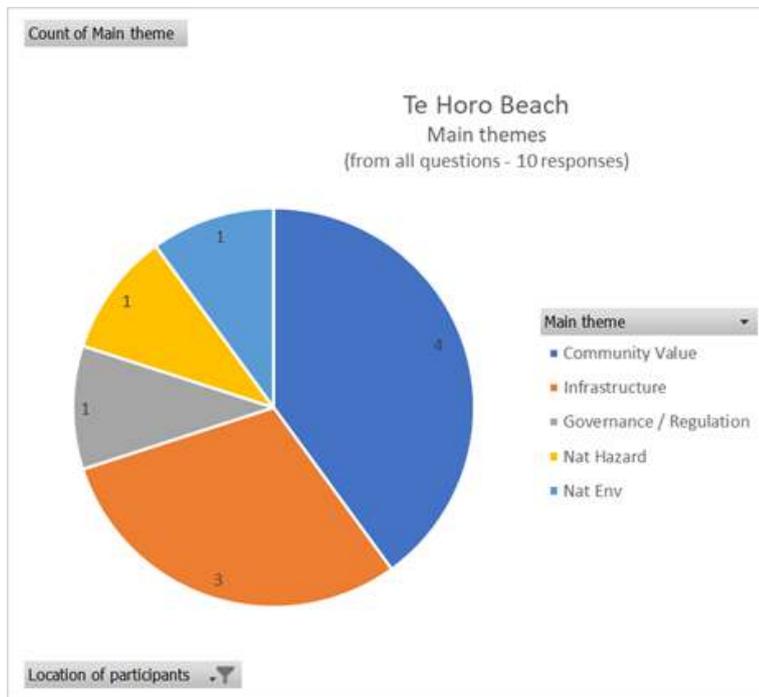


Te Horo Beach (10 responses)

“Unique, unspoiled location - “just us, the beach and the stream”

“Flooding from streams, e.g. No access to T.H/SH1 when it floods”

“Identify future cycle, walkway and bridleways to: Join Peka Peka and Te Horo; reduce greenhouse gas emissions; improve lifestyle and health benefits; and provide alternative access”.

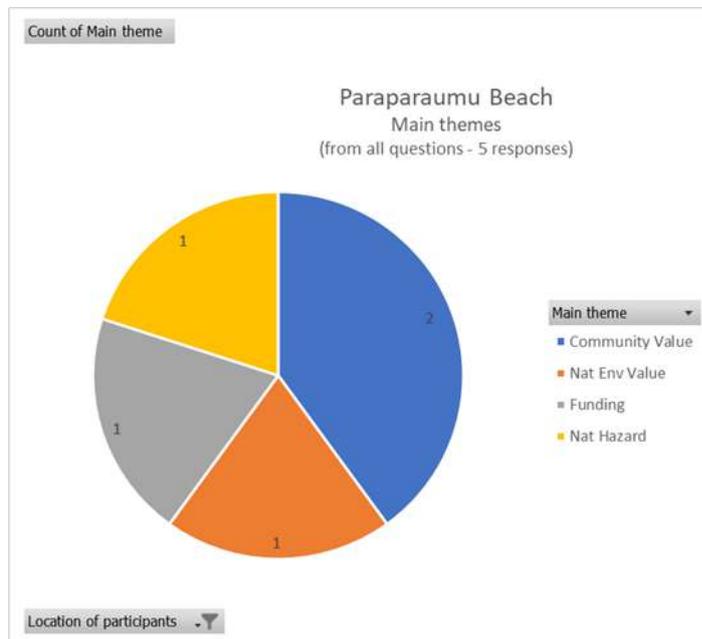


Paraparaumu Beach (5 responses)

“Enjoy the amenities and the nice outlook to Kapiti Island. Don't have the peacefulness but enjoy the busyness of the beach.”

“Biggest risk is tsunami. Don't seem to have the same worries like the others.”

“How much money should we spend on a short-term fix? Not keen on short term fixes.”



NEXT STEPS:

CAP will review and consider these insights. Additional workshops will be scheduled by the Coastal Advisory Panel (CAP) in the other Kapiti Adaptation Areas.

Insights gained from a variety of community engagement initiatives will be used in the decision-making process.