



GREYTOWN COMMUNITY BOARD PLAN

January 2023 – June 2024



**GREYTOWN
COMMUNITY BOARD**
Kia Reretahi Tātau

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Message from the Greytown Community Board Chair

We, the Greytown Community Board (GCB), are proud to present this Community Plan. In developing this plan, we have tried to hear as much as possible from the wide and diverse Greytown Community. We recognise the privilege and responsibility we hold to keep Greytown strong and thriving. We also acknowledge that our constituency covers many varying demographics and the key to representing this Community is to not forget all the people who live, work and love Greytown.

We are all lucky to have either been born here or to have found this unique haven that is Greytown. Greytown brings the city to the country with its diverse shopping, excellent dining options and cultural and artistic opportunities. At the same time, it is the best of rural life and small-town charm that generates warmth and comradery. The Greytown Ward is a landscape of diversity that beautifully melds our distinct history into our growth and prosperity. Our history holds many firsts that still are prominent in our town today. We are the best small town in New Zealand because we are unique. We celebrate and recognise the importance of holding on to our heritage as we build our future.

I am proud to be the Chair of the Greytown Community Board because I love this town. It is my home and it holds my heart. I take the role I have for this term seriously as do all the members of the GCB. We all love this town and want it to flourish. In this Greytown Community Plan is our commitment to the entire Greytown Community that we hold our duty to act in the best interests of Greytown seriously.

Louise Brown
Chair

Meet the Greytown Community Board Members



Louise Brown
Chair

My mother is American and my father was the New Zealander. I moved to New Zealand twenty-four years ago and studied law. I have lived rurally for twenty-two of those years and moved to Greytown twelve years ago. I love living just outside Greytown as I am minutes from a vibrant town with classic architecture, great places to eat, fascinating shops and amazing events and attractions.

Warren Woodgyer
Deputy Chair

The things I love about living in Greytown is the ability to walk or bike to most places I frequent. The parks, Rail Trail, trees, friendly and interesting people, and village lifestyle. I would be the first to admit the village lifestyle has changed a little after fifteen years of living here. However, it's still a great place to reside.



Neil Morison
Board Member

I am a sixth-generation family that has lived and farmed in rural Greytown. A lot has changed in my lifetime of living here. What I love about Greytown is that it has kept its old heritage but welcomes new modern businesses that keep the community thriving.





Jo Woodcock

Board Member

I have a strong sense of belonging and connection to Greytown having lived here for over thirty years. This bond with the South Wairarapa has increased through my roots. In the 1950s, my Opa and Oma worked and lived on the railway at Pigeon Bush. I loved growing up in Greytown picking fresh apples from the trees and catching eels and crawlies from the creeks. Greytown is rich in its landscape, history, and community spirit and is what I want generations to experience now and in the future.

Martin Bosley

Councillor

I'm a chef and a former restaurateur turned fishmonger that's lived in Greytown for about six years. I run my own business, Yellow Brick Road, from Main Street. What I love about Greytown is that the people here are friendly, with a strong sense of community and small-town charm with its Main Street filled with boutiques, antique stores and cafes. These are just a few of the many things that I enjoy about living here. A simple life in the country, surrounded by trees instead of buildings.



Aaron Woodcock

Councillor

I am a businessman, contractor, and family man born and bred in the South Wairarapa. I love the outdoors and you will often find me diving at the coast. When not engaged with outdoor pursuits, you will find me volunteering at the Greytown rugby club and assisting with kids sports or helping with community projects. What I love about Greytown is its community spirit and country feel.





Community Board Vision

We aim to keep an eye on our heritage but with a focus on the future that marries our history with our potential without detracting, diminishing or forgetting what has made Greytown great from its historic foundation.

Community Profile

Who are we and what makes us special:

Greytown is located 80kms northeast of Wellington on State Highway 2. It was the first inland town founded on 27 March 1854 as part of the Small Farms Association Settlement Scheme. Within the Greytown Ward lies Pāpāwai Marae that was established in the 1850s. The Marae's meeting house, Hikurangi dates from 1888. Pāpāwai was the focus of Kotahitanga, the Māori Parliament Movement and ultimately held the First Māori Parliament in the 1890s. Greytown also celebrated the first Arbor Day in New Zealand on 3 July 1890.

The Military History during World War I in the Wairarapa is well documented. The Greytown Ward was the location of two military camps from approximately 1915 to 1923 being the Tauherenikau and Pāpāwai Military Camps. Soldiers Memorial Park is a reminder of the long history of Greytown residents who have fought for this country. Memorials at the entrance and within the park were erected to recognize the ultimate sacrifice given by the men from this area in World War I and World War II.

Greytown's Main Street is known as the most complete representation of original Victorian Architecture in the country. Cobblestones Museum located on Main Street is a further reflection of the history of Greytown.

Greytown has a long and diverse sporting history with more than thirty sports clubs. Tauherenikau Racecourse opened in January 1874 and is home to the Wairarapa Racing Club that was established on 27 April 1864. The Greytown Cricket Club is the second oldest in the country being established in 1867. Greytown is also known to have had the first Women's Cricket Team. Greytown Rugby is the third oldest in the country and was established in 1876.

Greytown has often been referred to as the "Fruit Bowl of the Wairarapa" and is still recognized today for its orchards and rural farming.

Greytown is now proud to be a part of the South Wairarapa International Dark Sky Reserve.

Bringing Our Plan Together

Strategic Framework

In developing the Greytown Community Plan the Community Board has recognized and encompassed the four wellbeing's under The Local Government Act and in the strategic framework of the South Wairarapa District Council's Long-Term Plan.

Social Wellbeing

Residents are safe, active, healthy, resilient, optimistic and connected

- ◆ Strengthen social connections within the community
- ◆ Encourage community pride and participation
- ◆ Provide universally accessible, safe and diverse spaces to strengthen connection between people and place
- ◆ Advocated for better technology to improve social and business opportunities

Economic Wellbeing

A place of destination, new business and diverse employment that gives people independence and opportunity

- ◆ Plan for growth that protects rural land and character
- ◆ Support quality urban development
- ◆ Support growth that improves the environment
- ◆ Support the transition to a low carbon economy
- ◆ Encourage economic diversity and local vibrancy
- ◆ Leverage partnerships with central and regional agencies to enable economic development and employment opportunities

Environmental Wellbeing

Sustainable living, safe and secure water and soils, waste minimized, biodiversity enhanced

- ◆ Deliver sustainable, clean, clear, safe and secure drinking water

- ◆ Design and implement innovative, sustainable, efficient and affordable wastewater and stormwater systems
- ◆ Protect and replenish our natural environment and biodiversity
- ◆ Take active measures to adapt and mitigate the impacts of environmental change
- ◆ Empower and enable our community to drive behavioural change for the benefit of the environment

Cultural Wellbeing

Strong relationships with whanau, hapu, iwi and marae, celebrating diverse cultural identity, arts and heritage.

- ◆ Work in partnership with mana whenua, tangata whenua, hapū, iwi and marae respecting tikanga (customs), kaitiakitanga (guardianship) and taha Māori (heritage)
- ◆ Take opportunities to embrace and celebrate diversity
- ◆ Take opportunities to advance and showcase arts, culture and heritage
- ◆ Protect town and rural community character, retaining our unique look and feel
- ◆ Improve urban design and integrate what we build with our historical features

Community Engagement

As a Community Board, we conducted a series of community forums, community clinics and community group visits to receive feedback and opinions to develop our priorities.

Four priority areas for action were identified:

1. Emergency Response and ongoing Community Resilience
2. Our Culture and Heritage
3. Tourism and Economic Opportunities
4. Our Community as a Whole

Within each of these action areas of focus, there are a set of actions that form the basis of the Greytown Community Plan for 2023-202

Our Priorities



Emergency Response and ongoing Community Resilience

Strengthen our community resources and improve our knowledge to be more resilient in emergencies.

Contributes to the Long-Term Plan outcomes through:

- ◆ Strengthening social connections within the community
 - ◆ Providing universally accessible, safe and diverse spaces to strengthen connection between people and place
 - ◆ Working in partnership with mana whenua, tangata whenua, hapū, iwi and marae respecting tikanga (customs), kaitiakitanga (guardianship) and taha Māori (heritage)
 - ◆ Take active measures to adapt and mitigate the impacts of environmental change
 - ◆ Deliver sustainable, clean, clear, safe and secure drinking water
- Hold a forum for the community that provides an opportunity to familiarize themselves with ways to prepare and be more resilient in cases of emergency
 - Build and strengthen our relationship with the local marae, community groups and individuals who can assist in and with emergencies
 - Purchase and supply materials for flooding
 - Develop a neighbourhood support network in the community
 - Familiarise the community with our local Community Hub
 - Develop and foster a Greytown Community Patrol

How will we know if we've been successful?

- Community feedback implemented
- Funding provided for flooding materials and purchase completed
- Greytown Community Patrol created and maintained

How are we going to do this?



Our Culture and Heritage

Embrace our culture and heritage and use it to drive our growth.

Contributes to the Long-Term Plan outcomes through:

- ◆ Encourage community pride and participation
 - ◆ Working in partnership with mana whenua, tangata whenua, hapū, iwi and marae respecting tikanga (customs), kaitiakitanga (guardianship) and taha Māori (heritage)
 - ◆ Protecting town and rural community character, retaining our unique look and feel
 - ◆ Plan the growth that protects rural land and character
 - ◆ Improve urban design and integrate what we build with our historical features
 - ◆ Take opportunities to advance and showcase arts, culture and heritage
- By building a stronger relationship with mana whenua and Papawai Marae, including:
 - Collaboration for an annual Matariki Celebration
 - Support the change of name of Tauherenikau to Tauwharenikau
 - Advocate to South Wairarapa District Council for the delegation of our local parks and reserves to the Community Board:
 - Stella Bull Park, Arbor Reserve, Soldiers Memorial Park, O'Conner's Bush, Kowhai Park and Collier Reserve
 - Increase the awareness of Greytown Arbor Day nationally and ensure its celebration becomes more prominent in Greytown
 - Advocate to the South Wairarapa District Council to include in the Long-Term Plan and District Plan pertaining to Greytown

How are we going to do this?

- To increase Green Space in Greytown
- No fast-food chain stores within Greytown
- To adopt the Style Guide of Greytown Heritage Trust

How will we know if we've been successful?

- Parks and reserves are delegated
- Long Term Plan and District Plan to include and maintain the culture and heritage of Greytown
- Greytown Matariki Celebration established
- An increase in recognition of Arbor Day and its celebration
- Continue to make submissions in opposition to anything that counters the maintaining of Greytown culture and heritage.



Tourism and Economic Opportunities

Support the economic growth and highlight the unique tourism draws of Greytown.

Contributes to the Long-Term Plan outcomes through:

- ◆ Encouraging economic diversity and local vibrancy
- ◆ Encourage community pride and participation
- ◆ Working in partnership with mana whenua, tangata whenua, hapū, iwi and marae, respecting tikanga (customs), kaitiakitanga (guardianship) and taha Māori (heritage)
- ◆ Empowering and enabling our community to drive behavioral change for the benefit of the environment
- ◆ Protecting and replenishing our natural environment and biodiversity
- ◆ Protecting town and rural community character, retaining our unique look and feel
- ◆ Take opportunities to embrace and celebrate diversity
- ◆ Take opportunities to advance and showcase arts, culture and heritage

How are we going to do this?

- Fostering collaboration between rural and town businesses to increase use of local products and therefore strengthen sustainability
 - Hospitality businesses utilize and highlight use of local meats, fish, fruit and vegetables

- Local products sold within retail shops
- Support and assist in development of local events and attractions that draw visitors such as:
 - Festival of Christmas
 - Dark Sky
 - Matariki
 - Tweed Ride
 - Arbor Day
 - Five Town Rail Trail
 - Cobblestones Museum
 - Race days at Tauwharenikau Racecourse

How will we know if we've been successful?

- Economic growth
- Establishment and promotion of new local events and attractions
- Survival and increase of local and independent business within Greytown



Our Community as a Whole

Recognise Greytown's growing demographic and embrace its culture and diversity

Contributes to the Long-Term Plan outcomes through:

- ◆ Strengthen social connections within the community
- ◆ Encourage community pride and participation
- ◆ Provide universally accessible, safe and diverse spaces to strengthen connection between people and place
- ◆ Leverage partnerships with central and regional agencies to enable economic development and employment opportunities
- ◆ Encourage economic diversity and local vibrancy
- ◆ Empowering and enabling our community to drive behavioral change for the benefit of the environment
- ◆ Protecting town and rural community character, retaining our unique look and feel
- ◆ Plan for growth that protects rural land and character
- ◆ Work in partnership with mana whenua, tangata whenua, hapū, iwi and marae, respecting tikanga (customs), kaitiakitanga (guardianship) and taha Māori (heritage)
- ◆ Take opportunities to embrace and celebrate diversity
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- ◆ Protect town and rural community character, retaining our unique look and feel
- ◆ Improve urban design and integrate what we build with our historical features

How are we going to do this?

- Advocate for the First Masonic Hall building in Stella Bull Park to return to being Greytown Library and include community services; therefore allowing for the Town Hall to return to being an event and activity space.
- Turn Greyspace into Green Space
- Support environment friendly transport within Greytown by:
 - Installing EV Charging Stations
 - Increasing bike lockups
- Remember to provide for and care for all members of the Community by seeking funds or support from the South Wairarapa District Council to allow for the following:
 - Create community Gardens
 - Re-establishing Community Pantries
 - Look to increase additional affordable pension housing
 - Create a foodbank for Greytown by growing the new partnership with Martinborough Foodbank
 - Seek to enter a relationship with Kainga Ora to ensure current residents of Greytown have priority with new development.
 - Support the Greytown Trails Trust in their work to finish the Five Town Trails , maintain their current trails and develop future trails
 - Increase of sitting space within Greytown
 - Increase Disabled Parking within Greytown proper and approach Waka Kotahi to consider putting disabled parking along Main Street also known as State Highway 2
- Support local projects focused on environmental sustainability through the community board budget being:
 - Tree planting during the Arbor Day Celebration
 - Assist with establishing community gardens

include local priorities focused on environmental sustainability being:

- The purchase of or allocation of council land for the purpose of Green Space
- Establish EV Stations in Greytown

How will we know if we've been successful?

- Submission made to South Wairarapa District Council for the Long-Term Plan to include funding or support for:
 - The purchase of or allocation of council land for the purpose of Green Space
 - Establish EV Station in Greytown
 - The re-establishment of the Greytown Library in the First Masonic Hall
- Projects that can be are supported through the Community Board budget
- Submissions or communications are made for our priorities to the appropriate government bodies or community groups

- Advocate for the Long-Term Plan to



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**SOUTH WAIRARAPA
DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Kia Reretahi Tātau