

Future Proof

North Waipā/ South Hamilton Spatial Study

Draft Vision and Outcome Statements for the Study Area (2050)

The draft vision and outcome statements below are based on the 7 Key Transformational Moves from the Future Proof Strategy (2024) (<https://www.futureproof.org.nz/our-strategic-direction>, section B1, pp40-41). They are draft statements for discussion and are not meant to pre-empt the study findings. They will be finalised following stakeholder engagement by the end of July, to guide the development of scenarios and options.

DRAFT VISION:

The North Waipā / South Hamilton area will be a focus for industrial activity, leveraging off proximity to the Southern Links expressway, the North Island Main Trunk Rail, and Hamilton Airport, to support the economic growth of the Hamilton metro area and the Upper North Island, while enhancing the airport's role as an economic anchor.

New areas of residential development, as seamless extensions to the existing Hamilton urban area and/or around existing villages in North Waipā, will offer diverse housing options, stronger public transport connections, proximity to new employment opportunities, and high-amenity communities.

Development will respect the area's varied existing environmental and cultural values, and contribute to the restoration and protection of the Waikato River catchment.

DRAFT OUTCOME STATEMENTS: “WHAT SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE”

The following draft outcome statements build on the Vision above, linking to the Future Proof Strategy’s key transformational moves in relation to the study, and provide potential metrics against which success can be measured.

Theme	Description	Relevant Key Transformational Move from Future Proof Strategy (see below table for more info)	Potential Metrics (measurements of success)
Jobs and Opportunity Around the Airport	The area around Hamilton Airport has grown in a smart and coordinated way, comparable in scale to Ruakura, making the most of new transport links like Southern Links and rail, and creating more local job and business opportunities.	<i>Transformational Move Five: Strong & Productive Economic Corridors</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of jobs created
Great Places to Live	Local neighbourhoods—both town and country—offer a range of good-quality, affordable homes, with the right services and green spaces to support healthy, connected communities that live well with nature.	<i>Transformational Move Six: Thriving Communities & Neighbourhoods</i> and <i>Transformational Move Four: A Vibrant Metro Core & Lively Metropolitan & Town Centres</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of new residential units • Density levels • Ratio of price / rent to income (affordability)
Easy to Get Around	People can easily travel in and out of the area using a mix of transport options—like walking, biking,	<i>Transformational Move Three: A Comprehensive & Fundamental Evolution of Our Transport System</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frequency, availability and patronage of public transport in the area

	buses, trains, and cars—with strong links to Hamilton and nearby towns.	and <i>Transformational Move Four: A Vibrant Metro Core & Lively Metropolitan & Town Centres</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Travel times between home and work and/or home and services
Supporting Iwi Aspirations	Development in the area supports iwi goals for the environment, culture, jobs, and wellbeing, and reflects their leadership and values.	<i>Transformational Move One: Iwi Aspirations</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TBC
Caring for the Waikato River and Environment	Growth in the area helps care for the Waikato River and gives effect to <i>Te Ture Whaimana</i> , by supporting eco-friendly development, creating blue-green spaces, and protecting water in a way that respects <i>Te Mana o Te Wai</i> .	<i>Transformational Move Two: Waikato River</i> and <i>Transformational Move Seven: Water Wise & Water Sensitive Communities</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local water quality Quantity?
Value for Money	Existing infrastructure is used efficiently, the most ‘bang for buck’ is obtained from new infrastructure, and growth pays for growth in terms of network infrastructure development and operation.	<i>Transformational Move Six: Thriving Communities & Neighbourhoods</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % of project costs required from local rates?

Future Proof Strategy's Key Transformational Moves (for further reference)

Transformational Move One: Iwi Aspirations

“Enhancing environmental health and wellbeing while supporting iwi and mana whenua in embracing social and economic opportunities within the sub-region. This includes a focus on the Waikato River and its catchment, in accordance with Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato - Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River, and the Piako, Waitoa and Waihou Rivers. For Waikato Tainui this is a specific emphasis on Hopuhopu and Ruakura, and Meremere in the longer term after Ruakura, for other mana whenua groups within the sub-region this will include land use aspirations to build papakaainga housing or horticulture / agriculture farming transformations to name a few. Other iwi and mana whenua groups have large populations of their people living within the subregion and may also wish to pursue social, economic and other opportunities within the sub-region.”

Transformational Move Two: Waikato River

“Give effect to Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato - the Vision and Strategy – including by celebrating the Waikato River as the defining ecological feature connecting the metro area to the heart of a blue-green network supporting environmental and recreational use and creating a sense of place. While our current focus is on the Waikato River catchment and Te Ture Whaimana, our approach also highlights the importance of other river catchments in the subregion such as the Piako, Waitoa and Waihou.”

Transformational Move Three: A Comprehensive & Fundamental Evolution of Our Transport System

“A comprehensive and fundamental evolution of our transport system – transform our transport system to a resilient multi-modal transport network, that connects the metro area and supports our rural communities through a transformational shift to using public transport, active travel modes and inter-regional rail where possible. This will be achieved through interventions such as, the establishment of a rapid and frequent public transport network, efficient freight networks and comprehensive walking and cycling networks shaped around where and how our communities will grow.”

Transformational Move Four: A Vibrant Metro Core & Lively Metropolitan & Town Centres

“Growing Hamilton central city as our civic, administrative, cultural and commercial metro core, alongside lively metropolitan and town centres, well connected by public transport and safe walking and cycling networks, where people can afford to live, work and play.”

Transformational Move Five: Strong & Productive Economic Corridors

“Establishing economic corridors that connect our centres of production to our metro areas of employment and our ports and airports with a particular emphasis on access to the highly productive employment areas between Hautapu, Ruakura, Hamilton central city and north to Horotiu and Ngaaruawaahia.”

Transformational Move Six: Thriving Communities & Neighbourhoods

“Enabling quality denser housing options supported by employment with a focus on increasing housing affordability and choice and improving access. Our communities are supported by facilities and infrastructure that meet the needs of growing and changing communities and allow our natural and built environments to coexist in harmony.”

Transformational Move Seven: Water Wise & Water Sensitive Communities

“Grow and foster waterwise communities through a fundamental shift and approach that places sustainability, resilience and environmental protection at the heart of our urban water planning and ensuring that urban water management is sensitive to natural hydrological and ecological processes.”