



Draft Minutes Mercury Bay

SMP Coastal Panel Meeting 10: Setting Thresholds and Triggers

Times & Dates:	Mercury Bay Coast 9:00am-12:00pm Thursday 20/01/22
Venues:	Mercury Bay Community Board Room, Whitianga or MS Teams
Chairperson:	Coastal Panel Chair: Amon Martin (for Graeme Osborne)
Attendees:	TCDC - Amon Martin, Jamie Boyle, Karen Moffatt-McLeod SMP Consultants (Royal HaskoningDHV) – Sian John, Nick Lewis (Via MS Teams) Coastal Panel Members: Carrie Parker, Christopher Devenoges, Howard Saunders, Kim Lawry, Via MS Teams: Jamie Ryan, Dave Lameson, WRC: Rick Leifting
Apologies:	Jill Pierce, Graeme Osborne, James Hutt
Observers:	Robyn Sinclair, Martin Rodley

Meeting Objective

- To set proposed thresholds and triggers for Policy Unit adaptation pathways

Agenda Items

1. Introduction (see Meeting Objective)
2. Progress:
 - a. **Minutes of Meeting 9 (November 2021).**

Moved from Chair: Minutes from November meeting be accepted – carried

b. Review of Actions (see Page 2).

#13 – presentation will go through to the WRC Climate Action Committee (rather than the WRC transport committee) on 10th March – report written by WRC (RL), TCDC co-presenting and supporting.

Climate Action Committee – sub-set of the full council (elected members)

#30 - completed

#33 - updated and on agenda for today

#34 – Further work in some areas is required. Not so relative to this Panel. Many are in the Coromandel area. But a meeting will also be held in Hikuai.

NL has done further work on Kuaotunu – will cover in presentation

#39 - completed

#40 – still to come. Waiting to hear back from WRC.

#41 – Waka Kotahi have made some progress, gathered data for resource for coromandel roads, include our hazard maps as well as their info. Waka Kotahi are developing an approach to undertaking risk assessment – risk to roading infrastructure. Will report back – no timeframes yet. A number of PU pathways require Waka Kotahi risk assessment. SJ will talk to David Grieg again next week. Hope to get Waka Kotahi to present/update panels at next meeting.

RL – WRC would like to be cc'd into communications with Waka Kotahi.

#42 – Completed -Updated and included in report

#43 – Not progressed yet – but looking at using online tool a bit more widely & effectively.

c. Geotechnical (slope & Cliff instability) Risk Assessment.

Looked at several factors including Tsunami & fluvial flooding, Geo Tech Assessment, Coastal Inundation & Coastal Erosion but focused on slopes & cliff instability – on the coastal zone.

NL – presentation:

Assessment has led into the Coastal Panel Pathways, and input from Panels has also been taken into account. Impact on road infrastructure, access etc.

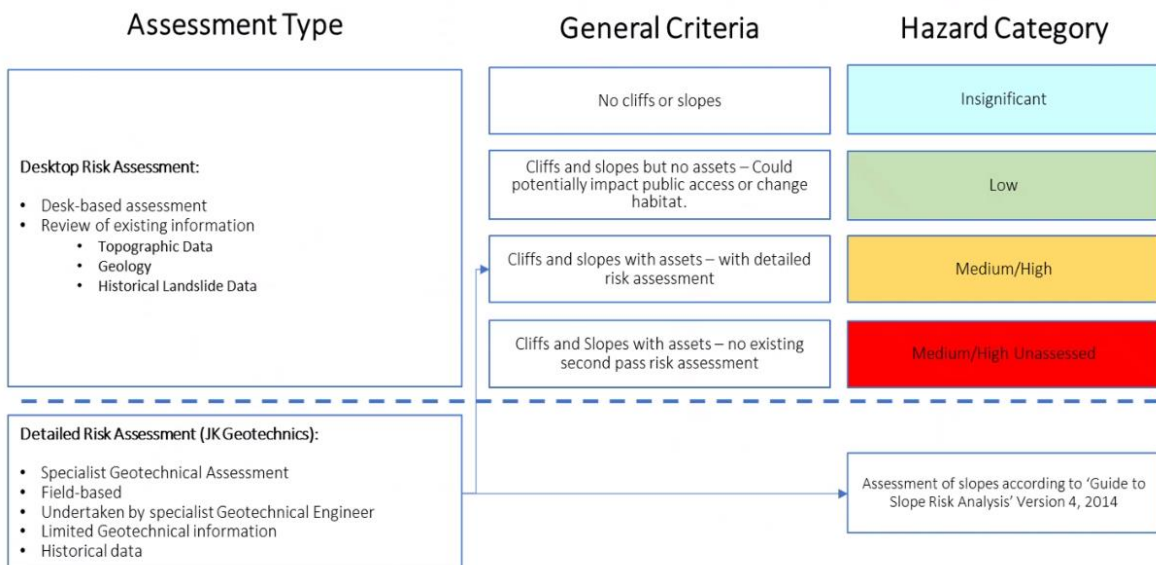
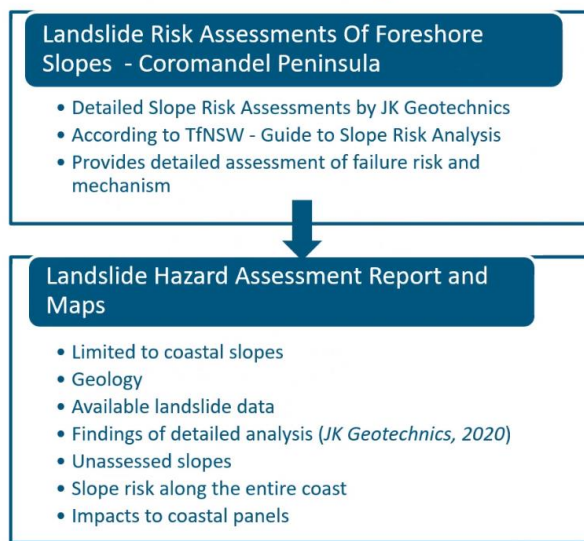
Assessment Purpose – Why was this required?

- The purpose of this assessment was to provide:
 - [A high-level assessment of the risk of slope failure and consequences along the entire Coromandel Coastline](#)
 - Detailed assessments of select high risk sections near coastal infrastructure



- Why is this important?
 - Allows risks to be effectively managed
 - Allows Council and the Community to reduce:
 - Impacts to public infrastructure (roads)
 - Impacts to accessibility of remote communities
 - Risks to road safety
 - Enabling appropriate control measures to be developed
 - Identifying areas of high risk

Assessment Scope



Categorised rather than put AEP's on them as they tend to be more ad hoc events.

Have mapped the whole Peninsula – today will focus on this Coastal Panel area – for which the risks are fairly low as no value assets or people. Some areas of higher risk – typically short stretches of coastal roads that are cut into the hill side.

Mercury Bay

Description

- This section comprises steep rocky cliffs with several populated valleys. The majority of this coast has been assessed as low or insignificant, with isolated sections of medium to high risk.

Assessed Risks

- Assessed sections show generally low risks
- One section of high risk of soil slumps and rockfalls
- One section of medium risk of medium instability
- Several slopes do not have associated detailed assessments

Additional Data

- Several mapped landslides are present surrounding tourist locations and populated areas such as Hahei and Hot Water Beach south of Mercury Bay



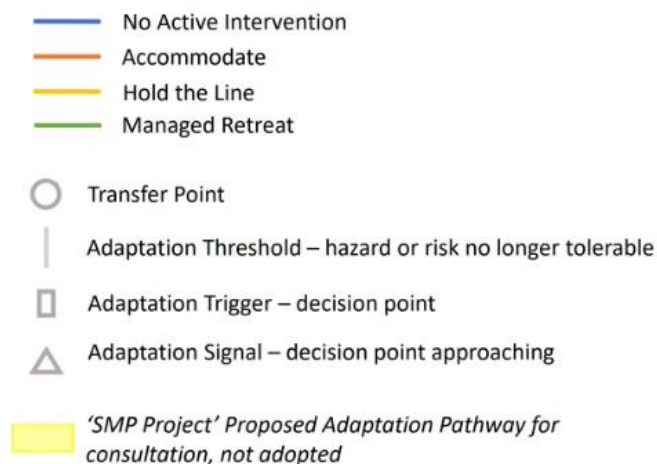
Mercury Bay



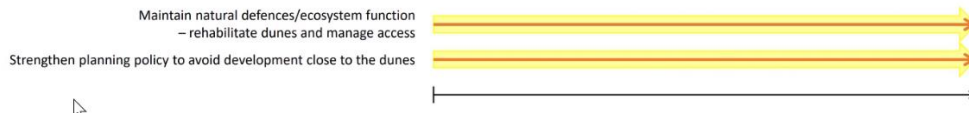
Maps to be provided on the shared drive.

KL – Pa site at eastern end of Otama where cliff is eroding. Cultural value – local issue.

3. Review of updated Adaptation Pathways, Thresholds and Triggers.



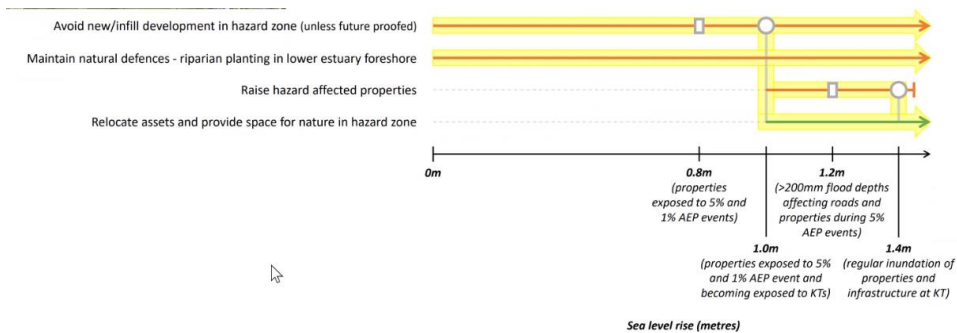
PU#72 New Chums Beach



PU#73 Whangapoua Beach North



PU#74 Whangapoua Beach Estuary



JR – does there need to be a trigger for the estuary?

SJ – the trigger has been passed, so action needs to start now and keep doing it.

JB – should access to those properties be a trigger?

AM – it is a driver on the causeway (in another PU) as would cut off the whole area

JR – at 0.8m properties may be un-insurable, so is that point too late?

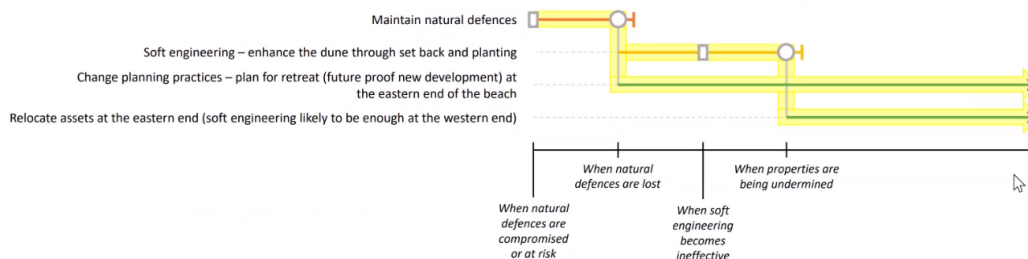
SJ – insurance retreat likely to occur at a 5% AEP event (Belinda Story)

JB/JR – might want an earlier trigger & threshold to avoid insurance retreat

RL/KL – people need to know soon and plans put in place early

SJ – raise needs to happen earlier

PU#75 Whangapoua Beach



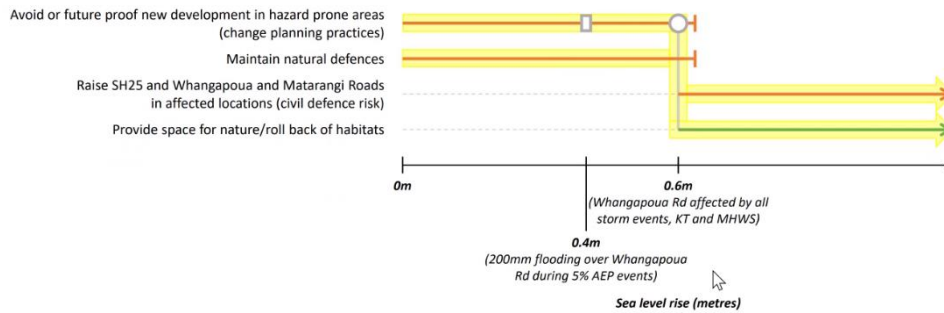
Trigger has already been reached.

JB – consent already in place for soft engineering here (push ups) but can also do re-shaping of dunes

SJ – add 'push ups' to pathway

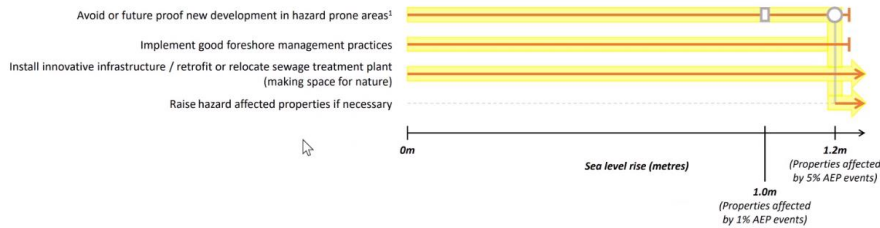
KL – need to distinguish between the 2

PU#76 Whangapoua Harbour

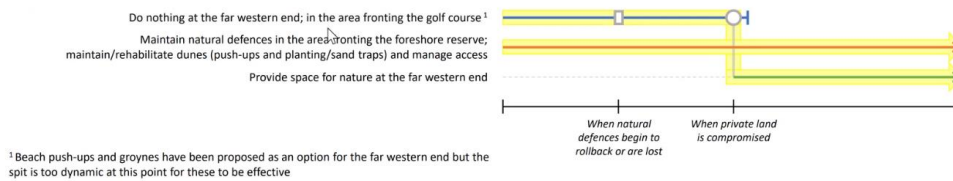


JB – 0.4 may be a little late as a trigger
 SJ – signal will help (roading manager)

PU#78 Matarangi Harbourside

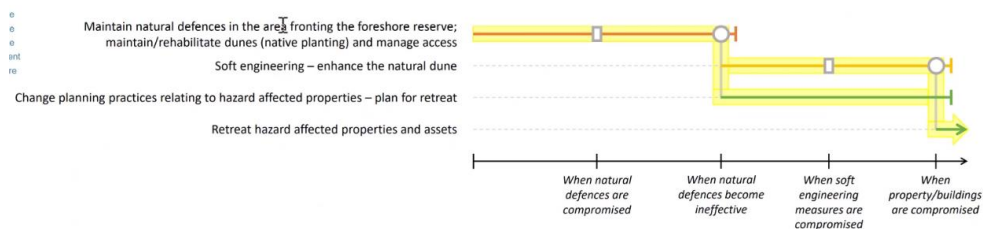


PU#79 Matarangi Beach (West)



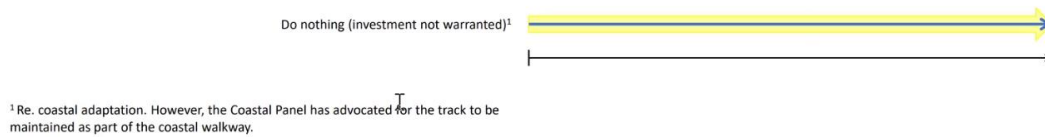
AM – trigger is now for some places on the golf course
 JR – should we not provide spaces for nature earlier?
 SJ – yes, it could be done sooner rather than do nothing (this relates to the gold course)
 RL – golf course was designed as a dynamic area which would not be defended.
 JB – remove 'do nothing', plant and let it roll back naturally
 RL – rather than 'do nothing' can it be continue dune management?
 SJ – will remove blue line (do nothing)

PU#80 Matarangi Beach (East)



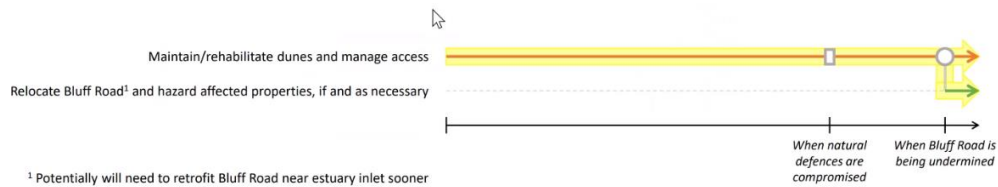
RL – coastal erosion rates have been well documented by WRC & TCDC, so trends are updated every 10 years – so this will help via monitoring with the trigger points.
 SJ – or once the beach reaches a certain historical point (e.g. 1970 shoreline) – that is the trigger
 AM – a lot more detail could be put in for each specific erosion area.
 KL – need to make sure trigger points are strong enough and early enough

PU#81 Matarangi to Rings Beach



CP – road closed again as mesh has been breached by recent fall. Can we add possible bridge by-pass

PU#82 Rings Beach



JR – what happens to old road if road is re-located? Is it left to fall into the sea?

SJ – SMP provides a high level strategy, but council need to make decisions on the details of how things are done.

PU#84 Kuaotunu West

Orientation and Key features

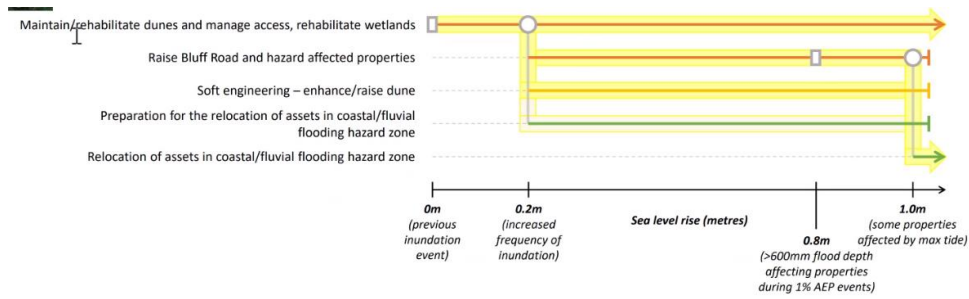


NL: Investigated PU further, a documented memo will find its way into the report
 No historical info on coastal erosion and haven't looked at river flooding
 Would like feedback on flooding events once Memo is distributed

Assessment Conclusions

- Human interaction has exacerbated the hazards.
- Hazards can impact independently or in combination. Combined hazards could be significantly greater than what we know regarding individual hazards.
- **River flooding** – significant now. Frequent and historic impacts. Recent flooding (2019). Will be exacerbated by SLR.
- **Coastal erosion / recession** – ongoing east of stream mouth and impacts SH25. Has been somewhat mitigated through protection works. Historical sand extraction led to recession of coastal foreshore. Dune restoration and stream mouth management has improved dune health. SH25 and Bluff Road susceptible in future/ongoing.
- **Coastal inundation** – moderate in extreme events and potentially made worse by entrance management. Becomes significant with SLR. Impacts specific properties (not all)
- Already much management and mitigation from hazards.
- Campground and Hilldale Crescent particularly susceptible (multiple hazards). SH25 requires ongoing protection, Bluff Road likely in future.

CP – when TCDC removed support for reserve management group – the Kuaotunu group disbanded and only started again last year (but not for the 8 yrs prior)
 Whenever stream mouth blocks up, Hilldale Cres and campground get soggy due to water table raising up.
 Campground has many baches/structures on it.

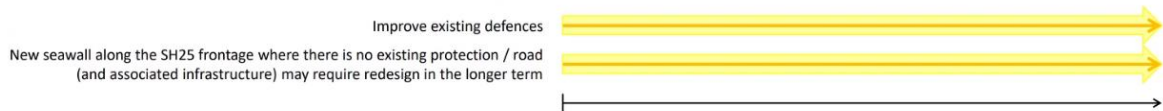


Triggers already reached
 Under-estimate as does not include fluvial flooding issues – some properties will be flooding more frequently that estimated here.
 NL – serious issues with 1m SLR and fluvial flooding

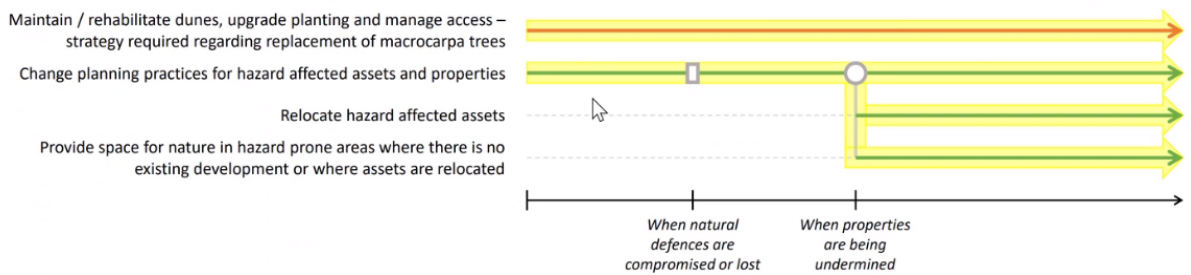
CP – area where rock wall is, believe there is some erosion issues

WRC have a regular stream opening process

PU# 85 Kuaotunu West

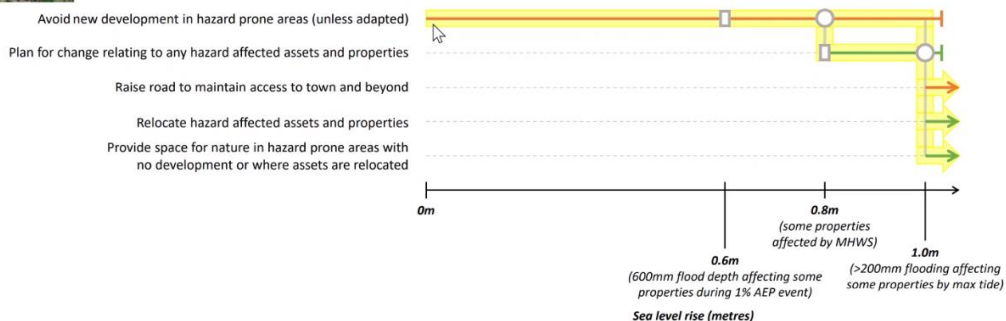


PU#86 Kuaotunu



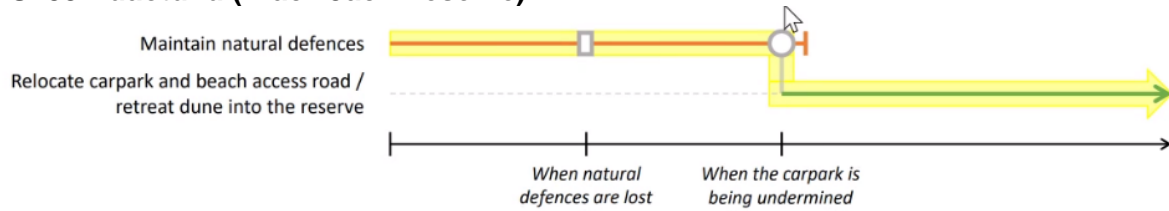
SJ – re-look at this

PU#87 Kuaotunu River



JR – need to get planting in to start absorbing water

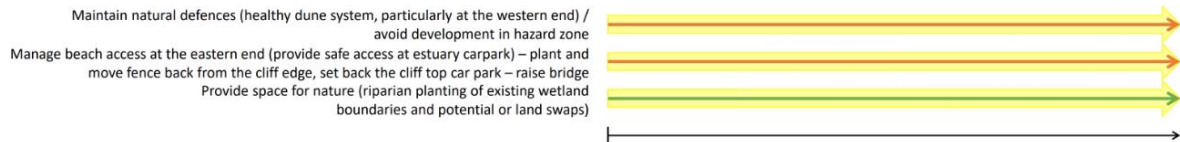
PU#88 Kuaotunu (Black Jack Reserve)



JB – retreat dune into reserve needs to happen sooner

SJ – add soft engineering

PU#90 Otama Beach



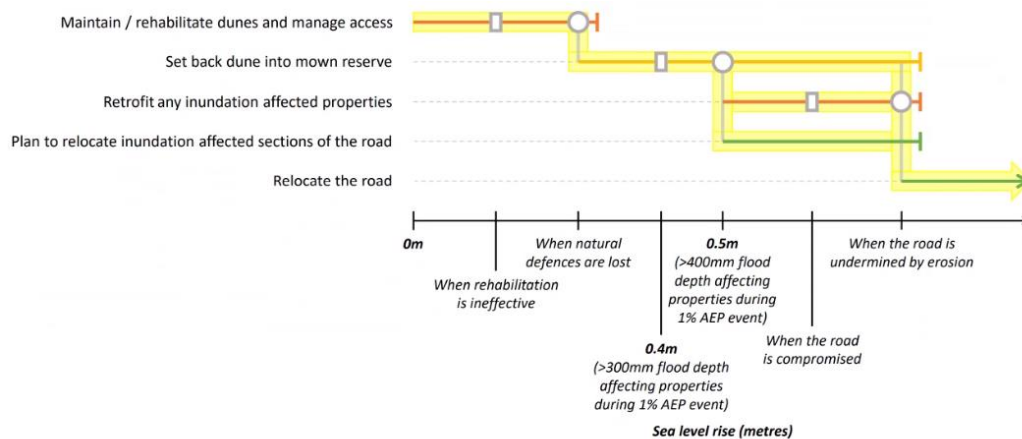
JB – western carpark will need to be transitioned to a dune at some stage

JB – road (100m stretch) needs to be addressed as erosions issues (protect or remove)

DL – you need to protect the road -maintain access to properties

SJ – acknowledge on pathway – needs further investigation

PU#92 Opito Bay

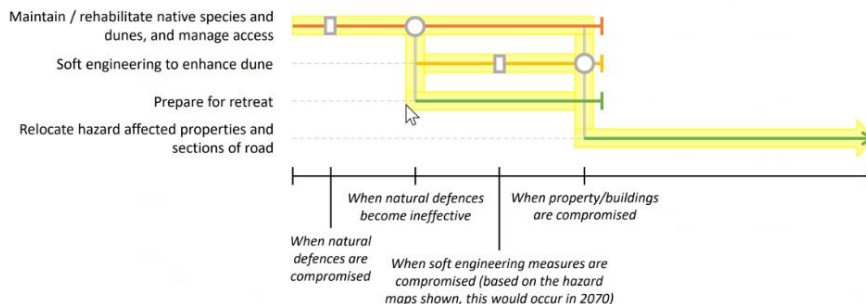


Where would you relocate the road?

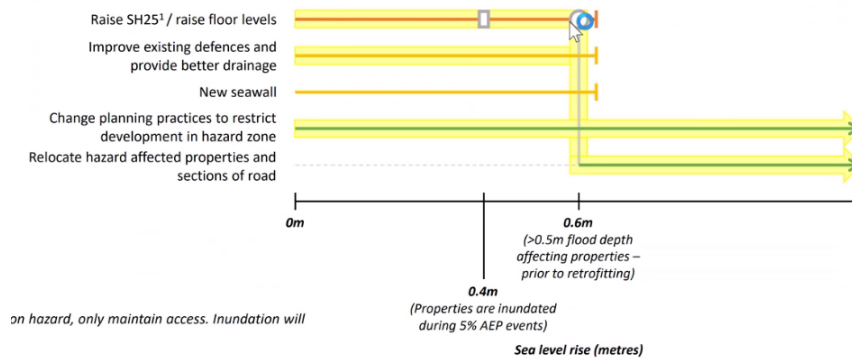
DL – need to say relocate or protect the road so community has options

SJ – acknowledge on pathway – needs further investigation

PU#95 Wharekaho (Simpsons Beach)



PU#97 Ohuka (Brophys Beach)

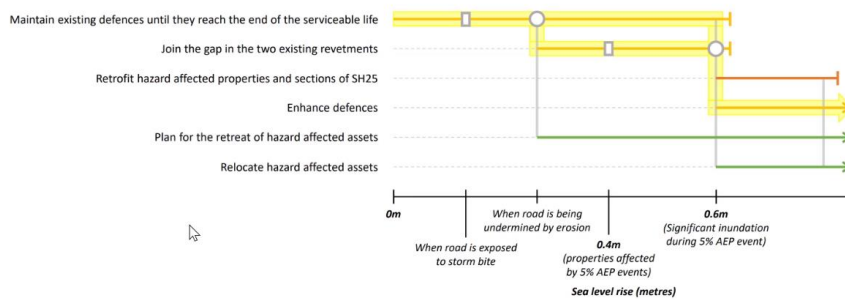


¹ This will not defend properties from the inundation hazard, only maintain access. Inundation will occur from the sea and the land.

Needs further consultation with homeowners

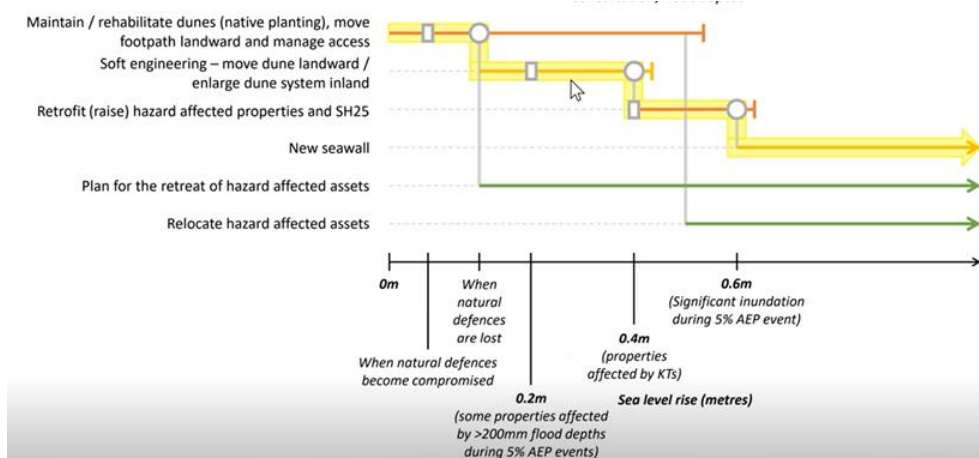
KL – maybe too soon to raise the road – as the road is not closed that often. It is a signal. Properties are the priority

PU#98 Buffalo Beach North



KL/RL – if the road became the last line of defence, it would allow more space for the beach
 SJ - Erosion is the issue in the shorter term for this section of Buffalo beach – are we saying to maintain the wall now against erosion, or are we saying set back the line?

PU#99 Buffalo Beach Reserve

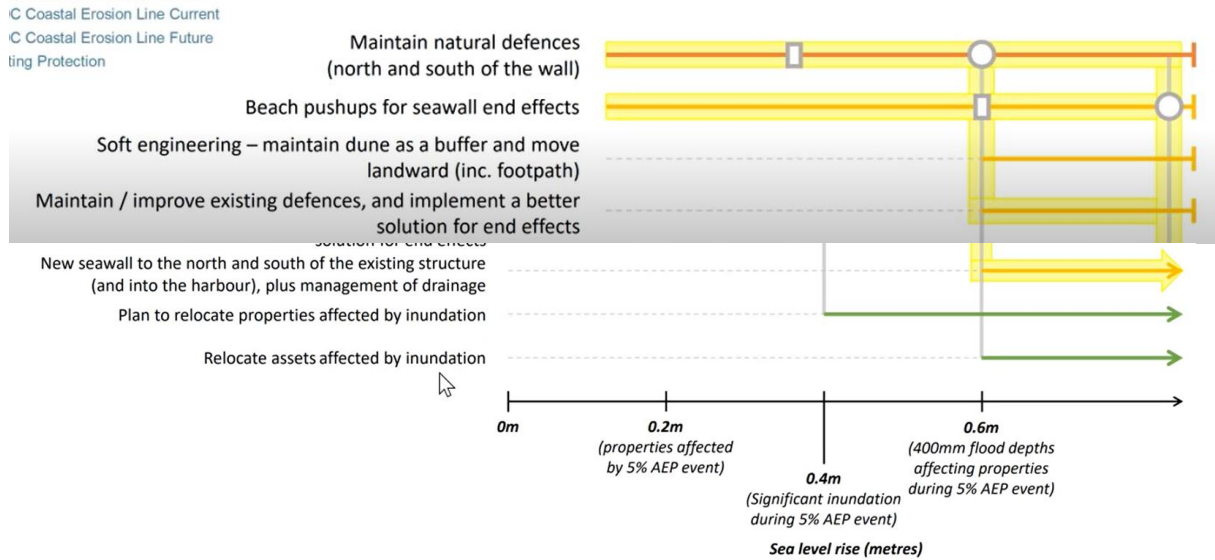


KL – we need to preserve the beach

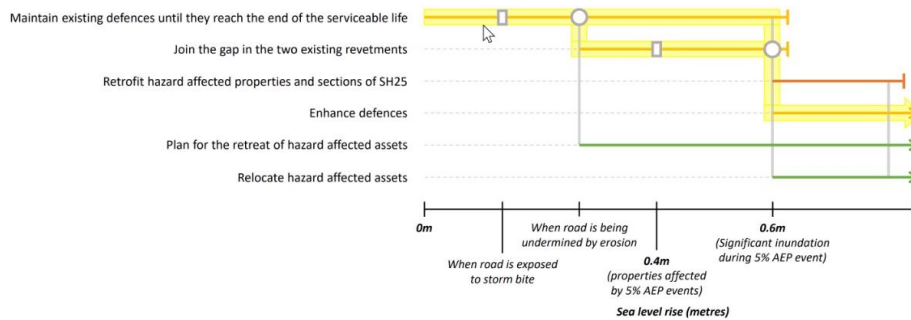
JR – isn't a rock wall to prevent erosion different from a rock wall to prevent inundation?

Am – yes we are talking about 2 different things – in time, the whole of Whitianga will be exposed to inundation. Protection could be set back to allow more time for the beach to exist.

PU#100 Buffalo Beach South



PU#101 Whitianga Outer Harbour



- KL – rock wall right around compromises everything in what Whitianga is about
- JR – seawall option is going to be extremely expensive -there is land out past the airport where it could be relocated – need a cost analysis between the 2.
- AM – coast came in between 200 – 300 million, value of houses / assets is much higher.
- KL – would we have to retreat the whole town?
- DL – rock wall protecting the town now in a lot of parts, protecting Whitianga now.
- CD – rock wall to prevent erosion and a rock wall to prevent inundation are 2 different things.
- JR – feels like it needs to go to the community – give both options
- RL – Needs to be a community call, but at least have a filter of options. There needs to be a lot more discussion some key areas. More clarity coming from central government and climate adaptations, may enhance some options we don't currently have insights on.
- SJ – there is a consent application in now for renewing homeowners wall – so we do need to make some decisions now.
- RL – don't think a decision on a pathway for Whitianga can be made now.
- JR – we need to be careful not to influence one way or another – as we don't have all the information.
- SJ – going to public consultation in March, Targeted meeting with Brophy's property owners in Feb – so what do we do now?
- AM – people aren't engaged until they are worried. We need them to get engaged and debate.

SJ – when we have shown the 2 alternatives – people have thought it was too hard.

CP – hasn't heard anyone who wants to relocate Whitianga (apart from JR). Is it possible to defend the bulk of Whitianga and still put off defending a section of it?

AM – protections options to be investigated to preserve the value of the beaches.

CP – maybe we have some retreat in some sections – maybe we need a mix and match?

JB – maybe we need to look at the hybrid solution

RL - What needs to be done in next 10-20 years to address the erosion issues, and let the community know there is 20-30 years to look at the long-term options for inundation. Pathway for short term and a pathway for the longer term.

JR – agrees with the hybrid approach. Do we have some more visuals from the perspective of standing on the road – so people can see what it looks like with a wall and what inundation looks like without a wall.

Final comments:

KL – hybrid sounds like some sort of solution – people on the beach where there aren't walls – we need useability of the beach. If we have to protect parts of the town, we need to protect them. Nervous about the trigger points for erosion (as opposed to inundation) needs some work on these.

CP – in favour of a hybrid solution – we need to protect Whitianga, but need to find out people's reaction to that

JB – agrees with the hybrid approach as well. If Whitianga needs some protection but can protect some environmental aspects, there could be better funding available.

HS – echo's what others say. Marina has gifted thousands of tonnes of rock to TCDC – so what is that for? More transparency required. Has a decision already been made further up the chain? Likes the approach – has changed his thoughts since we started.

JR – agrees with what Dave said and the hybrid option. Essential to find out what the community say – need to get a response.

DL – Rock wall may not be needed for another 65 years, but if protection is an option it needs to be funded by community from now until it is needed. Doesn't think the government will fund the eastern seaboard of Coromandel at all. Look at cost benefit analysis.

NL – from technical point of view – long term plan looking with foresight, make sure whatever is done it is as adaptive as possible.

CD – wall around town sounds preposterous but looking at Holland some hamlets are protected by some big structures. Solutions for the Yacht club there are some more natural solutions that can be planted rather than rubble

PU#102 Whitianga inner Harbour

AM – wraps up the meeting – the project only goes so far; more work will be needed after that on the impacts of protection and work that might be done. May need to go back to Governance to inform them we have no clear direction on this area (Whitianga), and where did we go to yet?

SJ – still have all the PU's south of Whitianga to Hot Water Beach to cover. Will cover these in the February meeting.

4. Communications and Engagement Strategy Update – next steps for discussion.

Communications and Engagement Strategy (update)

Thames Coromandel Shoreline Management Plan Project



Te Ara Tapātai o Hinekirikiri
Tikapa Moana – Te Tara o Te Ika-ā-Māui

Finished update of this last week .

Covers how much work has been done over last 2.5 years, page 11 – consultations still to be undertaken

3.3.2 Consultation to come

- The following Coastal Panel workshops are still to come:
 - Workshop 10 (January 2022): Setting thresholds and triggers; *How do we get it done?*
 - Workshop 11 (February 2022): Pathway confirmation and preparation for community consultation events.
 - Workshop 12 (April 2022): Draft Action Plans; *How do we get it done?*
- The following wider community consultation events are still to come:
 - **4. Adaptation plans.** Consultation on proposed adaptation pathways and plans (thresholds and triggers) due to occur in March 2022 in Thames, Te Puru, Kennedy Bay (Harataunga Marae), Colville, Kuaotunu, Whitianga, Tairua and Whangamata.
 - Prior to this targeted consultation is proposed with specific communities and groups. This is to include engaging with younger people through the High Schools and consultation with affected individuals in Moanatairi, Ohuka (Brophys Beach) and Hikuai in February 2022.
 - Specific consultation with iwi is also proposed in Kennedy Bay (as above), Koputauaki Bay and Opoutere.

Only 2 more meetings for the Coastal Panels – Pathway’s confirmation, then go out to public (wider engagement) again, then we will finalise the plan with the Coastal Panels.

Then goes to Governance committee for ‘draft’ to be adopted. May be one final opportunity for formal submissions from public etc.

The implementation part then starts.

5. Next Meeting TBC and Meeting Closed 12.30pm

Papers in advance

- I. Agenda and action list
- II. Communications and Engagement Strategy Update

Resources (to be presented at the meeting)

- I. Outputs from the Geotechnical Risk Assessment
- II. Updated Adaptation Pathway Thresholds and Triggers

Actions Table – SMP 9

No.	Action	Responsible	Status
13	Awareness of the SMP Project to be raised with WRC / the Regional Transport Committee	TCDC/WRC officers	In progress - presentation to be provided to the WRC Climate Action Committee first (10 March 2022). Presentation to the Regional Transport Committee to follow.
30	Provide maps of areas of cultural significance	Project Office	Complete.
33	Update of the Communications Plan required	Project Office	Attached, see Agenda.
34	Further work required re. combined flooding events in Kuaotunu West (Kennedy Bay and Hikuai)	RHDHV AM	For Kuaotuna West and Kennedy Bay, see Agenda re. updated adaptation pathways. Targeted consultation planned for Hikuai in February 2022 and Kennedy Bay in March 2022.
39 etc	Update various adaptation pathways in response to feedback received from the public	RHDHV	Complete, see presentation on updated adaptation pathways.
40	WRC to provide a frequency assessment for Whitianga Tide Gauge (to be assessed by NIWA)	RL (WRC)/JB	
41	Follow up with Waka Kotahi on their engagement in the process and progress of their Thames Coast risk assessment	DG/SJ	SJ to report back to the meeting.
42	Provide an AEP for historic storm events where possible	NL/Project office	Completed - Now included in the Coastal Environment Report (where the historic storm information is presented).
43	Look at adding filter to online comment tool to group by age/location etc.	Project Office	Not progressed (to date) due to the aspiration to keep the tool simple. Could be revised for March 2022 consultation events.
44	Geotechnical Risk Assessment draft report to be supplied to AM/JB	NL	
45	Need to inform Pauanui of the re-analysis of data prior to any specific meeting. Pauanui Post & rate payers Association. URGENT	AM	

46	Invite David Grieg – Waka Kotahi to next round of Coastal Panel Meetings	SJ	