

2023 Short Community Survey

Additional Comments & Suggestions

Traffic & Speed (12)

Speed limit needs review around Pumpkin flat intersection due to the new homes right on the main road now.

Speed limit needs to be reduced Bluff Rd from end of Grays Beach up and over hill to end of Rings Beach.

Reduced speed limit by Luke's Kitchen and a safe crossing for school kids.

Speed reductions need to go all the way to Peebles Lane.

A reduced speed limit going north past Peebles Lane to the other side/bottom of the hill. 80 kph limit might slow down the speedsters and stop dangerous passing manouvres.

Reduced speeds on the state highway and in the village.

A traffic sign outside Kuaotunu camp ground to slow traffic and watch for children.

Slow sign before Kuaotunu camp entrance.

It would be good to know to what reduced driving speed KRRR would like from Cemetery Lane to Hilldale Cres.

Electronic speed indicator both ways. NB the current one doesn't give a speed reading until you're about to pass it!!!

Some way of enforcing speed restrictions in our 50 limit (I know nigh on impossible).

More police patrols particularly along the tennis courts to Kuaotunu west turn off to catch speeding motorists and motorcyclists.

Footpaths & Cycleways (10)

Pedestrian crossings near intersections before the bridge. With proper footpaths to the shops.

Complete pathways from Grays Beach to Kuaotunu village.

Could we find out from Land Transport/ Council if footpath could be privately fundraised for?

Walkways to upper Kuaotunu.

All of those things are very important particularly safe pathways.

Permanent foot/bike access between Rings beach and Matarangi.

Walkway from our commercial centre alongside SH25 to Hilldale Cres.

More public walking tracks on DOC reserves. A Round-the-Coromandel walkway.

Safe traffic free walking path the whole way from the centre to Kuaotunu West.

Very very behind the safe bike track! Having to bike on the road with my young children with the increased traffic has become so unsafe. We can no longer bike to the park. Would be amazing to have a path for them bike on!

Additional Comments & Suggestions (Continued)

Roads (9)
Advocating for work to be done on our roads. Whiti Hill, Rings Beach, Blackjack etc.
Repair of the Black Jack Road and limiting of forestry activity until roads are repaired.
Advocate TCDC to improve the resilience of the peninsulas roaring network. Including improving Tapu Coroglen and 309 roads!
The need for the road to Rings Beach from Kuaotunu is in need of major road works this should be done now before someone gets killed.
Restoration of Black Jack road, our most damaged council road, both for the safety of vehicles and for those of us who enjoy walking and cycling.
Road conditions need be improved. Patches not making the cut.
Continuing to ensure roads are maintained.
Very important to me is to maintain the Blackjack road to Otama and not allow big logging trucks to destroy the road more and more and make it soon impassable.
Make our local and state highways sustainable.

Boat Ramp (10)
Improve the boat ramp and surrounding facilities in an environmentally correct manner.
Be interested to know more about who is responsible for boat ramp maintenance?
Keep the boat ramp well maintained. Ensure that contractor's shingle is spread prior to busy holiday periods. Perhaps consider re-introducing fee system for boat ramp users.
No boat ramp at the Black Jack road end of the Kuaotunu beach (there had been rumours that a boat ramp at this end was being considered).
Capacity management of boat ramp. The road around the ramp becomes dangerous at summer peak parking issues etc. Potentially charges for non Kuaotunu residents to reduce pressure from people driving distance to use the ramp.
Improved parking around the boat ramp.
Boat ramp users parking trailers dangerously on road making walking extremely dangerous. Have seen mothers pushing prams around illegally parked trailers onto busy main road. Accident waiting to happen.
Improvements at boat ramp re parking and removal of potholes. Safer roadside parking in peak seasons.
The boat ramp management and parking. Insufficient off-road parking. Ramp should have double lane traffic i.e. one lane in and one lane out at all times. No-one follows the current rule of allowing those waiting at sea to come in. It's also very difficult at lower tides to see who is currently sitting in the launch area. The gap that lets water in at high tide is also horrible and makes launching and retrieving boats very difficult.
Maintaining full use of the boat ramp carpark, particularly during peak periods. i.e. don't store piles of metal there just before holidays. During that time overflow parking on SH25 becomes haphazard and tricky. I absolutely don't want to see parking on the SH forbidden, but could it be made any more friendly?

Additional Comments & Suggestions (Continued)

Reserves & Facilities (14)
Food forest.
Would be great if toilets at the office/beach were accessible. Two cubicles but they too narrow small for a wheelchair to get in. Would be better to have one accessible than two that aren't.
Bus shelter for the school kids by the Kuaotunu Reserve by Lukes/shop.
A recycling centre (by the toilets library) that sets a benchmark for a clean green community and leads the way nationally.
Just wondering who decides where the pohutakawa trees are planted on the reserve. We have trees down there for shade.
Over summer and busy periods, reserve closed off to vehicles so that people can use the trees for shade and the reserve for picnicking, playing games etc. Very often cars are parked on the reserve under trees for shade, blocking off shade for people. Cars backing on the reserve always poses a risk to children walking behind them.
So good to see picnic tables on reserves, but where is the sun shelter?
Continue to create space for young children and young people eg, upgrade playground to include swings, skate ramp.
An idea and a really "nice to have" would be some swings at the playground, maybe two secure ones for the little babies and two for the older kids and adult kids! I would be happy to fundraise, help and do whatever is required to make it happen. A playground is a better place when it has swings!
Tennis court upgrades.
Ongoing maintenance of recreational facilities (bridge, tennis courts etc).
I think that the old hall could do with some serious external renovations to better reflect the village style and its functionality. 1. Level the area behind and landscape the sides to make it a better and therefore more desirable place for marquees.2 . Add three-metre-wide verandahs to the front, side and back of the hall built to reflect its colonial origins.3. Demolish the out of character fireplace and install French doors there and along the side facing the store. There could be stalls inside selling food drinks and crafts. People would sit at tables on the verandahs. Artists could exhibit their works with a large audience. As a community venue and as a venue for hire the old box would transform into a welcoming and functional village centre.
No freedom camping at all. They can use the campgrounds, not our beach fronts.
Parking for caravans/motorhomes that are not impinging on views i.e. tucked in down by the toilets under the Blackjack &/or over from the library -domain land, remove the fence.

Community Events (3)
Community events such as Matariki festival, farmers/craft market.
Biannual residents get together in the hall in low season (bring a plate & a bottle). Awards for good sort of the month (or given out every 6 months at the residents get together).
Maybe more community events to build community.

Additional Comments & Suggestions (Continued)

Conservation & Weed Control (7)

Preserving the wetlands. Protection of estuarian and freshwater species.

Control rats, mice, stoats.

Request funding from Environment Waikato, to achieve what was done in their financed eradication of non-native species in the Otama Wetlands. That is, to eliminate Sth American Pampas grass (cutty grass) from Blackjack Hill right through to Otama Beach.

KRRA to obtain permission to map by GPS via drone, every Sth American Pampas plant, as done in the Otama Wetlands restoration. Employ another contractor to spray each plant, based on the previous GPS positions, so that the regenerating native and walking tracks on this land are free from this invasive species. Due to steep inclines, drone spraying would be most likely the safest. The southern slopes currently have low numbers of this species it appears. The northern slopes are increasingly dotted by this cutty grass.

Children from the Kindy walk the bush track nearest the reserve, from below the Kauri 2000 arch and the close to the toilet block, and Health & Safety is prominent. The Sth American Pampas Grass is spreading around this educational walking track causing many cuts, and worse than this, apprehension and fear amongst the next generation.

If we don't pursue a planned assault on this species soon, it may reinfest the now restored Otama Wetlands, and multiply all over the Blackjack Hill. That would be irresponsible of us, and an uncaring choice for the generations to follow.

I have removed personally way more than 50 juvenile plants by digging them out by hand in late summer, however the more mature plants are an enormous challenge. (Any of us that oppose spraying may need to volunteer to dig out these monsters themselves by hand. Just digging out one plant is a tough challenge. And you will get many cuts in removing just one bigger plant).

In doing a recent mid-winter survey of plant numbers, there are now countless tiny seedlings appearing since the late summer hand digging.

What do you think?

Supporting any initiatives to further the biospheres or eco sub-peninsula by lobbying various councils and local and government. We are but a small voice but we do live here and speak for the residents etc.

Promote 'no spraying' on our reserves, roadsides to TCDC and Waka Kotahi.

Spray-free reserves for our children to play in and for our pets.

I would love to see a major reduction in the amount of toxic weed spraying on our reserves, along the water ways and heaven forbid around our playgrounds and sports field.

Flooding (2)

Flooding problems in Cemetery Road.

Flooding issues. Drainage.

Additional Comments & Suggestions (Continued)

Beaches (9)
A better beach access down at end of gravel road.
Would be great if something could be done about the potholes in the carpark by the village for beach access.
Discouraging noisy and disrespectful jet skis.
Jet skis and motorboats at least 200 metres out from Kuaotunu beach before they go over 5 knots as there are many open water swimmers, paddle boarders, surfers and kayakers. Although this is already a rule it is not always followed.
Too many warning signs spoil our beach front... are we overregulated?
Repairing storm damage to our beach front along roadside between Greys Beach and the boat ramp.
Better hours for dogs on beach.
Control of dogs on beach during summertime. There are virtually no patrols from District Council. The locals are very good at controlling their dogs, however, the visitors during 6-week peak holiday season are shocking. My grandchildren cannot use beach comfortably as dogs running free and faeces not being picked up. A child is going to be badly bitten one day.
Dog access to beaches and tracks.

Dune Care (8)
And the likelihood that we will lose more trees on the beachfront and what that means for our landscape and beach use in the future. Planning for this is so important.
Less removal of dune trees and lovely flowers
Consultation with local residents before undertaking plantings on our beach front.
A safe beach where falling trees are immediately cut down coupled with a scheduled planting plan that sees the introduction of native species like the Pohutukawa. The Macrocarpa, bless them, are old and dangerous.
Control sand dunes erosion.
Ensuring there is sufficient diverse vegetation on shoreline/dune areas to provide insects for birds to when sparce seaweed.
Planting of natives on the beach frontage banks e.g. pohutakawa for shade and removing pine trees once natives established
Active commitment to support Dune Care and restoration as well as weed control throughout our area. Encouragement of property owners to monitor and deal with weed species on their own patches.

Additional Comments & Suggestions (Continued)

Other (12)
All residents and ratepayers should be able to complete this survey, not just current members of KRRRA.
Proactive advocacy with TCDC for projects the area to be included in the LTP.
We live in a democracy and would hope that any development would be guided by democratic principles.
I have been coming to Kuaotunu for 60 years and my family have owned land for 50 years. Less them and us (as in bach owners) would be great. We also pay rates and contribute to the economy of Kuaotunu as well.
Infrastructure requirements that meet any demand for new housing developments.
The KRRRA focuses on non-political matters and does not take sides that may divide the members and divert focus from maintaining and improving amenities. There are other groups that have their main focus on these matters. That they continue to consult widely. This is a good example.
Signage entering the village is important to creating the "village feel".
To be "a voice" for the 65 plus community which is 20% higher in Coromandel than anywhere in NZ.
It would be wonderful to keep Kuaotunu just as it is.
Ensuring Kuaotunu stays as it is today for as long as possible.
Sustainability, preservation but also the ability to share what we are so lucky to have.
Advocate for reliable and resilient rural cell phone and internet so young families can productively work from home in Kuaotunu thus stopping us from becoming a retirement village.