

The scheme's stated purpose is 'to provide a considered approach on the varied social, cultural and economic issues affecting sustainable development within the eastern suburbs of Napier'.

The scheme is also about inspiring and supporting 'strong, connected communities'- in a way that demonstrates an identified social, cultural or economic benefit. The Scheme will focus on strengths based initiatives to grow community resilience and as identified in the introduction it is important that the scheme is sustainable and encourages sustainable development within Eastern communities.

Based on this direction and combined with findings from community engagement and project research the twin focus of:

- Inspiring pride and leadership
- Promoting strong and connected communities

This is proposed as the Community Development Scheme focus for years 2014 and 2015. In addition to the twin objectives, it is an underlying assumption of the scheme that it will respond to community identified need and demand. For this reason the approach taken will be to **invest** in community-led development (grass-root response) and **support** a strategic response to community identified issues/opportunities.



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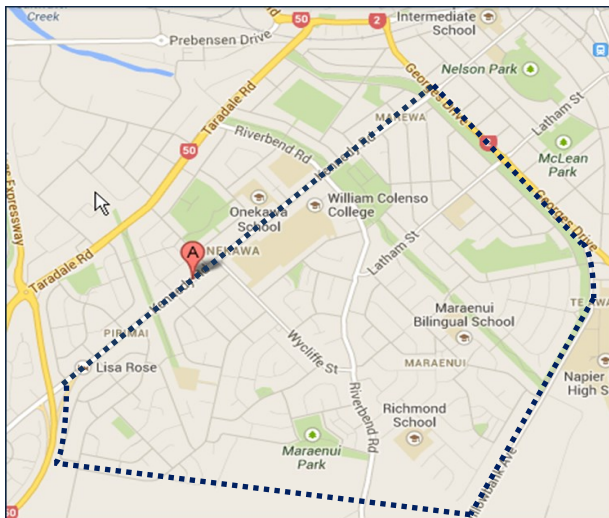
Community Development Scheme



INTRODUCTION

The Napier Eastern Suburbs Community Development Scheme is a partnership project investigating opportunities to strengthen communities in the Eastern suburbs of Napier which are Maraenui, Pirimai, Onekawa and Marewa. It is funded for 3 years by the Department of Internal Affairs and is being implemented by Roopu a Iwi Trust, a social service provider based in Maraenui. The first year of the project has been largely focused on community research to complete the following:

1. Desktop review of available information; policy documents
2. Community Profile
3. Community Engagement
4. Best Practice review
5. Implementation Plan for CDS years 2 & 3



COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

Access to suitable housing has been a key issue for Maraenui during 2012 and 2013, and the changing pattern of social housing provision presents a challenge and an opportunity heading into the future.

The need to maintain central green-space, connectivity with and vitality of the shopping hub are important to Pirimai residents.

Access to suitable activities for young people remains a priority across these areas and an increasing concern for the needs of the elderly was also evident.

Poor self-perception and outside perception of these suburbs, particularly Maraenui, was apparent from consultation. Although local pride and passion for the communities of Maraenui and Pirimai was also a

The importance of whanau; being connected; Māori culture; and the need to improve opportunities for Māori is highly desirable if these suburbs are to improve.

Valuing *all* individuals in the community and supporting those who are vulnerable was also commonly expressed.

Community organisations such as Pukemokimoki Marae, the churches, sports clubs and other community focused groups are important institutions within these suburbs.

Some of the Eastern suburban areas feel a little more 'forgotten' particularly by council, as expressed by Pirimai residents group who have demonstrated a strong ability to contribute to community well-being.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SCHEME RESPONSE

- Contribute to communities where everyone is valued
- Encourage community pride and identity
- Encourage effective stakeholder collaboration
- Enhance cultural identity
- Encourage vibrant suburban hubs
- Support healthy community environments

