



Community Development and Pride of Place Policy 2024



Owner: Community and
Economic Development Team

Review frequency: Six yearly, or as otherwise
required.

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1. Policy Objectives


- 1.1 The Community Development and Pride of Place Policy 2024 is designed to support community and voluntary organisations whose initiatives and outcomes directly contribute to achieving Councils vision “We are proud of the place we call home. Ruapehu celebrates its diverse communities who are connected to their environment and each other”, as well as Councils Wellbeing Framework which is outlined in the principles section of this policy.

2. Definitions

- 2.1 Assessment Committee - means a group of people who allocate the funds of this grant.
- 2.2 Community – means a group of people living in the same place or having a particular characteristic or interest within a larger society.
- 2.3 Council - means Ruapehu District Council.
- 2.4 Grant - means a sum of money to be paid to a successful applicant for a defined project or initiative.
- 2.5 Grants Administrator – means a staff member of Ruapehu District Council that does the administrative work for grants.
- 2.6 LTP – means Long Term Plan.
- 2.7 Ring-Fenced funding – means a guarantee of a fixed amount of funding that has been allocated to a specific group or purpose. Usually allocated through the Long-Term Plan or Annual Plan process. In some circumstances a partnership agreement may be required.

3. Principles

3.1 The type of projects and initiatives granted through this policy will provide communities with a sense of pride in their place, making the district more attractive to visitors and people wanting to live and invest in the district, whilst aligning to the Councils Wellbeing Framework below.



Te Tiriti o Waitangi

Our Values

Our values serve as foundational principles that guide decision-making, behavior, and culture providing a moral compass and a shared sense of purpose that underpins Council's identity and operations.

Kaitiakitanga
Guardianship


Environmental stewardship

Manaakitanga
Care for others

Whanaungatanga
Upholding relationships

Rangatiratanga
Enabling others

Accountability




Our Purpose

We want communities to have a say in local decisions, take action together and aim to make communities better now and in the future by focusing on wellbeing, the economy, the environment, and culture.

Our Vision

We are proud of the place we call home. Ruapehu District Council celebrates its diverse communities who are connected to their environment and each other.



Our Outcomes

We seek to create resilient infrastructure, thriving communities, prosperous businesses connected to their surroundings, a healthy environment, and a diverse, engaged workforce valuing people, teamwork, and continuous improvement.

COMMUNITY
Our infrastructure assets and services are resilient and fit for purpose.

COMMUNITY
Our communities are thriving and enabled to pursue their aspirations.

COMMUNITY
Our businesses are prosperous and connected to their community.

COMMUNITY
Our natural and built environment is healthy strong, and safe.

ORGANISATION
Diverse, positive and engaged workforce that values people, teamwork & continuous improvement whilst serving our communities.

Our community and organisation outcome goals


- All Council-owned assets consistently meet required compliance standards.
- All Council-owned assets are resilient and future-proof.

- Each community in the district is supported to develop and implement a local community plan.
- Council encourages initiatives that promote social connection and self-determination.
- Council's public spaces are safe and accessible for all.
- Council's strategic partnerships contribute to the wellbeing of our district.

- The Ruapehu business community is growing and diversifying.
- Stable employment opportunities across the district are increasing.
- Council's regulatory activity supports safe, healthy business and community activity.

- Council meets its natural and built environment targets as set by central government.
- Council is an influential local voice at a regional and national level on issues that affect our unique environment.
- Council strategic objectives contribute to the environmental wellbeing of our district.

- We give effect to our values in all we do.
- We deliver meaningful solutions.
- We work with other organisations to get best results for our district.
- We communicate effectively.



Our Roles

Council promotes wellbeing in our district by serving in these roles:

Partner


Advocate & Influencer


Service Provider


Connector


Funder


Regulator














Strong Leadership, Advocacy and Financial Stewardship

4. Background

- 4.1 During the 2018-28 LTP process, Council created the Pride of Place Revitalisation Funding Policy with a budget of \$50,000. During the 2021-31 LTP process this budget was increased to \$100,000.
- 4.2 The fund was originally established to allow community groups to apply for funding for smaller scale beautification / enhancement projects that would provide their community with a sense of pride.
- 4.3 This policy combines Council's former Community Grants Policy and Pride of Place Policy into one.
- 4.4 This policy seeks to broaden the scope of Council's community grants to support achieving social and environmental wellbeing in the Ruapehu District by expanding the application criteria to include community projects that increase social and environmental wellbeing, as well as capital projects.

5. Policy Statement

- 5.1 The Community Development and Pride of Place 2024 Fund will support initiatives that aim to achieve the purpose and vision of Council and can deliver on one of the community outcomes in the Wellbeing Framework.

5.2 FUNDING CRITERIA

5.2.1 Ring-Fenced Funding

Community Groups who are recipients of ring-fenced funding are decided by Council during the LTP and Annual Plan Process.

- 5.2.1.1 Funding is distributed annually. Recipients must ensure Council receives the relevant paperwork to account for the funds.

- 5.2.1.2 Current recipients of ring-fenced funding are located in Schedule 1 of this policy.

5.2.2 Community Halls, Marae and other Community Accessible Facilities

To provide funding to community groups and organisations looking to undertake upgrades, repairs and maintenance to their halls, marae or facility.

5.2.2.1 Priority will be given to:

- (a) Community halls that are Council-owned or independently owned and managed by the community and do not receive upkeep from ratepayers in the form of repairs and maintenance, as stated in Council's Assets Management Plan (for example: Taumarunui War Memorial Hall).
- (b) Marae located within the Ruapehu District.
- (c) Community groups responsible for the upkeep of council assets via lease agreements or arrangements.

5.2.2.2 Applications must include:

- (a) The most recent bank statement.
- (b) An estimated budget for the next year's operation.
- (c) Audited or verified accounts for the previous financial year.
- (d) A statement as to any investments held and the planned use of accumulated funds on hand (if applicable).

- (e) Applications for maintenance requiring non-voluntary labour must be accompanied by a quote from a tradesperson.

5.2.2.3 Funds are available for upgrades, repairs and maintenance only.

5.2.2.4 Successful applicants are only eligible to apply for funding every second year. Unsuccessful applicants are able to apply consecutively.

5.2.2.5 What can't be funded?

- (a) Commercial Enterprise
- (b) Removable chattels or equipment
- (c) Debt repayment or refinancing of existing loans

5.2.3 Capital Projects or Upgrades

To provide funding to community groups and organisations looking to undertake capital projects, maintenance or revitalisation projects within their communities.

5.2.3.1 Priority will be given to:

Projects that are identified in community plans or can show strong community support.

5.2.3.2 Examples of projects (but not limited to) would be entranceways, cycle and walkways, picnic tables and seating, signs and artwork.

5.2.3.3 What can't be funded?

- (a) Commercial Enterprise
- (b) Retrospective funding of projects
- (c) Removable chattels or equipment

5.2.4 Private Cemeteries and Urupa

To assist with the maintenance and upkeep costs of private cemetery or urupa located within the Ruapehu District.

5.2.4.1 Only existing private cemeteries / urupa within the Ruapehu District boundaries are eligible for funding.

5.2.4.2 Maintenance includes:

- (a) Fencing maintenance
- (b) Installation of berms
- (c) Mowing, weeding or similar
- (d) Upgrades to tracks and paths
- (e) Recording or registrations of urupa / private cemeteries

5.2.4.3 What can't be funded?

Maintenance does not include capital development such as new urupa or development of roads.

5.2.5 Environmental Projects

To provide funding for not-for-profit climate action and environmental projects in the Ruapehu District.

5.2.5.1 Priority will be given to:

- (a) Projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- (b) Projects that grow community resilience to the impacts of climate change.

- (c) Projects that look to restore / enhance publicly accessible waterways and walkways.

5.2.5.2 Projects applying to this fund might:

- (a) Increase the uptake of active transport, such as walking and cycling.
- (b) Encourage the efficient use of resources, such as energy, water, waste, and materials.
- (c) Increase the uptake of renewable energy.
- (d) Support a regenerative food system and farming practices that reduce emissions and/or increase resilience.
- (e) Enhance ecosystem resilience and nature-based, green infrastructure solutions.
- (f) Sequester carbon, such as native forest or wetland restoration.
- (g) Help us better understand, prepare for, or respond to the environmental, social, cultural, or economic impacts of climate change.

5.2.6 Events and Festivals

To support events or festivals that benefit Ruapehu Districts residents.

5.2.6.1 Preference will be given to organisations and community groups that are incorporated societies or trusts, however applications from individuals will be considered.

5.2.6.2 Priority will be given to events or festivals that:

- (a) Meet other council policies – such as the Smokefree Vapefree policy.
- (b) Demonstrate sustainable practices
- (c) Is not entirely focused on commercial activity
- (d) Meets an appropriate level of compliance with health and safety

5.3 THE FUND

The fund is for \$110,000 per year for the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan Triennium. \$10,000 minimum will be ring-fenced to community halls.

5.3.1 Funding Round

Applications will be assessed in line with this policy and the Councils Wellbeing Framework on a case-by-case basis until funding for the respective financial year has been fully allocated.

5.3.2 Any funds not uplifted by a successful recipient before 30 June in the funding financial year will be lost unless otherwise agreed by the Grants Administrator and the applicant involved.

5.4 ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

5.4.1 The assessment committee consists of the following:

- (a) Chief Executive Officer
- (b) Executive Manager – Infrastructure
- (c) Executive Manager – Community and Economic Development

5.4.2 Where applicants request more than \$25,000 in funding, the Chairs of each Community Board will assist the Assessment Committee in assessing the application.

5.5 CRITERIA FOR APPLICANTS

- (a) Applicants must be located in the Ruapehu District.
- (b) Projects must be located in the Ruapehu District.
- (c) Projects that require Council to carry out ongoing maintenance will require prior approval from Councils Community & Recreational Facilities Manager before being accepted for consideration.
- (d) Applications must include quotes for proposed works, maintenance, projects, initiatives or events.
- (e) Funds will not be able to be uplifted without presentation of a quote for goods and services and the completion of an accountability form signed by two officials of the committee.
- (f) Successful applicants are only eligible to apply for funding every second year. Unsuccessful applicants are able to apply consecutively.

5.6 INELIGIBLE APPLICATIONS

- (a) Any applications received from an applicant who has received funding in the past from any of the grants that Council administers in which the applicant has not completed the relevant grant funding completion paperwork.
- (b) Applications that do not meet the requirements of this policy.
- (c) Applications for the development of private property in which the public cannot access.
- (d) Public services that are the responsibility of Central Government.
- (e) Retrospective funding (a project that has been completed before the grant application is lodged with Council).
- (f) Debt repayment or refinancing of existing loans.
- (g) Funds are not available for the purchase of equipment or chattels that are readily removeable.
- (h) Applications for Commercial Enterprises or private businesses.

5.7 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GRANTS

Recipients must acknowledge the grant received from Council in any public notice or other communication.

6. Annotations

Date	Description
26 June 2024	Policy adopted by Ruapehu District Council. Combines and replaces the Community Grants Policy and the Pride of Place Revitalisation Fund Policy.

7. Policy Version Control

Policy drafted by	Community Relationships and Wellbeing Manager
Policy reviewed by	[Policy Team]
Policy reviewed and adopted by Council	26 June 2024

SCHEDULE 1

Ring-fenced funding

The following component of grant funding will be ring-fenced for the purposes of ensuring that pre-committed funding cannot be utilised for other purposes.

Community Halls	\$10,000
Christmas Parades (\$1,000 North and South)	\$2,000
Raetihi Information Centre	\$15,000
Te Kuiti Citizens Advice Bureau	\$500
Trust Waikato Community Pool	\$38,500
Total	\$66,000

