

UTIKU

Utiku is a small township, established at the end of the nineteenth century by the Crown as a Native Township. It housed settlers and workers who were building the railways network between Wellington and Auckland.

In its heyday, and up until the early 1960's, the township included NZ Railways, which employed up to ten families, a Dairy Company that employed six families, two motor garages, two general stores, a three-teacher school as well as other families who lived in the township, but who worked in Taihape or on surrounding farms.

It is currently a lifestyle settlement next to the Hautapu River, just south of Taihape.

The village is now home to The Wool Company, Ravensdown fertiliser depot and the base for a heavy haulage trucking company.

Both State Highway 1 and the North Island Main Trunk Line separate the settlement in two.

Most of the land, contained in the township is owned and administered by Trustees for beneficiaries of two separate Potaka whānau trusts, which were established by Crown agencies when the land was handed back to these beneficiaries, in the early 1990's.

The settlement is currently zoned as a mix of Rural, Residential or Commercial (The Wool Company).

Land to the east of the State Highway is identified as Class 2, while land to the west of the State Highway is identified as a mix of Class 4 and 6.



Key community priorities

- Public access to the natural environment.
- Connected and resilient community.
- More housing.





VISION FOR *Utiku*

Utiku develops as a thriving, connected and sustainable papakāinga community.

Key Themes

- 1 Papakāinga
- 2 Transport network
- 3 Natural environment
- 4 Commercial development

Key Spatial Moves

- P Papakāinga development



Legend

District Plan Zones

- Residential Zone
- Commercial Zone
- Rural Zone

Map Features

- Building Footprint
- Property Boundaries
- Green space
- River
- Railway
- State Highways
- Nature Network



HAUTAPU RIVER



1 **Papakāinga**

The Potaka Whānau Trust, supported by Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Hauiti, aspire to build papakāinga housing within the township to provide the accommodation needed to meet the demand of beneficiary owners returning to live at Utiku.

The provision of community facilities would be considered as part of the papakāinga development.

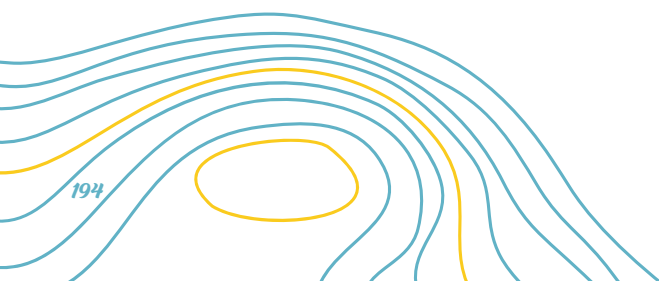
Priorities

- > Enable the development of papakāinga.



“The opportunity to provide housing for our people at Utiku”

Community Voice





2 *Transport network*

Utiku has no public transport options available. Access from the State Highway is in a 100km/h zone with no turning bay.

- Priorities**
- > Increase traffic safety through the settlement.
 - > Advocate for improved public transport options, including rail.



“Utiku will be a connected, resilient community where people care and share with each other.”

Community Voice



📍 Rangitikei River

3 Natural environment

The natural environment is important to the community. The Hautapu River runs to the east of the settlement and the community also has strong connections with the Rangitikei River and Ruahine Ranges.

Priorities

- > Support community-led environmental enhancement and access projects.
- > Retain or improve access to the Hautapu River, Rangitikei River and Ruahine Ranges.



📍 Hautapu River

“The natural environment is our most important resource and needs our urgent attention - this includes the land, the waterways and the ecosystems that live there”

Community Voice



📍 Rangitikei River



LEGEND

District Plan Zones	Map Features	Railway
Residential Zone	River	State Highways
Commercial Zone	Building Footprint	
Rural Zone	Property Boundaries	



4 Commercial development

Utiku is home to The Wool Company, Ravensdown fertiliser depot and the base for a heavy haulage trucking company.

There is no public transport available, and access to the village from State Highway 3 can be challenging.

No additional land is projected to be required for business purposes.

Priorities

- > Work alongside local businesses with aspirations to open or extend their business in Utiku.





“A range of small businesses run by local people located in and around the village of Utiku (e.g. The Wool Company) would be preferable to large industrial operations.”

Community Voice

Action Plan

Rangitikei Priority Area	Key Themes	Project		
Healthy Communities	PAPAKĀINGA	1	1.1	Review the District Plan approach for papakāinga development.
			1.2	Work collaboratively to support the development of papakāinga housing, including the provision of infrastructure and community facilities.
Connected Communities	TRANSPORT NETWORK	2	2.1	Advocate for Waka Kotahi to investigate options for increasing traffic safety through the village and the nearby Toe Toe Road passing lane including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A reduced speed limit • A right hand turning bay into Huia Street • Trucks turning signs on either end of the village
			2.2	Advocate for improved public transport options.
Healthy Communities	NATURAL ENVIRONMENT	3	3.1	Investigate opportunities for increasing access to the Hautapu River, Rangitikei River and Ruahine Ranges.
Thriving Communities	COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT	4	4.1	Review the extent of the commercial zone in Utiku

The actions identified in the Action Plan are not guaranteed to be developed. Council will consider which actions are developed through long term planning processes and collaboration with implementation partners.

Timeframe	Council's role(s)	Project Partners and Key Stakeholders
 Medium Term	Strategy / Regulator Partner	Mana whenua Regional Council Te Puni Kōkiri Kainga Ora
 Ongoing	Supporter Facilitation / Information	
 Medium Term	Advocate	Community Mana whenua Waka Kotahi
 Medium Term	Advocate	Community Regional Council Kiwi Rail
 Long Term	Advocate	Community Mana whenua Regional Council Department of Conservation
 Medium Term	Strategy / Regulation	Community Landowners Businesses Mana whenua

