

This document is for the people of Karori and anyone interested in the suburb's future. It explains how The Karori Project got the ball rolling and how anyone can help further a project or start their own.

Importantly, it's a guide for future actions in Karori. The people of Karori have told us what changes they want to see, so read on for context and ideas so anything you do (small or large) can be part of that bigger picture.

This document was prepared by Anne Cunningham, Justin Connor and Nicole Skews, with input from Wellington City Council staff.

It is for residents, Councillors and Council staff, teachers, students, families, developers, mountain bikers, businesses, gardeners, history buffs, nature lovers, transport users, investors, foodies, teenagers, dog-walkers and everyone in between. If you care about Karori and where it's heading, this is a starting point for getting involved. Inside you'll find heaps of ideas that need **you** to help make them a reality.



WHAT'S HAPPENED SO FAR

During 2017, Wellington City Council, community engagement experts and residents came together to share their thoughts and ideas about where Karori is heading. The goal of The Karori Project was to connect people and place to produce a vision for the future and a guide to make changes happen.

The project included online engagement through <http://thekaroriproject.co.nz/> and local events. It started off with a roadshow of small group discussions about the future of Karori with community organisations, schools and clubs and then moved to large workshops.

The Karori Project held three public workshops - SHIFT, SOUP and ROCKETS

*"I live here but I don't
really spend much time
here"*

The **KARORI**
PROJECT

WHAT NEEDS TO SHIFT?

DATE: Saturday 2 September
TIME: 1.30pm - 3.30pm
VENUE: St Mary's Church Hall
RSVP: thekaroriproject.co.nz



Each workshop built on the next. The first, SHIFT, asked “What needs to change in Karori?”. This was followed by SOUP, which offered a ‘mixing pot’ of ideas for how to make those shifts. Finally, ROCKETS helped create a list of the sorts of projects the people of Karori want to take them into the future. See the Appendices for a summary of the overall process and workshop attendance.

The Karori Project was just the start of a journey. It’s a relay race that involves everyone – and you’re being tagged in.



You can help make these shifts happen in Karori, through small projects, large-scale developments and everything in between. Read on to find out about what the people of Karori want to see in their suburb.

SHIFT ONE



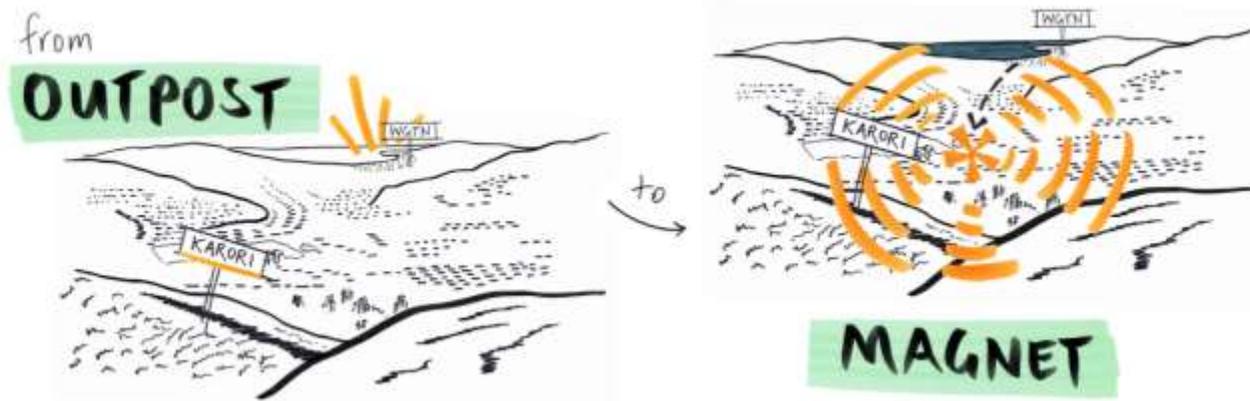
NOW: We have green assets such as parks and the outer green belt, which represents a big opportunity for us. We have the potential to help lead sustainable living in Wellington.

“We lack enterprise in relation to our green assets” - Workshop participant

THE FUTURE: Karori is a nature-lover’s paradise and a living centre for outdoor activity. We are living and leading a low-carbon future.

“The whole of Karori is a haven for wildlife – the ‘halo effect’ of Zealandia”

SHIFT TWO



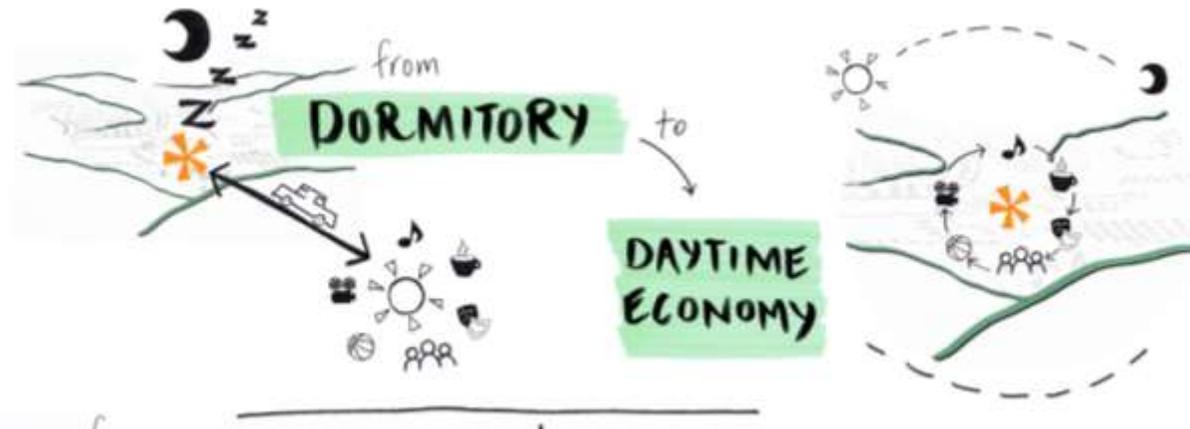
NOW: Karori lacks a strong sense of identity and can feel inward-looking and isolated from Wellington City (where many of its residents escape to for shopping and entertainment).

“This is an empty dead-end suburb. We get out of Karori to entertain our kids – and ourselves!” - Workshop participant

THE FUTURE: Karori is a humming, entertaining and activated hub for the western suburbs. Our heritage shines alongside iconic architecture and creative uses of space.

“NZ’s best suburb is an iconic and unique landmark”- Workshop participant

SHIFT THREE



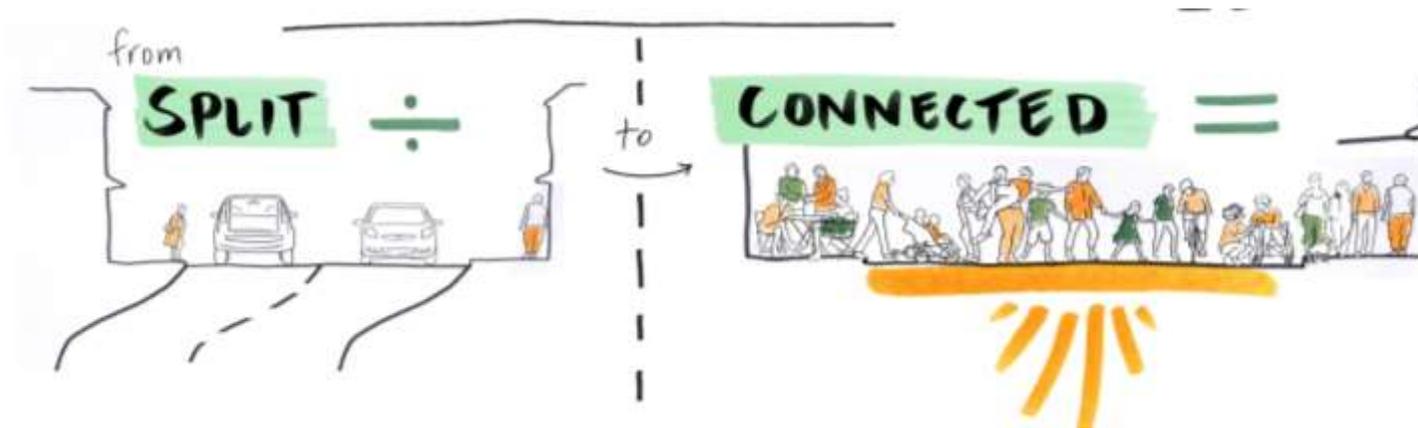
NOW: Karori can feel like a ‘dormitory suburb’ where a lot of people who work in the city go to sleep. There are a lot of people here in the daytime, but there are gaps in the economy and no hubs to work from.

“Going from home to work and back again” - Workshop participant

THE FUTURE: There’s a buzz about working here. Home-workers and start-ups have spaces they love working in together. We support our local businesses who provide everything we need.

“Modifiable spaces to work and co-working spaces that support startups” - Workshop participant

SHIFT FOUR



NOW: Karori feels physically split by the main road and isolated from the city. We have a very diverse population, but we don't seem to mix much, and are sometimes felt to be an elitist place.

“Split by busy traffic on the main road with no discernable town centre” - Workshop participant

THE FUTURE: You walk around our integrated and humming centres with a coffee, meeting different people and saying hello. Karori is an inclusive place where generations and cultures are mixing.

“You walk down the main street with a cup of coffee, mixing with people and meeting” - Workshop participant

These are some projects the community has suggested to help make these shifts so far. Is your idea in here, or do you think there's something missing? Are you an investor keen to make some of the bigger picture ideas happen?



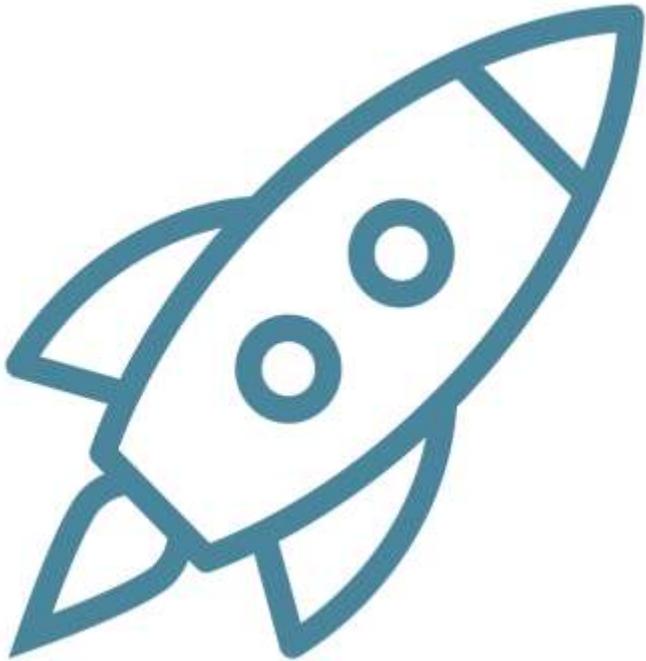
COMMUNITY MEMBERS: WHAT CAN YOU DO?

If everybody in Karori does a little, we can get a lot done. In fact, some of the projects people suggested to help create the shifts are already underway. If you're interested in any part of Karori, big or small, then you can contribute to its future. In fact, you've probably been contributing without knowing it.

We know Karori is bigger than most suburbs (it's the size of Oamaru!) and there are plenty of leadership groups in Karori and plenty of diversity. Communities need lots of different projects on a range of topics involving different groups of people - the more diverse the better.

Think about the SHIFTS and the project ideas in terms of stuff you love doing. What could you join in on? What's missing that you could you bring? What changes are you already making in your family, community and wider networks?

HOW TO GET A PROJECT OFF THE GROUND



Don't reinvent the wheel

There's so much happening in Karori already you might want to support - Reusable Boomerang Bags, Zealandia bird conservation, Karori Community Gardens, the Karori Residents' Association, the Karori Community Centre and much more. All of these groups are easy to find and connect with online.

Communicate

Use social media, posters and walk around the town centre to spread the word. Help people to understand where your idea fits into the future of Karori and how they can get involved.

Collaborate

Some organisations such as WREMO, NZ Police, the SPCA, Wellington City Council, churches and other community-focused groups have funding for specific programmes. You might like to find out if they have something to offer your project, or how you can learn from their work with other communities.

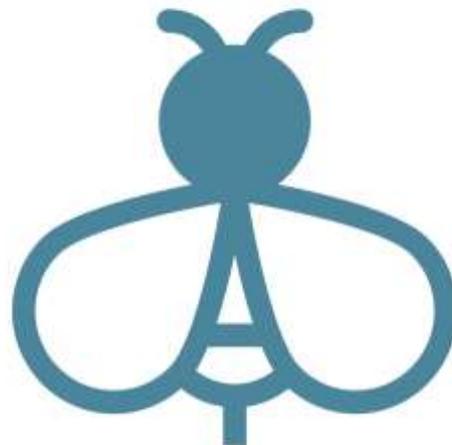
Reach out for support

If your project needs money there are people who give funds to support projects get off the ground, like the Lions, Rotary, philanthropic trusts, pub charities, government and Wellington City Council. But sometimes the easiest way is through crowdfunding and asking local people who will benefit from the project to support you with money, time or skills.

SO HELP TAKE THE LEAD

At the heart of every buzzing community are people who care about its future. The people of Karori are a caring, innovative and passionate bunch, but we know that sometimes it feels big, spread out and as if everyone is doing their own thing rather than connecting.

But a closer look reveals a goldmine underneath (that's a joke for you history buffs). And if everyone in Karori took on a small project with something they love doing – and told their friends and family about it – Karori would buzz so loudly you'd hear it all over Wellington.



INVESTORS, DEVELOPERS AND BUSINESSES: WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Karori is filled with opportunities for growth, and its people are clear on where and how they want to grow. Most of those projects – like the town centre and a greener, more sustainable economy – need people like you.

Whatever your idea for Karori is, think about it in terms of the shifts people have said they want to see and get out and talk to the community. Some great groups to get involved with:

- The Karori Association
- The Karori Rotary Club and Karori Lions
- Staff, volunteers and groups at the Community Centre
- Local shop owners and businesses
- Local schools, kindergartens and clubs
- Churches
- Sports and recreation groups
- Local charities and community groups like The Karori Community Garden or the historic cemetery walks

Don't forget how diverse Karori is. There are plenty of people to connect with: mana whenua, migrant communities, young people, retirees, parents, renters, residents of Wellington City Council and Housing New Zealand homes, students at Helen Lowry Hall and everyone in between.

The 'I Love Karori!!!' Facebook page is a great place to start, as is any look through social media to find community groups or pockets of people with shared interests. It's also great to hit the pavement with flyers and get talking to the locals through door knocking or a stall at Karori Mall or the Karori Farmer's Market.

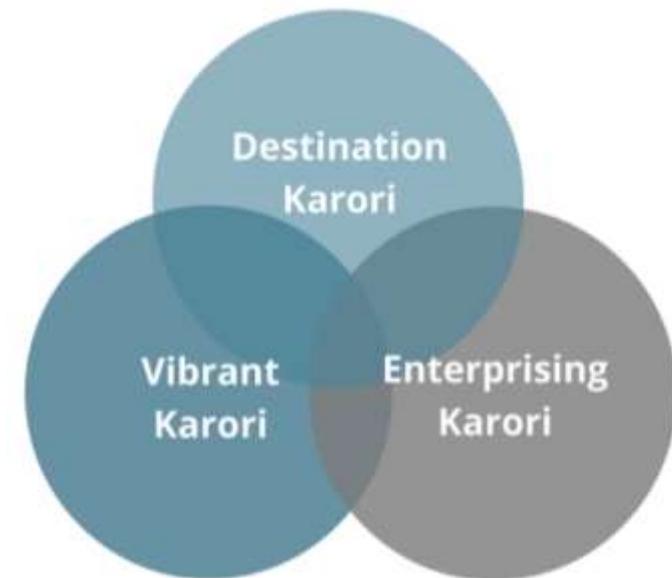
But however you choose to reach out, help people understand the big picture behind your ideas and how it can help create the shifts people want to see.

WHAT'S THE BIG PICTURE?

The people of Karori identified three strategies to help make the shifts happen. There are so many ways to make the strategies work, but here are some ideas:

Vibrant Karori

1. Creating a programme of vibrant events and gatherings that celebrate the diverse population of Karori. This could include an annual signature event, a cinema or more food and culture showcases.
2. Establishing a system to achieve far-reaching communications so everyone knows what's going on in Karori. This could involve a communications hub, electronic signage or an online 'Karori Wiki'.
3. Spatial design that lets people have more chance encounters in public spaces. This could include participating in town centre improvements, development of a town square, walkable streets, shelters by sports fields or tailored playground design.



Enterprising Karori

1. Incubating and enabling small businesses and start-ups through supporting digital home-working, modifying spaces for co-working, and exploring interest in a Business Improvement District (BID) for the Town Centre.
2. Harnessing the daytime capacity of Karori e.g. stay-home parents, the self-employed and retirees. This could include a skills exchange, a time-bank or more places to meet and work.

Destination Karori

1. Developing Karori as an outdoor activity destination for residents and visitors from neighbouring suburbs, Wellington City and further afield with a coordinated approach to all of our green assets through:
 - innovative and clear way-finding and maps, car parking, relevant retail and food outlets
 - accommodation options
 - outdoor activity competitions run in Karori e.g. downhill championships, family activities and orienteering days.

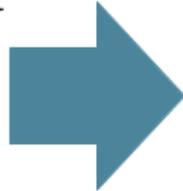
We know to achieve these things we need certain enablers, which the people of Karori have suggested are:

Foundational Infrastructure	Social Resilience	Emergency Preparedness
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A well-designed town centre • A future-focused transport strategy • Robust water infrastructure (e.g. water supply, wastewater and stormwater) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A strong and connected community that will perform day to day, as well as in a major event • Knowing your neighbours • Karori local food economy (growing, making and selling) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WREMO community-based resilience planning (e.g. rainwater tanks)
Designing Karori	Community Leadership	Funding and Financial Enablers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A unifying visual identity / The Karori Experience • Recruiting brand ambassadors • Harnessing our Māori and European heritage • Traditional visual communications e.g. wayfinding, street signs, flags and trees on main street 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People – to make the overall strategy happen • Leaders – who are going to drive this strategy and carry it forward <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Leadership that reflects the diversity of Karori ○ Leaders that stimulate and encourage action throughout Karori 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tax breaks or rates relief • Investors • Participative budgeting e.g. crowd-sourcing • Harnessing existing and future funders and organisations

HOW IT ALL COMES TOGETHER

Here are some examples of how the shifts can happen:

Kiri decides to help Karori become the first suburb in NZ to ban plastic drinking straws for the environment. She starts a petition and a Facebook page to raise awareness.



Kiri gets her friends and family involved, including her son's class at the local school. His class does a project on the impact of straws and design posters and speak to their families and local businesses.



Eventually after lots of hard work, networking and meetings with businesses, all the cafes, bars and takeaway shops either change to paper straws or stop using straws at all.

This helps the shift: From Having Green to Living Green.

Using the strategies: Vibrant Karori and Enterprising Karori.

With the enablers: Community Leadership, Designing Karori and Social Resilience.

CONCLUSION

This document is a call to action for anyone interested in the future of Karori. It captures ideas for the future that were generated during The Karori Project 2017 and sets out ways to make those ideas a reality.

By providing information about what the people of Karori want for the future of their suburb, and strategic direction on how to get there, this vision can act as a guide for future initiatives by the community or external developers. This information will also help inform Wellington City Council's future work in Karori.

You can provide further comment at <http://thekaroriproject.co.nz/>



RESOURCES

- Check out the work done at The Karori Project's workshops and read about the history of Karori here: <http://thekaroriproject.co.nz/>
- Community event planning resources: <https://wellington.govt.nz/events/event-planning-and-support/community-event-planning-resources>
- Wellington City Council community events sponsorship: <https://wellington.govt.nz/services/community-and-culture/funding/council-funds/community-events-sponsorship>
- From festival to community: <http://www.lyttelton.net.nz/>
- From temporary activations to a community hub: <http://www.renewbrighton.org/current-projects.html>
- Johnsonville co-working space: <https://www.suburban.org.nz/>
- More co-working examples <http://ministryofawesome.com/>
- Art to activate the community: <http://nva.org.uk/>
- Child-friendly streets: <https://www.childinthecity.org/2017/08/18/closing-streets-to-cars-so-kids-can-play/>
- Crowdfunding ideas: <https://cooperativecity.org/category/economy/>
- Award-winning environmental projects: <http://greenribbonawards.org.nz/>
- The Sustainable Business Network: <https://sustainable.org.nz/>
- Inspiring festivals:

- <https://www.facebook.com/Culturalfestival/>
- <https://www.aucklandnz.com/pasifika>
- <http://www.newtownfestival.org.nz/>

APPENDIX ONE: THE KARORI PROJECT WORKSHOP ATTENDANCE

Roadshop 1	Roadshow 4	Roadshow 7	Roadshow 10	ROCKETS Workshop
Date:02/06/2017 Venue: Marsden College Target group: Karori Rotary and Lions Attendees: 36	Date: 29/07/2017 Venue: Karori Baptist Church Target group: Karori Association group 2 Attendees: 20	Date: 22/08/2017 Venue: Karori Park Cafe Target group: Sports and business groups Attendees: 3	Date: 28/08/2017 Venue: Karori West Normal School Target group: Student council at KWNS Attendees: 25	Date: 5 November Venue: Karori Baptist Church Target group: Everyone in Karori Attendees: Approx 35
Roadshow 2	Roadshow 5	Roadshow 8	SHIFT Workshop	
Date: 23/07/2017 Venue: Karori Baptist Church Target group: Karori Association group 1 Attendees: 26	Date: 11/08/2017 Venue: Karori Community Centre - youth area Target group: Youth Groups 1 Attendees: 17	Date: 23/08/2017 Venue: Karori West Normal School Target group: Schools Families group 1 Attendees: 11	Date: 2 September Venue: St Mary's Church Target group: Everyone in Karori Attendees: Approx 30	
Roadshow 3	Roadshow 6	Roadshow 9	SOUP Workshop	
Date: 26/07/2017 Venue: Karori Community Centre Target group: Karori Community Centre Staff and Board Attendees: 16	Date: 18/08/2017 Venue: Spratt House Target group: Retirement home residents Attendees: 30	Date: 24/08/2017 Venue: Karori Normal School Target group: Schools Families group 2 Attendees: 5	Date: 1 October Venue: Karori Baptist Church Target group: Everyone in Karori Attendees: Approx 45	

APPENDIX TWO: THE KARORI PROJECT PROCESS

The overall Karori Project is summarised in the following diagram:

