

Highbrook Watersports Centre gets closer to completion!

In 2007, a study conducted by the Auckland Regional Council highlighted a significant shortage of facilities to support flat water sporting codes (waka ama, rowing, canoeing and dragon boating) in Auckland, particularly South and East Auckland.

Public access to the 400-hectare Tāmaki River recreation area was primarily from the northern shore.

A sponsorship from Goodman, owner and manager of Highbrook Business Park, was the catalyst to transform the concept of the Highbrook Regional Watersports Centre (Watersports Centre) into reality. This support was reinforced by contributions from other Highbrook businesses including Cottonsoft, NXP, Fraser Thomas, Spicers NZ and Metroglass, as well as Hynds located nearby in East Tāmaki.

With an investment of \$4 million in private and public funds, the site development began, including the construction of carparks, retaining walls, building platforms, services, a boat ramp, and a pontoon.

In 2021, the project team formed a Charitable Trust known as the Highbrook Regional Watersports Centre Trust. The trustees include representatives from iwi, rowing, and waka ama, namely Jada MacFie, Barry Brown, Heremaia Rosieur, Peter Moody, and chaired by Murdoch Dryden.

The Charitable Trust has been actively fundraising and planning, achieving significant milestones such as the finalisation of the building design, receipt of building consent, and raising over 85% of the required budget to complete the targeted building works.

With an expected completion date of mid-2026, the Trust engaged in discussions with several schools whose paddling programs would use the Watersports Centre.

As the Watersports Centre moves closer to becoming a reality, the community's continued support and engagement will be crucial in ensuring the successful completion and operation of this vital facility.



Artist impression of the Watersport Centre
(South view)

Platinum Corporate Membership

Would your business like to get involved in supporting the Highbrook Regional Watersport Centre? Become a Platinum Corporate member and receive:

- Prominent signage on and in the clubrooms
- Use of the Club lounge facilities for off-site meetings
- Team building activities through structured learn to paddle/row sessions with top coaches
- Entry to an annual corporate paddling or rowing showdown between the family of Highbrook sponsors.

The Trust also welcomes donations of buildings material.

If you would like to be part of the Highbrook Watersport Centre, please contact:

Graeme Marshall
Secretary, HRWCT. 027 704 7606

Thank you to our supporters

We'd like to thank the community and corporate organisations, including:

- Auckland Council
- Howick Southern and Central Local Boards
- Four Winds Foundation
- Lion Foundation
- Grassroots Trust
- NZ Community Trust
- Pub Charity
- Milestone Foundation
- NZ Racing Board
- Blue Sky Community Trust
- Akarana Trust
- Foundation North
- Goodman
- NXP Business Supplies
- Metro Performance Glass
- Hynds Pipe Systems
- Spicers NZ
- numerous private individuals

The project has also been supported by a team of dedicated consultants who have often given their time at no or reduced cost:

- Jasmax Architects
- LM Structural
- LMP Project Management
- Hope River Ltd
- Fraser Thomas Engineers

Artist impression of the Watersport Centre
(North view)

