



Waitoa Water Submission Summary

Submissions open from: 30 April to 21 May 2026

What did we consult on?

Council proposed to connect the Waitoa Village to the Council water supply.

The proposal's estimated cost is \$8.2 million

- Approximately 120 Waitoa property owners are responsible for 15% of the total project cost.
- The wider district is responsible for 85% of the total project cost to minimise the burden on Waitoa property owners.

The projected increase for Targeted water ratepayers:

- Additional \$35 (approx.) per year on for the whole district for 3 to 7 years.
- The final cost is to be set by Waikato Waters Ltd.

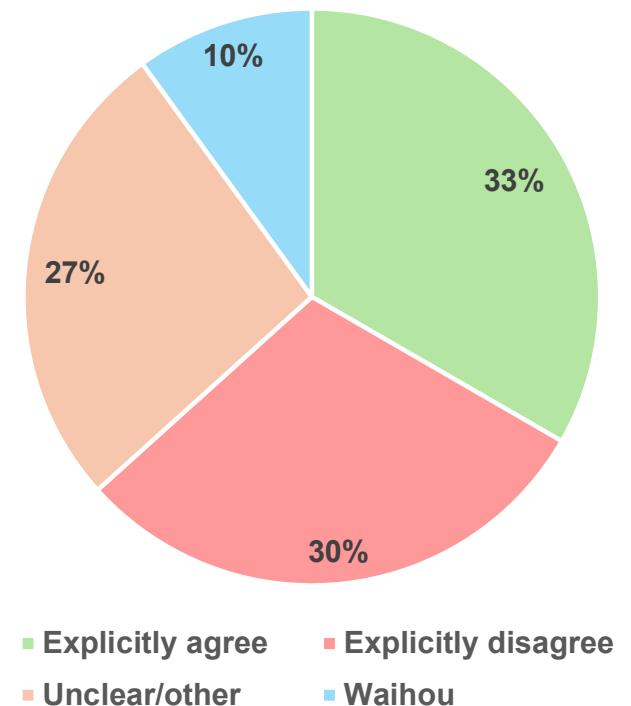
We asked:

**DO YOU HAVE ANY FEEDBACK
ON THE PROPOSAL?**

Key findings

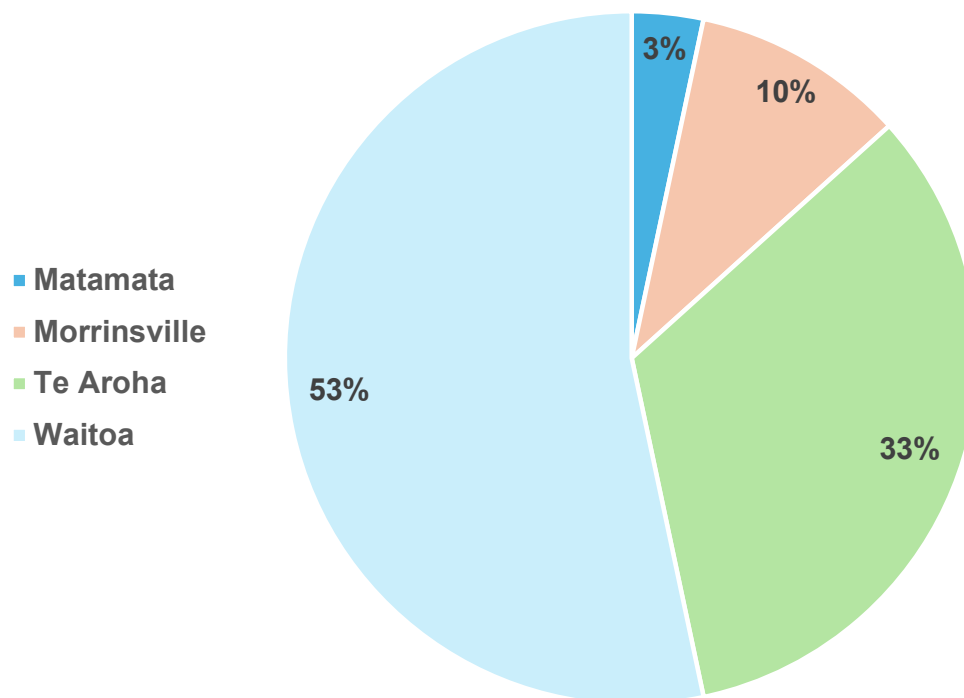
- **30 responses were received in total.**
 - **10** explicitly **supported** with part or all of the proposal
 - **9** explicitly **did not support** the proposal
 - 8 did not state a clear preference
 - 3 requested Waihou be included in the proposal

Submission results



About the respondents

Submissions by Town



Feedback from **Waitoa** residents and property owners

- **General:**
 - Focus on the practical implications of the proposal, including:
 - Affordability;
 - Existing self-supply arrangements;
 - Long-term reliability, and;
 - Accuracy of cost assumptions.

Feedback from **Waitoa** residents and property owners

- **Supportive** submitters generally cited:
 - Long-term reliability and security of supply.
 - Safe and compliant drinking water.
 - Reduced responsibility for individual households.
 - Community-wide benefits.
- **Opposing** submitters commonly cited:
 - Existing self-supply arrangements meeting their needs.
 - Affordability.
 - Ongoing water charges.
 - Paying towards infrastructure they may choose not to use.
- **Other** themes included:
 - Accuracy of estimated self-supply costs.
 - Potential cost escalation and inflation.
 - Household connection costs.
 - The consultation and decision-making process.

Wider **district** submitters

- Common themes raised by submitters from elsewhere in the district included:
 - The fairness of the proposed funding model.
 - Whether existing targeted water ratepayers should contribute to the project.
 - Capacity of the Te Aroha water supply.
 - Whether alternative solutions should be considered.
 - Several submissions also suggested broader infrastructure solutions, including potential benefits for Waihou.

Next steps

- **29 July Council meeting**
 - Council decide whether it will adopt its change proposal
- **Council notify Waikato Waters Ltd of decision**
 - Prior to 1 October 2026
- **Transfer of services**
 - From 1 October 2026
- **Project delivery**
 - The delivery of Waitoa's water supply will be the responsibility of Waikato Waters Ltd. There is no confirmed timeline of project delivery at the time of writing