**Bridging Taipa | Hapu led regeneration**

This paper will change your perspective on how we build infrastructure in Regional Economic Development Areas.

We’re learning how collaboration around the communities vision can create new possibilities.

Unlocking tourism potential in Northland isn’t about creating wealth for big business, it’s about enabling our community to participate in and shape the success that tourism can bring.

Bridge building is catalyst for change. It’s a one in a hundred year event and a moment for our future generations to shape their place

It’s an opportunity to bring different Government departments to the table. It’s not a transport project it’s an economic project and an opportunity to make the change in infrastructure and services our regions need

A change in mindset – “what can we do to make this possible?” – is allowing us to create better system solutions which make a bigger difference. Understanding the big picture allows us to collaborate around an opportunity with others to find a way.

It’s not about an open cheque book. The reality is we can provide better value for money and be more effective if we organise delivery around a whole of system business case.

It’s an opportunity in terms of jobs – not just the few immediate jobs on the bridge but those in the area, inspiring new careers for our tamariki and creating new tourism based employment. It’s about inter generational change that reduces dependency on welfare, brings wonderfully talented people into the industry and creates a stronger sense of identity

A strong cornerstone – or Mauri – is essential. It isn’t a Government or Council that can lead this – it has to be a people who have always been and will always be there to deliver a legacy. Our Hapu are leading this and we are a partner.