

# Resilience Fund Application Form

This form provides the minimum information for the application. A detailed project plan should be developed to inform this application and may be attached.

Project title	Whakatāne District Council Tsunami Evacuation Planning
Date of application	30 January 2025
Details on application	
Applicant <i>[CDEM Group must endorse/sponsor all applications]</i>	Whakatāne District Council with support from Emergency Management Bay of Plenty
Sponsoring CDEM Group	Bay of Plenty CDEM Group
Other local authorities, Groups or organisations supporting this proposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Awa</li> <li>• Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Manawa</li> <li>• Whakatāne Community Emergency Response Teams (Matatā, Edgecumbe, Galatea, Waiōhau)</li> <li>• Bay of Plenty Regional Council</li> <li>• Bay of Plenty Natural hazards Forum</li> <li>• Emergency Services (FENZ, Police, St John)</li> <li>• Regional Resilience Emergency Management Advisor, Te Whatu Ora</li> <li>• Ministry of Education, Manager, Integrated Services</li> <li>• Thorton School Principal</li> <li>• Trident High School, Principal and Chair of Kahui Ako Eastern Bay Principals Collective</li> <li>• Te Kura Kaupapa o te Oriini ki Ngāti Awa</li> <li>• Whakatāne Chamber of Commerce</li> <li>• Disability Resource Centre (Whakatāne)</li> <li>• Whakatāne neighbourhood Support</li> <li>• Murphy's Campground, Matatā</li> </ul>
Project description	
Executive summary <i>[200 words maximum]</i>	

<p>Whakatāne District Council (WDC) has recently convened a multi-agency planning group to develop a holistic, collaborative, all-agencies approach to the way that evacuations are undertaken in the Whakatāne District for both tsunami and river flood events.</p> <p>Tsunami evacuation (blue zone) and route guidance signage are an essential element to the public education and awareness component of this project. As such, we intend to expand our tsunami evacuation signage with installations at 15 new high priority sites along our coastline. We are also proposing the installation of 130 route guidance signs to support our efforts in educating the public on desirable evacuation movements.</p> <p>Whakatāne has a large area of exposed coastline vulnerable to tsunami, including highly developed urban areas between Whakatāne township and Ōhope. There are just under 10000 people living inside the tsunami evacuation zone in the central Whakatāne area, with this number increasing significantly during the summer period. Across the district, we have over 6000 residential dwellings vulnerable to tsunami and many more who could be affected by a stop bank breach or overtopping event due to heavy rainfall.</p> <p>The Whakatane township is bounded by high terrain and escarpments on one side, and a large river with stop-bank protection on the other. Because of these terrain features, evacuation routes are limited, and we know, based on the tsunami evacuation in 2021, that the population will not evacuate in an efficient an orderly manner without some form of guidance to help facilitate this. Many people will respond to the Emergency Mobile Alert (EMA) and evacuate when they don't need to, and others will attempt to evacuate to high ground when a better option would be to move inland. These inefficiencies contribute to road congestion which compromises the safety of those who are unable to evacuate on foot.</p> <p>This project offers structure to the way the community self-evacuates to maximise opportunities for all community members to reach safety during an emergency.</p>
<p>Challenge/opportunity <i>[200 words maximum]</i></p>
<p>Challenge:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Influencing how community will behave during a fast onset tsunami evacuation event is difficult and can realistically only be achieved through readiness initiatives and public education.</li> </ul> <p>Opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increased understanding of the tsunami risk by the community and public, therefore increased resilience.</li> <li>- Increased safety for tourists to the East Coast.</li> <li>- Increased levels of compliance from the community when evacuating along preferred routing to reduce congestion.</li> <li>- Collaborating with partner agencies and communities to ensure alignment of the evacuation goals and objectives and build relationships.</li> <li>- Enhanced safety for all members of the community.</li> </ul>
<p>Alignment with priorities and objectives of the National Disaster Resilience Strategy (NDRS) <i>[200 words maximum]</i></p>

This project directly supports the NDRS priorities and objectives in a multitude of ways:

Goal: The installation of community signage supports the approach of empowering individuals and communities to act for themselves during an emergency. This is particularly important for tsunami response where there is limited time available for agencies to provide any level of direct support during evacuation.

Objective 2: This project is supported by community feedback received during the LTP public consultation process, which revealed that the community wanted more guidance when it comes to tsunami response actions.

Objective 3: Permanent signage embedded within the community will build risk awareness around the tsunami hazard and promote preparedness.

Objective 7: The safety and wellbeing of our community will always be at the heart of our emergency response. However, we recognise that the only way we can influence this space for a fast-onset tsunami scenario is through readiness initiatives such as public education. This includes the installation of appropriate signage to support the messaging that is being communicated via other channels.

Objective 8: We have several Iwi who would be directly affected by tsunami. As such, we recognise the importance of meaningful engagement to ensure that public education initiatives, such as evacuation signage, are implemented in a way that encourages strong buy-in from all corners of our community.

Objective 12: The community may have a short window of opportunity to reach a place of safety during an evacuation, so effective signage would provide an immediate source of information that community members could use to make informed decisions regarding the best evacuation route to follow.

Objective 13: Whakatāne has a large migrant workforce within our horticulture industry, as well as a strong tourism sector which inevitably attracts visitors with limited English speaking abilities. The graphical way in which information is displayed on evacuation signage transcends cultural and language barriers that can be problematic for some people. Route guidance signage also helps other vulnerable members of the community plan for how they would respond during an emergency.

Objective 16: This project seeks to backfill a significant gap in existing signage to ensure that critical hazard information is made available in a consistent and equitable way along our entire coastal area.

#### Alignment with Principles and Allocation Preferences *[200 words maximum]*



This project is in alignment with the objectives and priorities of the NDRS as identified in the previous section. It also aims to provide a locally focussed solution that will provide immediate and meaningful support to thousands of people across our community who live, work and play in tsunami vulnerable areas.

We are embracing the first foundation principle of CIMS, which is to be 'responsive to community needs'. The community have communicated to council that they require more information and guidance to help them respond appropriately to a tsunami threat, and this project aims to deliver on that request.

This project will build on our existing signage installation which provides limited coverage along the vast expanse of coastline within our district. It is also consistent with the Directors Statement

<p>of Intent for evacuation signage (28/03/24), which states that NEMA will be adopting the blue evacuation zone graphic as a national standard.</p> <p>Whakatāne District Council have committed to supporting this project with limited budget, however further funding is required to deliver on all elements of the proposed work.</p>	
<p>Application of outcomes/benefits to sector <i>[200 words maximum]</i></p>	
<p>Positive outcomes and benefits to the sector include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased public awareness of the tsunami hazard and associated risks. This has sector wide benefits as this information will also be shared among friends and whānau outside the local area.</li> <li>• Promotes higher levels of individual preparedness which places a lower burden on other sector resources during an emergency event.</li> <li>• Supports the sector by socialising the concept of tsunami evacuation signage which can be applied to all coastal areas of New Zealand.</li> <li>• Signage will reduce confusion and panic during an evacuation and make the process safer and more efficient. This is a low-cost measure that could significantly reduce the risk of injury or death during a tsunami event.</li> <li>• Provides immediate guidance and support to visitors who may be unfamiliar with the area.</li> <li>• Helps reinforce key national messaging such as “Long or strong, get gone”.</li> <li>• Continues to build the public’s confidence and trust with the Civil Defence Emergency Management sector.</li> </ul>	
<p>Ongoing costs (post-project) and how it will be funded <i>[200 words maximum]</i></p>	
<p>Replacement signage may be required on an ongoing basis due to loss, damage, or because updated modelling requires evacuation information to be updated. These costs will be provided for as an anticipated expense within the WDC Emergency Management budget.</p>	
<p><b>Project design</b></p>	
<p>Project manager</p>	<p>Justin Young</p>
<p>Other project members</p>	<p>Members of the Whakatāne Evacuation Planning Working Group, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Awa</li> <li>• Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Manawa</li> <li>• Whakatāne Community Emergency Response Teams (Matatā, Edgecumbe, Galatea, Waiōhau)</li> <li>• Bay of Plenty Regional Council</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bay of Plenty Natural hazards Forum</li><li>• Emergency Services (FENZ, Police, St John)</li><li>• Regional Resilience Emergency Management Advisor, Te Whatu ora</li><li>• Ministry of Education, Manager, Integrated Services</li><li>• Thorton School Principal</li><li>• Trident High School, Principal and Chair of Kahui Ako Eastern Bay Principals Collective</li><li>• Te Kura Kaupapa o te Oriini ki Ngāti Awa</li><li>• Whakatāne Chamber of Commerce</li><li>• Disability Resource Centre (Whakatāne)</li><li>• Whakatāne neighbourhood Support</li><li>• Murphy's Campground, Matatā</li></ul>	
External providers/contractors	Graphic design / signwriters and printers	
NEMA resource (if needed)	Nil.	
Deliverables [Note: payments will be made after successful completion of milestones identified]		
Key milestones	Date for completion	Cost (invoice amount)
Phase 1 – Delivery of updated tsunami modelling including graphic design work for blue zone changes.	June 2025	\$0 (tsunami modelling costs have been met by the Bay of Plenty Regional Council)
Phase 2 – Iwi and community engagement on proposed evacuation routes.	July 2025	\$0 (covered by existing WDC resourcing)
Phase 3 – manufacture and install tsunami 'blue zone' signage and route guidance signage at predetermined locations. Undertake public education campaign.	September 2025	\$47,000
Phase 4 – Evaluate effectiveness of signage through a Tsunami hikoi and further public engagement activities.	Feb 2026	\$0 (covered by existing WDC resourcing)
Identified risks		
Risks	Suggested mitigation / management	

Iwi and community consultation could take longer than expected.	Extend project timeline as required, including funding window.		
Tsunami Modelling isn't updated within the expected timeframe	Extend project timeline as required, including funding window.		
New signage is vandalised or damaged.	Appropriate engagement undertaken to secure community buy-in and ensure that the community places value on the resources being provided.		
Revised tsunami modelling changes the boundary of the evacuation area	Evacuation routes are unlikely to change significantly. Replacement signage skins may be required if the tsunami inundation area is extended in the future.		
Funding request and use			
CDEM Resilience Fund contribution	\$47,000		
Local authority / organisation contribution	\$8,000		
Other sources of funding or support	Nil implication but to note: Tsunami modelling update delivered by GNS, funded by Bay of Plenty Regional Council and the Natural Hazards Commission		
Budget <i>[please supply spreadsheet]</i>	\$55,000		
Applies if application exceeds \$100,000 over the life of the project	Are you prepared to attend an interview in support of this application (if needed)?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Application confirmation			
Is this application from an individual or other organisation		Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Does the CDEM Group support this application? <i>[sign off below confirms support]</i>		Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Approval of Chief Executive [Chief Executive or Head of the organisation receiving the funding]			
	Name: Steven Perdia		
Approval of CEG Chair			
	Name: Fiona McTavish		

All communications regarding the application, including approval decisions will be addressed to the Chief Executive and CEG Chair

CDEM Group comment

Note: Only complete forms will be considered for assessment. All completed forms and supporting documents must be emailed to NEMA at [resilience.fund@nema.govt.nz](mailto:resilience.fund@nema.govt.nz)

#### NEMA Assessment [internal use only]

Principles	Yes	No
Local / regional focus	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Values the role of Māori in the Emergency Management System	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
NEMA involvement required	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Allocation Preferences</b>		
Alignment with NDRS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Achieves equity of outcomes for Māori communities, marae, hapū, iwi and Māori organisations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outcome focused	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Applicable in other regions / CDEM Groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Supports national consistency	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wider funding / resource commitment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Build on existing work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Operational expenditure (Opex)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Capital expenditure (Capex)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Other</b>		
Application from individuals or other organisations endorsed/sponsored by CDEM Group	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
NEMA Subject Matter Expert Comment	Supported <input type="checkbox"/>	Not supported <input type="checkbox"/>

NEMA Regional Emergency Management Advisor Comment	Supported <input type="checkbox"/>	Not supported <input type="checkbox"/>
NEMA Review Panel Comment	Supported <input type="checkbox"/>	Not supported <input type="checkbox"/>
NEMA Director Decision Sign-off	Approved <input type="checkbox"/>	Declined <input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>Director of Civil Defence Emergency Management</b></p>		

## Appendix A Report Template

CDEM Resilience Fund Project Status Report			Date: DD MMMM YY	
Project title				Project number
Project manager		Contact details		
Executive summary of status				
Progress of deliverables				
Milestones	Status (on track, delayed, etc.)		Progress this quarter and next steps	

Identification of any issues (actual or potential)					
	Issue			Mitigation	
Schedule					
Staff resources					
Budget					
Dependencies					
Stakeholders					
Quality					
Other					
Budget					
Activity	Expenditure to date	Budget to date	Full year budget	Budget forecast	Variance

Comment on variance		
Confirmation		
I confirm the status report is accurately reflected and the invoice amount is correct.		
<b>Project Manager</b>	<b>Chief Executive</b>	<b>CEG Chair</b>
Comment by Resilience Fund Coordinator		