

For Immediate Release

Press Release: “King Tides Auckland” will provide a glimpse of how sea level rise could shape the future of Auckland’s coastline.

On Sunday morning (Feb 2), some of the highest tides of the year (known as King Tides) will hit Auckland’s coastline, providing a unique opportunity to see how rising sea levels may impact our region in the future.

For the last 15,000 – 20,000 years the earth has been going through a warming phase where the ice sheets and glaciers have been melting and the sea temperatures warming. This has resulted in the levels of our seas rising, a process which is likely to continue for many more centuries. Naturally occurring king tides provide us with an opportunity to observe what our coast might look like in the future as sea levels continue to rise.

The King Tides Auckland Initiative (King Tides AKL) is encouraging the public to help document these exceptionally high tides by photographing their local shorelines – capturing the effects of higher water levels on homes, buildings, walkways, roads and other built infrastructure, as well as beaches, wetlands and coastal wildlife habitats.

Members of the King Tides Auckland team will also have designated photo areas set up at “hot spot” locations around Auckland where the public can be photographed witnessing the King Tides.

Participants will be able to share their images and view others via social media and our website. The images will become part of living record that is added to with each subsequent King Tide event. This visual record will track changes in our coastal areas overtime and provide valuable information that will enable us to safeguard our environment and built infrastructure for the future.

Auckland Council Media Contact

Therese Sutherland therese.sutherland@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

More information can be found on our website: auckland.kingtides.org.nz

Or connect with us on social media: [Facebook.com/kingtidesakl](https://www.facebook.com/kingtidesakl) – Twitter and Instagram @kingtidesakl